

A TALE OF TWO TEXTS: RECONCILIATION NEXT STEPS

St. Paul's Cathedral Kamloops BC

The Very Rev Ken Gray

Sunday, June 19, 2016

HERE/THERE IS THE DECLARATION

Here are some highlights:

- 3 right to self-determination
- 7.2 right not be subjected to any act of genocide
- 15.1 right to dignity and diversity of cultures
- 20.1 right to enjoyment of their own means of subsistence
- 25 right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands . . .

THE VOICE OF ANOTHER TEXT

From Isaiah 40

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and **without him not one thing came into being.** **What has come into being in him was life,** and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it . . .

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

A WAY TO BRING THESE TWO IMPORTANT VOICES TOGETHER
Truth and reconciliation

Storforsen declaration

Meeting on Sami Territory in Sweden, October 5-8 2015

Climate justice for the Arctic is a spiritual issue, and the power to change comes from spiritual sources.

We see the connection between the suffering of the land and its effects on traditional livelihoods, the mental health, identity and well-being of all who live there.

The ancestors and Indigenous Peoples bear witness to a worldview, spiritual relationships with the land, animals, water, and the Creator, and traditional practices. We believe these are indispensable resources for addressing climate change.

All the land, all the cosmos is sacred, a sacrament, infused with meaning. Each being has a purpose. This is the soul and spirit of the land and all life. The purpose of each human being then is to be a responsible caretaker. All human beings are called to this priestly vocation.

Creation is alive with God and with the Spirit. Life is precious. The future of seven generations is at stake.

THE COMEBACK

“Guerin 1984 and Delgamuukw 1997 are two examples of the continuing ability of Aboriginal peoples to shape not just how Canada functions or will function, but how Canada imagines itself. The Court’s decisions demonstrate how Canada does not exist or function merely in the narrative of the British or French philosophy of governance.”

FAITH COMMUNITY ACTION

- Support, participate where possible and pray for ongoing reconciliation
- Pray for our country and for all peoples who live and work between our three shores
- Be aware of and remediate the effects of our own cultural prejudices and with humility seek personal and collection solutions