



June 4, 2025

Dear Relatives in Christ,

Peace and grace to you in the name of Jesus, who taught us to love and support one another. As our *Song of Faith* reminds us, we live “in a world of beauty and mystery, of living things, diverse and interdependent...”

As a Heiltsuk woman, I also greet you as a relative, and with the care that we have held for each other and for Creation from time immemorial.

As I write this, you continue to face the devastation and displacement from wildfires across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. The New Creed speaks of our commitment to “live with respect in creation,” a teaching from Indigenous members of the church. We acknowledge that these fires are the result of our lack of respect.

I want you to know there are many across the church who are holding you, your communities, and all of Creation in prayer. We ask for peace, for restoration, and for you to continue to know that God’s love remains steadfast and abiding, even in times such as this.

We know that prayer requires action. We recall again our *Song of Faith*:

In grateful response to God’s abundant love,
we bear in mind our integral connection
to the earth and one another;
we participate in God’s work of healing and mending creation.

The sacred work of healing and mending comes when communities provide shelter for each other, as so many have already. It comes in the courage of firefighters. It comes in gifts of time, money, and provisions to organized relief efforts. We give thanks for this work.

In the name of God who works for the healing of the world, that all might have abundant life.

All My Relations.

The Right Reverend Dr. Carmen Lansdowne
Moderator, The United Church of Canada

