

“Every good tree produces good fruit” (Matthew 7:17)

**The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
and the Sermon on the Mount**

Rev. Mitchell Anderson and Rev. Dr. Don Schweitzer

Thursdays, November 5, 12, 19, 26

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST

Start times: 11:00 PST / 12:00 MST (includes BC) / 1:00 CST (includes AB, SK) / 2:00 EST (includes MB, ON, QC) / 3:00 AST

On June 21, 2021, Canada’s federal parliament passed the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. This legislation aims at aligning federal laws, institutions and practices with the *Declaration* as a step towards establishing right relations between Indigenous Peoples and Settler Canadians.

The four sessions outlined below will explore the Sermon on the Mount’s meaning in relation to the history of colonial relationships in Canada and Indigenous resistance to this; the origin, nature and teachings of the *Declaration*, where things are at in terms of implementing the *Declaration* in Canada, and how the Sermon on the Mount speaks to this.

While this series will focus on questions of reconciliation and Indigenous justice from a Canadian perspective, global and other national perspectives will be included and are encouraged to participate. All are most welcome to join this engaging conversation.

- 1) November 5 – **Where Do We Come From?** – An overview of the Sermon on the Mount and the colonial history of Indigenous/settler relations in Canada.
- 2) Nov. 12 - **Where Are We? Part 1** - An overview of the history of the *Declaration*, what it is, and how it came to be adopted by the Canadian federal government and others, with discussion on how the *Declaration* relates to the Sermon and vice versa.
- 3) Nov. 19 - **Where Are We? Part 2** - A look at what has been done to implement the *Declaration* in Canada up to the present and what challenges have emerged, with discussion about how the Sermon on the Mount speaks to this.
- 4) Nov. 26 - **Where Might We Go?** – What the Sermon has to say about implementing the *Declaration* and how this might be done.

Suggested Preparatory Reading:

Amy-Jill Levine, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* (Abingdon Press, 2020)

This book is available McNally Robinson Booksellers and can be shipped

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
[UNDRIP_E_web.pdf](#)

Facilitators: Rev. Mitchell Anderson and Rev. Dr. Don Schweitzer

Mitchell Anderson is lead minister at St. Paul's United Church, Saskatoon and a Dene person from the English River First Nation.

Don Schweitzer is Professor Emerit of Theology at St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, SK, ordained in The United Church of Canada, and a settler Canadian.

Four, 2-hour sessions: \$95

Affordable group rates available for congregations. Please contact Sarah Donnelly, sarah@spiritriverrivercommunity.org to learn more.

Los Angeles, USA	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 11:00 am PST
Vancouver, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 12:00 noon MST
Edmonton, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 1:00 pm CST
Saskatoon, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 1:00 pm CST
San Antonio, USA	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 1:00 pm CST
Winnipeg, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 2:00 pm EST
Toronto, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 2:00 pm EST
Halifax, Canada	Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 3:00 pm AST

