

Thursday, May 24<sup>th,</sup> 2018

## Major new work for National Reconciliation Week

May 27 to June 3 is National Reconciliation Week, also known as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation.

To mark this crucially important week in the life of the church and the nation, ABM is launching a significant new study resource,

## A Voice from the Wilderness: Listening to the Statement from the Heart

In May 2017, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from across Australia gathered to discuss the recognition of Australia's First Peoples in our Constitution. The result was the one-page *Statement from the Heart* which has been endorsed by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC).

This 8-part study, written by ABM's Reconciliation Coordinator, Celia Kemp (author of the acclaimed Into the Desert and Deep Calls to Deep Lenten studies), aims to open up conversation about the church's theological and social response to the *Statement from the Heart*.

The studies are for every person seeking a Christian response to Australia's history, listening to what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christians are saying right now, and grappling with the question of what it is to be a truly Australian church.

The artwork of the Reverend Glenn Loughrey, a Wiradjuri man, artist and Vicar of St Oswald's Anglican Church in Melbourne, is featured throughout the study.

You can download free copies of the study and other liturgical resources for National Reconciliation Week at <u>http://www.abmission.org/reconciliation</u>

## ENDS

Contact Vivienne For, ABM Communications Coordinator at <u>communications@abm.asn.au</u> for more information.

## High res image attached to email for use in relation to the study. Please acknowledge 'Treaty' by the Reverend Glenn Loughrey

The Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) is the national mission agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. For over 160 years ABM has been assisting people all over the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provide health and education services, improve agricultural practices and strengthen the Church.