LENT 2026

A Season of Gratitude and Reciprocity

Join us for a Panel Discussion featuring
Indigenous Episcopal Leaders
discussing gratitude and reciprocity.

Shaneequa Brokenleg	Mary Crist	Forrest Cuch	Rachel Taber-Hamilton
Interim Indigenous Missioner	Coordinator of Indigenous Theological Education	Author, Speaker, and Activist	Author, Speaker, and Priest

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
AT NOON EASTERN

To register visit www.unitedthankoffering.com/lent
(or by using the QR code to the right). Once there, you can also learn more about UTO's Lenten materials for 2026 which focus on gratitude and reciprocity as described in the book: *The Serviceberry* by Robin Wall-Kimmerer.

About our Panelists:

The Reverend Isaiah "Shaneequa" Brokenleg (she/her) is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe (Sicangu Nation). She is an Episcopal priest in the diocese of South Dakota. From a cultural perspective, she believes we are all related and, as such, we are all called to be "good relatives" to one another. As a winktè, Shaneequa is called to be a healer and move communities in the direction of positive change. From an academic perspective, she has a Masters of Public Health Degree from the University of Minnesota and Masters of Divinity degree from Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Shaneequa is the Interim Indigenous Missioner at the Episcopal Church. She is passionate about social justice, and working to end the structural oppression/violence that hurts us all. Shaneequa strives to live out her calling through her work, our church, her art, and in her life.

The Reverend Mary Crist (she/her) is the Coordinator of Indigenous Theological Education on the presiding bishop's team. She has been a priest since 2012 in the Diocese of Los Angeles after a long career in education as a professor and dean. Mary is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation (Amskapi Pikuni) located in Montana. She enjoys visionary projects that provide new options for people committed to serving God, especially those who have not been well served by traditional programs. She is the founding head of an Episcopal school in Texas and a school for intellectually gifted children in Massachusetts. Mary holds degrees from Columbia University NY (EdD), Claremont School of Theology (MDiv), MEd (Pan American University), and University of California Berkeley (BA). She enjoys the variety in her work with dioceses, Indigenous reservations, and seminaries.

Forrest S. Cuch (he/him) is an enrolled member of the Ute Indian Tribe. He was born and raised on the Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Reservation in northeastern Utah. He has a Bachelors of Arts Degree in the Behavioral Sciences from Westminster College. Forrest has held many challenging jobs during his 38-year career having worked for several Indian tribes in various capacities to serving as director for Utah Division of Indian Affairs. He published, *A History of Utah's American Indians* (Utah State University Press, 2000). Forrest played a key role in the PBS/KUED sponsored curriculum project entitled: *We Shall Remain*, which features a video series of the histories of the Utah tribes with accompany materials. Currently retired, he provides lectures on healing trauma, Native American History, and conservation. In 2022, he was appointed to Jane Goodall's Legacy Foundation. He also recently co-authored a book entitled: *A Native Way of Giving* (Episcopal Church Publishing, 2022).

The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton (she/her) is an Indigenous ordained priest in the Episcopal Church. As a Shackan First Nation person, she represents the Episcopal Church on the board of the Anglican Indigenous Network and was part of the project team for the Anglican Indigenous Network video series, "Prophetic Indigenous Voices on the Planetary Crisis." She has served on the Episcopal Church delegation to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and on the Presiding Bishop's delegation to United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26 and COP28). She has written articles addressing Indigenous concerns for the Anglican Theological Journal that include "The Necessity of Native American Autonomy for Successful Partnerships" (1994) and "When Creation is Sacred" (2021). She maintains her blog, Greening Spirit (www.greeningspirit.com), addressing environmental issues and social justice concerns towards renewing human relationships with creation and with one another. She is the founder of Circles of Color in the Diocese of Olympia. Rachel is currently the Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Everett, WA and served as the Theologian in Residence this October in the Anglican Diocese of Adelaide, Australia in October 2024.

Meet the moderator: The Rev. Heather Melton (she/her) is the Staff Officer for the United Thank Offering and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She holds a BS in Environmental Sciences and spent time as a National Park Ranger, before answering the call to ministry. She has a MDiv from Church Divinity School of the Pacific and an MA from the Graduate Theological Union in Religion and Psychology.