



As we remember our day of fasting and prayer on Saturday, March 11, 2017, we remember to continue to “Follow in the footsteps of Jesus, as we commit ourselves to examine the root causes of injustice, *particularly racism*. We pledge prayer, education and advocacy and commit to using our resources in collaboration with others to establish justice which reflects God’s abundant love and desire that all may have life.” (LCWR Assembly Resolution, 2016)

*Contemplative Silence*

### Opening Prayer:

Good and gracious God, you invite us to recognize and reverence your divine image and likeness in our neighbor. Enable us to see the reality of racism and free us to challenge and uproot it from our society, our world and ourselves. Amen.

### Reflection:

The face of racism looks different today from how it looked in the past. This day we gather in the love of God and neighbor to examine the fourth pattern of racism in our hearts and our world systems. We beg for both forgiveness and conversion as we open our hearts and minds in communal prayer.

#### Individual Racism

Individual Racism is the pattern that perpetuates itself when people grow up with a sense of white racial superiority, whether conscious or unconscious.

Let us pray as we reflect on the injustices of this form of racism:

- ✦ Recent crimes of racial hatred in the USA.
- ✦ Personal moments of racial stereotyping
- ✦ When I automatically award superior status to my own cultural group and inferior status to all those outside my comfort zone.

**RACISM  
WRONG**

*Silence*

### Gospel Reading: Mt. 22: 34-40 and Luke 10: 25-27

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with your entire mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it; you shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two great commandments."

### Response:

We beg for both forgiveness and conversion as we open our hearts and minds in communal prayer.