



As we remember our day of fasting and prayer on Sunday, June 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)

True reconciliation is never cheap, for it is based on forgiveness which is costly. Forgiveness in turn depends on repentance, which has to be based on an acknowledgement of what was done wrong, and therefore on disclosure of the truth. You cannot forgive what you do not know.
Desmond Tutu

Communal Prayer Responses:

Gracious God, we thank you for making one human family of all the peoples of the earth and for creating all the wonderful diversity of cultures.

Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of relationships and show us your presence in those who differ most from us.

Forgive those of us who have been silent and apathetic in the face of racial intolerance and bigotry, both overt and subtle, public and private.

And take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts.

Break down the walls which separate us.

And help us to find that unity which is the fruit of righteousness and which will enable us to become your loving and welcoming community.

Empower us to speak boldly for justice and truth and help us to deal with one another without hatred or bitterness, working together with mutual forbearance and respect.

And work through our struggles and confusion to accomplish your purposes.

O God, help us to do the inner work
To be open to your grace
And to be the “balm in Gilead”
So our hearts are converted
And we can join hearts and hands
To do the constructive work
Of Peace and Justice. Amen

Song: This Little Light of Mine