



Responding to Racist Violence as the People of God

LEARN, PRAY, ACT: Episcopal Resources for Responding to Racist Violence and Police Brutality
Full website: www.episcopalchurch.org/responding-to-racist-violence. Highlights below ...

LEARN

- [Becoming Beloved Community](#): comprehensive vision and growing set of resources for working toward racial healing, reconciliation and justice, including the [Sacred Ground film-based dialogue series](#)
- [Center for Racial Justice in Education](#): Resources for talking to kids about Racism and Racialized Violence
- [Living into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America](#), a volume edited by Catherine Meeks
- [The Science of Justice: Race, Arrests, and Police Use of Force](#): National data and analysis of police behavior
- [Video](#): The Rev. Gayle Fisher-Stewart on policing, reconciliation, black lives and the church's role
- [White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism](#) by Robin DiAngelo

PRAY

- [A Litany for Minnesota's Sins of Racism](#)
- [Bishops Against Gun Violence](#): Liturgical resources to remember, lament, mourn and pray
- [Episcopal Prayers for Reconciliation and Justice](#): From Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music
- [Religious Institute](#): Preaching and worship resources around racism, white supremacy and violence

ACT

- [Anti-Racism and Racial Healing Trainings](#): Widely-used trainings and opportunities across our Church
- [Becoming Beloved Community Where You Are](#): Resource for individual, church and community action
- [Contact your federal, state and local officials](#)
- [Episcopal Public Policy Network](#): Weekly calls to action and guidance for effective advocacy, especially federal
- [What Does Love Do?](#): A brief guide to following the Way of Love in the midst of uncertainty and change
- Coming Soon: Training on how to advocate for local police reform and criminal justice reform

Key Questions for Faithful Reflection and Listening

1. What gives you energy or inspires you to act, in the current situation?
2. What is your greatest concern or anxiety, given the current situation?
3. What resources or relationships do you need most right now?

Additional Questions for Individuals or Small Groups

1. In what ways are you or your church engaged in your community, especially across racial/cultural lines?
2. What is the racial/cultural, socio-economic make-up within a 1-, 3- or 5-mile radius of your church? (Not sure? Check <https://www.generalconvention.org/study-your-neighborhood>).
3. What is the racial/cultural make-up of your congregation? How does it compare to the area around you?
4. What gifts do you bring, as a church, that will be helpful for a time such as this?
5. How have you participated in healing and justice work in the past? How can you show up now?
6. How could you support and stand in solidarity with other congregations, especially in suffering areas?
7. What bible stories or wisdom seem to most apply in this moment?

Your Episcopal Church Racial Reconciliation and Justice Team

All emails are "first initial, last name@episcopalchurch.org"

- The Rev. Charles "Chuck" Wynder, Staff Officer for Social Justice and Engagement
- The Rev. Isaiah Shaneequa Brokenleg, Staff Officer for Racial Reconciliation
- The Rev. Melanie Mullen, Director of Reconciliation, Justice and Creation Care
- The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, Canon for Evangelism, Reconciliation and Creation Care

Suggestions to Spark Discernment among Individuals, Churches and Dioceses

What does LOVE look like, for a faithful individual? Among other things ...

- **TELL** the truth when it's tempting to be quiet
- **SEEK** the stories of people who are different from you, especially those of oppressed peoples
- **ACT** and speak in ways that bring life, instead of tearing others down to build yourself up
- **REPAIR** what's broken in your own life and community (even if you didn't break it, be part of healing)

What might LOVE look like, for you personally?

What does LOVE look like, for a faithful citizen? Among other things ...

- **VOTE** for leadership at the local, state, and federal level who foster Beloved Community
- **CALL** on elected officials and authorities to support just legislation and policies
- **BE PRESENT** to the justice struggle in the way God calls you (protest, prayer, giving, etc.)

What might LOVE look like, for you as a citizen?

What does LOVE look like, for a congregation? Among other things ...

- **PARTNER** with local police departments to build community relationships and develop accountability
- **JOIN** with local organizations dedicated to justice and healing
- **ORGANIZE** circles for training, conversation and learning – consider curricula like [Sacred Ground](#)
- **INVESTIGATE** your church's complicity in racial violence and oppression throughout its history
- **PREACH, PRAY & WITNESS** about urgent issues – support at [LEARN, PRAY, ACT website](#)
- **PROVIDE** sanctuary, protection and support for protesters, inside or outside your building
- **PRAYER WALK** your community, to discover what's happening and where God is moving ([resource](#))

What might LOVE look like, for your congregation?

What does LOVE look like, for a diocese? Among other things ...

- **MODEL** public witness and relationship with people seeking justice
- **INVITE** congregations to protect, support and partner with groups seeking justice and healing
- **GIVE COVER** to clergy and lay leaders who labor for justice
- **INVESTIGATE** your diocese's complicity in racial violence and oppression throughout its history

What might LOVE look like, for your diocese?