

Remembering Injustice, Working For Justice

Purpose and Invitation to Participate

On Sunday, June 18, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

We were all shaken to learn of the massacre of nine people on the evening of June 17, 2015 at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. It was all the more distressing to find that this act was motivated by racial hatred and perpetrated by someone so young. The resulting solidarity in outrage and recommitment to human dignity led to the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the grounds of the statehouse in Columbia. **It was a significant step in the direction of racial justice and reconciliation in our state. But it is far from enough.**

On Sunday, June 18, 2017, it will have been two years and one day since the Mother Emanuel Massacre. In our churches, how can we mark this sad anniversary? How might we speak a word to rouse us to further efforts to combat racism and build a more just society in our state? **How might we lift our voices in prayer to the God of justice and love?**

The Racial Justice and Healing Workgroup of the South Carolina Christian Action Council has prepared and offers **several resources to clergy and congregations in the hope that across South Carolina on June 18, 2017, Christian congregations** will experience a concert of worship services the Sunday following this second anniversary. These resources take the form of **worship planning helps, reflections upon the readings of the Common Lectionary for Sunday, June 18 for sermon preparation, and example sermons.**

Will you respond to this call to join with congregations representing all the Council's Member Bodies as we Remember Injustice and Work for Justice through worship on June 18, 2017? If you plan to use the resources or devise your own service, please let us know by sending an email to Brenda Kneece, Executive Minister of the Council at bkneece@sccouncil.net.

Please use whatever aspects of the offered resources in shaping your worship on that Sunday or on a day that serves your congregation better. If you do not follow the Common Lectionary (June 18, 2017 is the Second Sunday after Pentecost), you might simply utilize one or two of the Scripture passages of the lectionary rather than all four. Regardless of how you take advantage of these resources, we thank you for addressing the importance of ***Remembering Injustice*** and the challenge of ***Working for Justice*** in the lives of individuals, congregations, South Carolina, our nation, and world.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Racial Justice and Healing Workgroup
of the South Carolina Christian Action Council

Resources available at these links:

[Worship Planning Resources](#)

[Reflections on the Common Lectionary for June 18, 2017](#)

Sample Sermons:

[Wanted: Laborers for the Harvest, Dr. Franklin Colclough](#)

[Remembering the Emanuel Nine, Pastor Jackie Utley](#)

[Some Reflections on the Mother Emanuel Martyr of the Church, Bishop Herman Yoos](#)

Resource Contributors

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