

SPECIAL
SUNDAY

PEACE WITH JUSTICE



LITURGY



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

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Though congregations may observe Peace with Justice Sunday at any time, they are encouraged to celebrate with a special offering on Trinity Sunday, June 12, 2022. This liturgy is based on Proverbs 8, Psalm 8 and Romans 5:1-5 and may be used throughout your order of worship. Feel free to adapt it to fit the context of your congregation. Consider including it in a printed bulletin or handout to remind your congregation of this special day in the life of the church. Tie the fullness of this special Sunday with a coordinated sermon starter, offering talk and children's resources.

INVOCATION

Sovereign God,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
Thank you for this gathered church.
Pour out your love into our hearts.
Justify us to be your peacemakers.
Grant us your peace to be justice builders.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Wisdom cries out and understanding shouts, "God's world is in turmoil."
People: God, equip us to be a source of healing.

Leader: Wisdom cries out and understanding shouts, "God's people are hungry."

People: Spirit, equip us to be a source of nourishment.

Leader: Wisdom cries out and understanding shouts, "God's creation is shackled."

People: Jesus, equip us to be a source of liberation.

All: Wisdom cries out and understanding shouts. We commit to joining the call on this Peace with Justice Sunday by disrupting unjust systems and building up peace that reflects God's vision for creation. Amen.



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OFFERING

Thank you, God, for the invitation to partner with you through Jesus Christ. We recognize that there can be no true peace without the presence of justice. As these gifts join with gifts from throughout The United Methodist Church, transform this offering into peace-building initiatives that celebrate the place where justice and mercy embrace. With the power of your Holy Spirit, use this offering to share the cost and burden of protecting the integrity of your creation with Christlike love. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Wisdom cries out and understanding shouts. Go into the world justified by faith, joining the shouts and cries for peace with justice. On this special Sunday and every day, disrupt unjust systems and build up peace that reflects God's vision for creation.

OUR SOCIAL CREED AND COMPANION LITANY

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church-2016

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective



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bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

It is recommended that this statement of Social Principles be continually available to United Methodist Christians and that it be emphasized regularly in every congregation. It is further recommended that "Our Social Creed" be frequently used in Sunday worship.

OUR SOCIAL CREED AND COMPANION LITANY

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace

**to be renewed in the image of our Creator,
that we may be one
in divine love for the world.**

Today is the day

God cares for the integrity of creation,
wills the healing and wholeness of all life,
weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God embraces all hues of humanity,
delights in diversity and difference,
favors solidarity transforming strangers
into friends.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God cries with the masses of starving people,
despises growing disparity between rich and poor,
demands justice for workers in
the marketplace.

And so shall we.

Today is the day

God deplores violence in our homes and streets,



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rebukes the world's warring madness,
humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.
And so shall we.

Today is the day
God calls for nations and peoples to live
in peace,
celebrates where justice and
mercy embrace, exults when the wolf
grazes with the lamb.
And so shall we.

***Today is the day
God brings good news to the poor,
proclaims release to the captives,
gives sight to the blind, and
sets the oppressed free.
And so shall we.***

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