## SPECIAL SUNDAY

BLAC

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# **OFFERING TALK**

In a world where you can be anything BEKIND



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

#### SPECIAL SUNDAY PEACE WITH JUSTIC OFFERING TALK

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 offering talk may be adapted to fit the context of your congregation. Tie the fullness of this Special Sunday with coordinated liturgy, sermon starter and children's resources.

"Together we strengthen

ministries that challenge

structures of inequality.

We empower people and

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and lasting peace

with justice."

God's creation with

he United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition.

Together, God's church can be a beacon to navigate the ongoing global trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of a tumultuous political climate in the US and the anxiety of a looming denominational separation. The world is crying out for peace with justice and today we have an opportunity to be part of that process.

We know the presence of political and social turmoil

can be caused by a number of issues including economic disparity, environmental degradation,

gender inequality, racism and xenophobia and illness and disease. If we want peace, we must

be committed to disrupting these conditions and systems that perpetuate injustice.

On Peace with Justice Sunday, we partner with other United Methodist congregations in a special offering to support advocacy around the world. Together we strengthen God's creation with ministries that challenge structures of inequality. We empower people and communities

people and communities through systemic change in ways that bring true and lasting peace with justice.

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> Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to be part of extending healing and hope that moves us to becoming a new creation in Christ. Through our gifts and support, we partner with God and God's people to strengthen Christ's loving presence in a hurting world.

This congregation has been part of transformational peace with justice ministries through (give examples). Our annual conference works together to (give examples of conference peace with justice projects). And The United Methodist Church as a denomination prioritizes collaboration among nations, works to reduce the use and need for weapons and fosters just, equitable and durable solutions to the root causes of conflict. Peace with Justice Sunday is a faithful expression of shalom in the Bible. It calls the church to strengthen its capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world. The offering is administered by the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society and benefits peace with justice ministries in this annual conference and around the world.

Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in this conference and half support the work of Church and Society globally. Please give generously by writing a check to this church and write "Peace with Justice offering" in the memo line or give online or set up monthly giving by going to **UMC.org/SSGive**.

#### **BLESSING OVER THE 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.

