

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FROM SUFFERING TO REDEMPTION:  
*The Healing Power of Reconciliation*

05-25-17

Global Episcopal Mission Network

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## History, Memory, Connections: Korea and Japan



<http://japandailypress.com/survey-shows-70-of-japanese-respondents-dont-trust-south-korea-2139867/>





“Admitting our own guilt and sin is the hardest thing. But only when we’ve done this can we go forward and experience the blessing of reconciliation.”

The Most Reverend +Nathaniel Uematsu

“The heart of reconciliation is honoring the dignity of difference.”

The Right Reverend +Allen Shin

## A Prayer for the Human Family

*O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

BCP p. 815



## Reconciliation in Such a Time as This



## Challenges to Reconciliation



## Reading from Morning Prayer

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

2 Corinthians 5:17-20



## Yesterday's Keynotes and "Hospitality"

Bishop MacDonald – Luke 10: 1-12

- We currently focus on welcoming and “including” folks in our temples
- What if we view the temple as being the size of a person's home?
- What would our ministry look like if we depended upon the hospitality of the other?

Father Chandler – Five Pillars, #2 Build on Commonalities

- When we focus on similarities, we can see the sacred in the other
- We need to focus on being a guest, rather than a host
- The great gift of being a guest is being open to *receiving* a gift from your host





# What Does Being a Guest Look Like?



## 6-Day Visit To Rural African Village Completely Changes Woman's Facebook Profile Picture



ST. LOUIS—Calling the experience “completely transformative,” local 22-year-old Angela Fisher told reporters Tuesday that her six-day visit to the rural Malawian village of Neno has completely changed



# What Does It Mean to Be a Host? AKA – How Big is Your Village?

Ice and Snow World  
Harbin, China



## Our Mission (BCP p. 855)

- Q. What is the mission of the Church?
- A. The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.
- Q. How does the Church pursue its mission?
- A. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.
- Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?
- A. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.



## A Prayer for the Mission of the Church

*Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

*Amen.*

BCP pp. 816-817

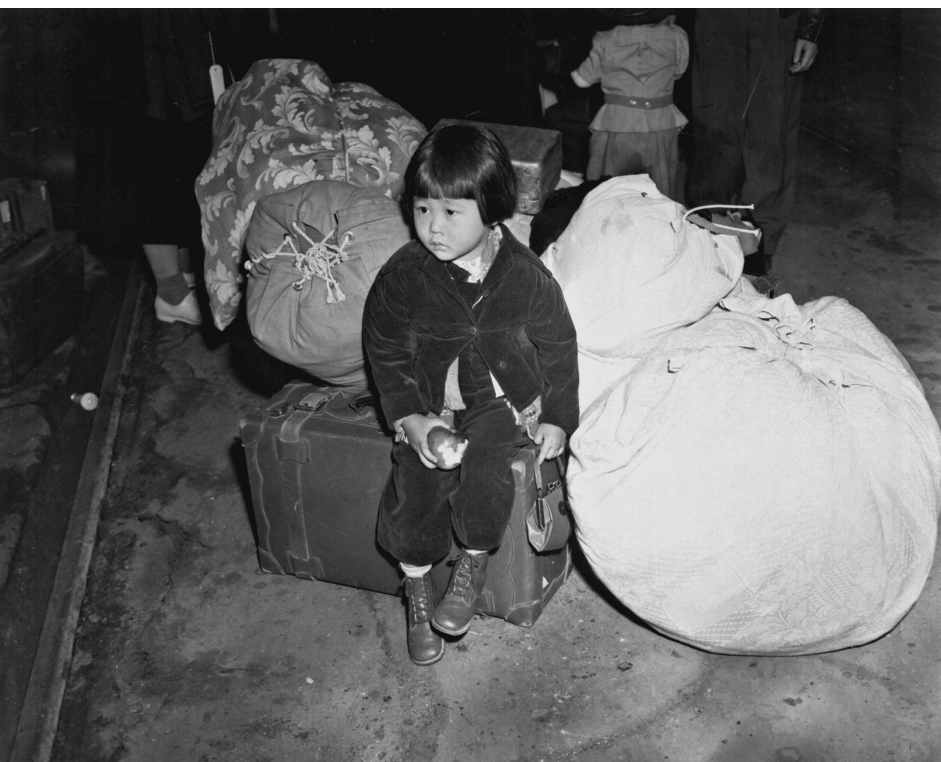


I Will With God's Help

# Fulfilling Your Baptismal Covenant



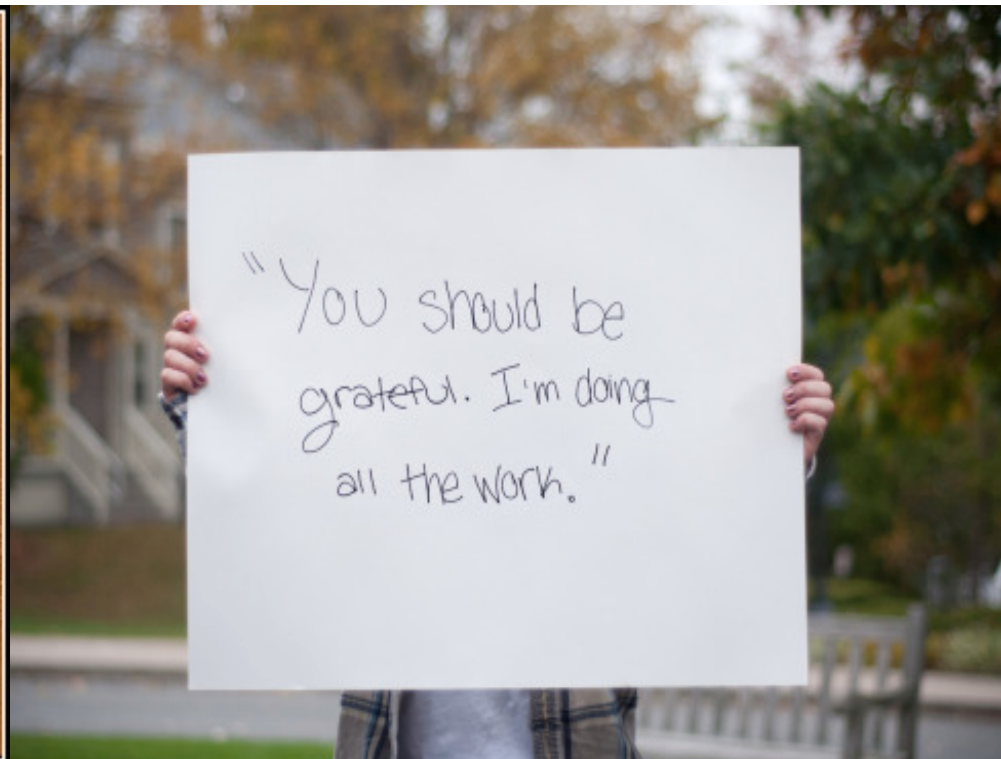
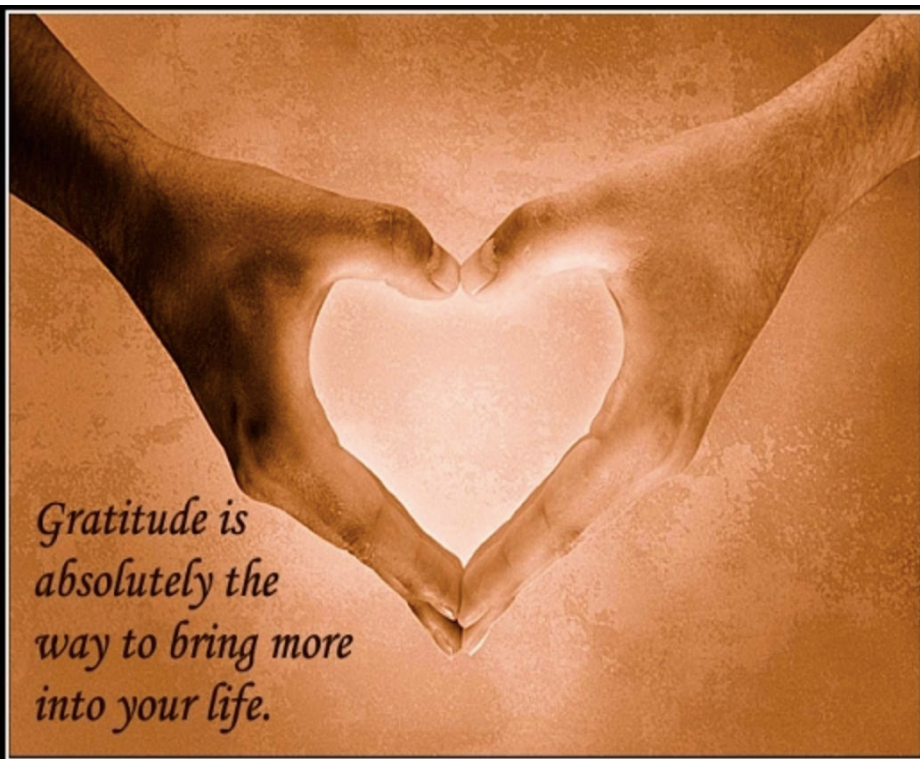
# The Christian Responsibility to Alleviate Suffering



## Getting “Stuck” in Suffering and Guilt



## Embracing Gratitude





## The Dark Side of Gratitude...



## ...As It Is Experienced in Mission



## White Savior Complex: It's a Thing

He is "Euro the Hero"  
Settler Savior Man

"I AM THE CAUSE OF  
YOUR COLONIZATION,  
THEREFORE I AM THE  
ANSWER TO YOUR  
DECOLONIZATION...

STEP ASIDE INDIANS,  
I GOT THIS."



**YOU MEAN TO TELL ME**



## Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”



## A Prayer in Times of Conflict

*O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

BCP p. 824



## Transformed by Ministry



## A Prayer for Prisons and Correctional Institutions

*Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal:  
Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment.  
Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance  
and amendment of life according to your will, and give them  
hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them  
release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice.  
Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them  
humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming  
brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison,  
O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All  
this we ask for your mercy's sake.*

*Amen.*

BCP p. 825



## A Prayer for Our Enemies

*O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

BCP p. 816





## What Might Be Possible?

Love your enemies. It  
makes them so  
damned mad. ~P.D. East

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## Episcopal Church releases 'Becoming Beloved Community' guide for racial reconciliation efforts

| 📅 May 3, 2017 | 💬 4 Comments |

[Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs press release] Following a year of listening, consulting and reflection, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and House of Deputies President the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings and officers of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies are inviting Episcopalians to study and commit to using "Becoming Beloved Community: The Episcopal Church's Long-term Commitment to Racial Healing, Reconciliation and Justice."

The full document is available [here](#).

"You're not looking at a set of programs," Presiding Bishop Curry explained. "You're looking at a path for how we, as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, can more fully and prayerfully embody the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus in our relationships with each other. Look at the scriptures, at Christian history. There is no doubt that Beloved Community, healing, justice and reconciliation are at the heart of Jesus' movement in this world."

The "Becoming Beloved Community" vision emerges as a direct response to General Convention Resolution C019 ("[Establish Response to Systemic Injustice](#)"). The comprehensive commitment – which the Church's top leaders crafted in partnership with the Presiding Bishop's staff, key leaders, networks and organizations dedicated to racial reconciliation – links new initiatives with existing ongoing work and seeks to support and amplify local, regional,

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FEATURED JOBS & CALLS

## Only Love Can Do...



## A Prayer for the Church

*Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior.*

*Amen.*

BCP p. 815

