

WRITTEN PRAYER FOR THE SIN OF SYSTEMIC RACISM

Dear Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Our eyes are opened, our hearts are broken,
We recognize the systemic racism for generations that has held back so many of our brothers and sisters in our God family.
We feel the emotions of anger, fear, shame and grief but we are not afraid of these emotions.
We trust you, God, to use these emotions to bring about healing change.
We want to see healing change.
We trust you as the one who holds the larger story which is full of your justice. This means healing change is coming.
Lead me in my part of the healing change.

We confess that racism is sin. Systematic injustice is sin.
The Apostle Paul talks about principalities and powers.
I pray against these principalities and powers. I join millions of others who are praying.
I also am willing to do my part of the healing change.

There is systematic sin and there is personal sin.
Forgive us, God of Justice, for both.

We pray for the victim. We pray for the oppressor.
We pray for the individual who will make the choice as to which one he or she will be.
Overcoming is our birthright as Christians.
It starts at the cross of Jesus.
May each person choose the way of Jesus to overcome.



WRITTEN PRAYER

Peacemaking is our birthright as Christians because we belong to the Prince of Peace.

Peacemaking looks like going to the cross.

Because we have been forgiven of so much—and God has never left us—may we be a part of peacemaking in this unjust world.

We will not dehumanize the other. This is my pledge.

I pray for the teachers of history to teach history that is true.

This may bring the emotions of anger, fear, shame and grief but the truth will set us free. The truth can heal.

I pray against the distortion of truth.

May systemic forgiveness happen.

This will come with humility, meekness, and powering under.

Each of these are leadership traits.

May I lead this way. God help me.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants. Psalm 89:14.

In this messy middle where I live right now I need unfailing love and truth close to me.

One day historians will tell the story of the Church in this era of pandemic and racial strife.

We pray that historians will find in the rubble of these years of suffering a people who bore testimony to

Jesus who never lost sight of those most in need.

I pledge to be one of those people.

The brave pray. I pray and believe in the way of Jesus.

I believe in this larger story.

Amen.

