



Confronting Racism as a church

The ELCA's social policy resolution, "Condemnation of White Supremacy and Racist Rhetoric," adopted by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, states: "As persons called to love one another as God has loved us, we therefore proclaim our commitment to speak with one voice against racism and white supremacy. We stand with those who are targets of racist ideologies and actions." As church, together we must work to condemn white supremacy in all forms and recommit ourselves to confront and exorcize the sins of injustice, racism and white supremacy in church and society and within ourselves as individuals and households.

In the midst of heightened national conversations around the rallying point of "Black Lives Matter" in response to the death of individuals such as Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Dreajon (Sean) Reed, George Floyd and others we are reminded of the brokenness of our 'sins both known and unknown' that contribute to the pain of our neighbors. While these issues are often unpleasant to discuss we cannot pretend that they do not exist and so we encourage faithful listening, conversation and action in pursuit of what the prophet Amos yearned for, "But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." Amos 5:24

Some useful links to stimulate conversation and action:

ELCA Racial Justice Resource Page

<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Racial-Justice#Resources>

ELCA Anti-Racism Pledge

https://elca.org/racialjusticepledge?_ga=2.29746679.936521879.1592838739-102939920.1525131987