

We have divided ourselves from others, and refused to listen to or believe their experience.
Have mercy on us.

We have been indifferent to the pain and suffering of our sisters and brothers.
Have mercy on us.

We have held in contempt those who need our help, and not loved them with our whole hearts.
Have mercy on us.

We have been self-satisfied in our privilege, and denied our oppression of others.
Have mercy on us.

We have preferred order over justice, and isolation over the struggle for peace.
Have mercy on us.

We have quietly held good intentions, and kept silent the message of reconciliation.
Have mercy on us.

We have failed to act with courage for the sake of love.
Have mercy on us.

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

PRAY: OUR FATHER



PHOTO BY RYAN CLEVELAND ON UNSPLASH

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE FOR RACIAL UNITY



PSALM 51 —

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
a clean heart, O God,
create in me.



Text based on 2018 Prayers for Racial Reconciliation & Justice
with acknowledgement to the Subcommittee on Racial Reconciliation & Justice
on the Standing Commission on Liturgy of Music for the Episcopal Church



Our Lady's Immaculate Heart
510 E First St
Ankeny, IA 50021

PSALM 130:1-8

R We cry to you, O Lord, from the depths of the earth.

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV)

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him,

"Go and do likewise."



LITANY OF REPENTANCE

God the Father, you freed your people from slavery in Egypt, yet the legacy of slavery deforms our lives today.

Have mercy on us.

God the Son, you prayed that all would be united in your love and service, yet the divisions among us rend your body.

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, you inspire us to live peaceably with all, yet the stain of genocide and internment mars our striving for justice.

Have mercy on us.

We have harmed one another and the earth through negligence, greed, and self-interest.

Have mercy on us.

We have failed to condemn discrimination that leads to unrest.

Have mercy on us.

We have decried violence, while overlooking inequity and frustration from which it rises.

Have mercy on us.

We have practiced injustice for economic gain and have oppressed others to make a false peace.

Have mercy on us.

We have sought comfort in advantage for ourselves at the cost of injustice for others.

Have mercy on us.

We have welcomed solace over conflict and ignored the cries of those harmed by our comfort.

Have mercy on us.

We have grasped for this world's goods, and been arrogant toward those who have little.

Have mercy on us.

We have not shared the good things we have been given, and blamed the poor for their poverty.

Have mercy on us.

We have been fearful and distrustful of those who are different from us.

Have mercy on us.

Continued