

June 17, 2020

Spiritual Life

On June 19, 1865, the last of the Black Americans who were in the condition of chattel servitude were freed. It is this date in June that many Black Americans consider to be Independence Day and thus a cause for annual jubilation entitled **Juneteenth.**

Even though we still battle racism, white supremacy and a painful past, we still celebrate the hope of a tomorrow where the promise of equity, equality and true liberation are perhaps achievable.*



REACH OUT!

**Rev. Sarah Hathaway,
Chaplain & Director**

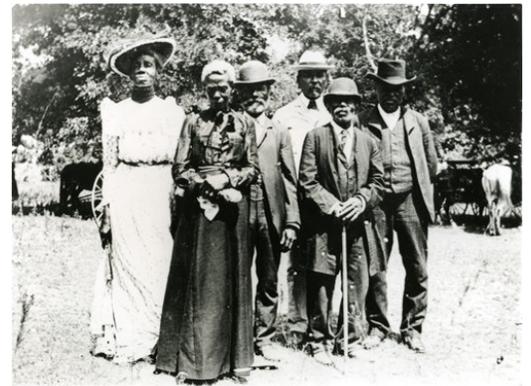
Office: (978) 402-8240
Cell: (978) 394-3774
shathaway@newburycourt.org

**Rev. Kristin Rinehimer,
Chaplain**

Office: (978) 402-8238
Cell: (978) 844-3149
krinehimer@newburycourt.org

***Please reach out if
you need support or
help in staying
connected right now.***

We are here to help!



Juneteenth celebration in 1900 at Eastwoods Park. Credit: Austin History Center.

“A Prayer for Juneteenth”

Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Episcopal Priest in Houston, Texas

Creator of all that we are and all that we have, elevate the character of this nation. In this time of disruption disrupt us for what is true and is right. Disrupt us that we may move and act for the cause of freedom.

We honor the courage of the long line of heroes that brought Juneteenth to a reality in 1865. We honor the courage of the men and women who make up the long line of heroes who have labored to bring emancipation into reality to these 155 years.

Let their lives, their story, disrupt us and give us courage. Let their non-violence in the face of violence, their love in the face of hate, their hope in the face of despair disrupt our ways and remind us on this day that violence, hate, and despair though they infect our nation shall not have the last word.

(over) →

*Remarks from Rev. Shanea D. Leonard, Associate for Gender and Racial Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency, June 19, 2019.



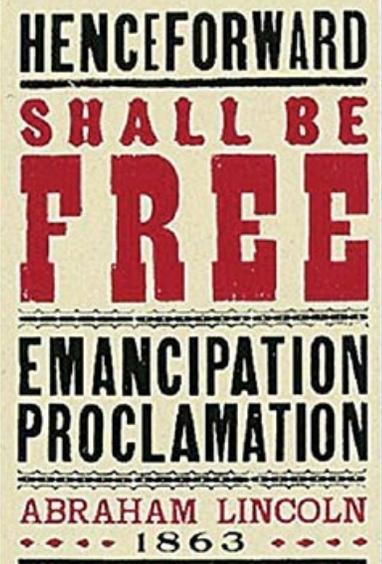
The emancipation proclamation is a call to action to continue the journey to freedom for all Black Americans and all of God's people. Every American – women, Latinos, Asian Americans - has been affected by this word of hope.

This is our time -- we write our story, and we will leave our legacy.

So, disrupt us that we may see our purpose to build a better nation. Disrupt us that we may discard cynicism. Disrupt us that we may face boldly the sin of racism that is yet before us and that we will have a moral imagination, a sense of urgency to improve our criminal justice system, to roll back poverty, make opportunities for all people to make a living wage, to protect democracy with the right to vote restored fully for all people, to care for the migrant and immigrant, to ensure access to health care, to support the responsibility of each person to make their voice heard - to make a just society.

Let our voice sound out as it did on the day of emancipation. Let our actions be clear, and let our legacy be true so that more years need not pass before racism, classism and violence are shed and liberty and freedom for all people are once again our nation's heart's song. **Amen.**

(Reprinted with minor edits to the original version)



ANTI-RACISM: FIXED TO GROWTH MINDSET

@HOLISTICALLYGRACE

FIXED - COMFORT

"I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START OR WHAT TO SAY"

"I DON'T WANT TO GET IT WRONG OR GET CALLED OUT"

"IT WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHAT I DO, NOTHING IS GOING TO CHANGE"

"I DON'T GET INVOLVED IN POLITICS. I DON'T HAVE TIME"

GROWTH - COURAGE

"FIRST I WILL LISTEN/READ/WATCH. I WILL SPEAK AGAINST INJUSTICE"

"I WILL MAKE MISTAKES, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. I WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR THE LESSON"

"THINGS HAPPEN WHEN I TAKE RISKS AND BECOME PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER"

"THIS IS A HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE. THIS MATTERS, I WILL MAKE TIME"

Taking Good Care

It's important to take good care of ourselves. It's also important to take good care of each other.

We hope the infographic to the left is helpful if you've struggled, feel stuck, or don't know where to start in your anti-racism growth work.

Let's aim to be growth-oriented people in all facets of life, including issues of race, prejudice, and injustice.