



THE 201st CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MAINE Resolutions

RESOLUTION 5

SUPPORT FOR THE AUTHORS OF A LETTER TO THE CHURCH ON BREAKING FREE OF WHITE SUPREMACY

RE: "Speaking of Freedom" Support

SUBMITTED BY: Justice Commission of the Diocese of Maine

CONTACT PERSON: Rev. Eleanor Prior, Chair, (518) 610-3190, eprior@cathedralofstluke.org

- 1 **RESOLVED** that the 201st Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church in Maine recognizes
- 2 that many Episcopalians find it challenging to understand or know how to respond to 21st-
- 3 century justice concerns, and be it further

- 4 **RESOLVED** that the 201st Diocesan Convention affirms as Jesus urged, "You shall love the
- 5 Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all
- 6 your mind; and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).

- 7 **RESOLVED** that the 201st Diocesan Convention authorize a statement of support for the
- 8 authors of "A Letter to the Church on Breaking Free of White Supremacy"; the Rev. Stephanie
- 9 Spellers, the Rev. Winnie Varghese, and the Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas; and be it further

- 10 **RESOLVED** that the Justice Commission communicate this support by November 15, 2020.

EXPLANATION

For the church, freedom must be more than a song we sing or a flag we wave. It must begin with the cross that calls us to claim freedom - and to free our church and nation - from America's original sin: White supremacy. We long for the day that our church might be free to become what we have until now only aspired to be: a true church following a crucified and risen Lord and witnessing to God's just future.

Can a denomination steeped in White supremacy turn and dedicate its life to dismantling the very structures of death that it blessed and built? Can it become Beloved Community, where the flourishing of every person and all creation is the hope of each, where the oppressed are liberated from oppression, and oppressors are at last free of the sin that oppresses?

We believe that, with God's help, The Episcopal Church can become an instrument not of oppression but of God's peace. It can grow followers of Jesus who are more concerned about taking up the cross of our crucified Lord than they are about maintaining the control and privilege of a crucifying culture.

Read the full letter "[Speaking of Freedom](#)" [here](#).



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