



AT HOME

with Cathedral for Kids!



Courage Over Comfort

June 14, 2020

Dear Friends,

If there could be a theme to the conversations I've had with people this week, it's that talking about race is uncomfortable. For everyone. And we are discovering that as a community and as people of faith, that if we are truly committed to racial justice (especially those of us who are white), we cannot be deterred by fear, guilt, or plain old awkwardness.

In the words of Brene Brown in her new Netflix series *Call to Courage* (check it out, but not with little ears listening in!), when it comes to issues of race, all of us must choose courage over comfort. In fact, the level of our discomfort can be an effective diagnostic for just how comfortable we are with the status quo - a status quo defined by racism. But this conversation is not about our comfort level...it is about justice. And friends, if God is about anything, God is about justice, love, and truth.

We want to be people of God's justice, love, and truth. And we cannot be deterred by discomfort, or guilt, or the fear of doing or saying the wrong thing. At this moment, the only things we can do wrong is dishonor our neighbor by commission (intentionally hurting them) or omission (standing by and doing nothing). This moment in time has propelled us forward into a



crossroads, and the path of love - the path of Christ - may not be comfortable, but it is good, and it is right, and it is the only way to God's heart.

I encourage you in engaging the work of antiracism using the words of Paul in his first letter to Corinthians: "...my dear, dear friends, stand your ground. And don't hold back. Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for him is a waste of time or effort" (I Corinthians 15:58, The Message). Trust me, righting the racial wrongs of past and present is the work of our Master, and when God is with us, nothing we do is wasted.

CATHEDRAL FOR KIDS LIVE ON ZOOM

Our LIVE Cathedral for Kids service will be this Sunday, June 12 at 10:15 AM. You can access this service on Zoom by using this [link](#) (password: 222277). This week's gospel reading is Matthew [9:35-10:1](#), and it tells us of how Jesus shared his ministry of teaching and healing with the disciples.

As usual, we will be doing a live love feast during this service, which is simply a fellowship meal similar to the meals Jesus shared with his disciples. For the love feast, you will need the following items:

- A story rug (can be anything...be creative)
- A small snack
- A drink for each member of your family
- A candle (placed a safe distance from your feast!)

We'll be sharing gritudes on our story rug as well as the snack, reminding us of the holy fellowship we share with God and each other. And if you miss our live service, definitely use our Cathedral for Kids video, which can be found anytime [here](#).

FAITH AT HOME ALL WEEK LONG

This week's Faith at Home resources are all about choosing courage over comfort when it comes to listening and acting for racial justice. Here are some ways that you can engage these topics as families this week:

Ways to Listen



- **Listening with Our Hearts - Sunday, June 14th at 3:00 PM:** instead of the planned graduates' blessing, the Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult ministry has created a space for processing, prayer, and mutual support around the protests and waves of racial violence across the country (link [here](#), password: 402336). This is a wonderful opportunity to show up for each other and embrace the work of compassion and justice together. Don't worry, we'll still be honoring our graduates with a special service on a later date. More info on that coming soon soon!
- **Supporting Kids of Color in the Wake of Racialized Violence Webinar:** while the resources making the rounds right now on social media about antiracism are great, so much of what is produced for families is about what white families need to recognize bias and blind spots in parenting. Families with kids of color are dealing with a different set of concerns that many of these resources do not address. *Embrace Race* has created a wonderful webinar (found [here](#)) with parents and experts in the field of child development talking about how to support kids of color in the wake of the George Floyd protests and COVID-19. This webinar discusses mental health, parenting challenges, and healthy racial identity. This may be designed for families with children of color in mind, but I recommend that everyone watch it.
- **How Do I Make Sure I'm Not Raising the Next 'Amy Cooper?'** Webinar: here is another fantastic webinar (found [here](#)) from *Embrace Race* and Jennifer Harvey, a Christian speaker and author on issues of race, parenting, and faith. In this webinar, Harvey shares part of her own journey in understanding racism and her work to try to raise her children to be antiracist. If you are a white parent or are feeling awkward about these conversations, start here and remember that engaging this work is never comfortable.

Ways to Act

- **Long Island Families and Children March for Black Lives - Sunday, June 14th, 3:00-5:00 pm:** everyone is invited to join us for a family and children's *March for Black Lives* this Sunday, which will feature children and youth as speakers and is organized by Long Island Parents. Feel free to bring signs (no sticks), and wear masks. This can be a great way to start a conversation with your kids and help them learn early ways of acting for justice. Flyer with more information below.

We are here for you - for support, commiseration, and connection. Don't hesitate to reach out, and don't be surprised if you get a phone call from us this week as we work through the list! And as always, keep doing hard things--

Blessings,

Mother Morgan

