**SUBJECT:** **A Stand Against White Supremacy**

Enter the text of the resolution below:

**RESOLVED,** that the congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan decry every form and expression of racism, including alt-right white supremacy, the Ku Klux Klan, Christian Identity Adherents, white nationalism, and Neo-Nazism, as antithetical to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that we denounce and repudiate white supremacy and every form of racial and ethnic hatred as evil and in non-compliance with our baptismal vows to:

* proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ;
* seek and serve Christ in all persons loving our neighbor as ourselves; and to
* strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being –

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan work with others committed to continuing the struggle to root out all remaining forms of intentional and unintentional racism in our midst; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that we earnestly pray, both for those who advocate racist ideologies and those who are thereby deceived, that they may see their error through the light of the Gospel, repent of these hatreds, and come to know the peace and love of Christ through redeemed fellowship in the Kingdom of God, which is established from every nation, tribe, people, and language.

State your argument in favor of the resolution. Continue on back if necessary.

**EXPLANATION/RATIONALE:**

When considering this resolution, we ask that you consider the following points.

**In Scripture:**

* the Psalmist proclaimed, “The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the LORD” (Psalm 24:1); and
* the Apostle Peter said, “God doesn’t show favoritism, but in every nation the person who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him” (Acts 10:34–35); and
* Galatians 3:27-28 explains that our justification before God is based on faith in Christ Jesus and not in our ethnicity; and
* Scripture teaches, “From one man [God] has made every nationality to live over the whole earth and has determined their appointed times and the boundaries of where they live” (Acts 17:26); and
* Scripture proclaims that Jesus is purchasing by His blood believers “from every tribe and language and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9); and
* throughout eternity we will gather with a “multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language” in worship of our risen Savior (Revelation 7:9).

**Our Catechism teaches that:**

* the mission of the church “is to restore ***all*** people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”; and that
* the church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

The United States is experiencing the resurgence of a political movement that is reigniting social animosities, reversing improvements in race relations, dividing the people of this country, excusing violence, and is promoting hatred, classism, and ethnic/racial separation.

**The Episcopal Church:**

* continues to repent of the racism of which we have been guilty, whether consciously or unconsciously; and has committed itself to full inclusion of all people; to the dismantling of systems that practice and promote systemic oppression; and the rejection of bigoted policies that promote violence, discriminate, impoverish, under-educate, and deny people basic human rights; and
* the Episcopal Church continues to renew its commitment to eradicate racism in all its forms and has promoted action on this commitment through various documents and teaching series including: the 1994 Pastoral Letter, *The Sin of Racism*, the anti-racism training manual *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other*, and *A Way Forward: Reflections, Resources & Stories Concerning Ferguson, Racial Justice & Reconciliation.*