

RESOLUTION 2-03b

TO CONDEMN THE SIN OF RACISM

- WHEREAS, the sin of racism has plagued creation since the Fall, and its victims have been found in every place and every time including within and outside the Church, and
- WHEREAS, the Gospel of Christ calls the Church to suffer alongside the oppressed at the cost of all things, for Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13); and our Lord has commanded us, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39), and
- WHEREAS, racism seeks to harm its victims in thought, word or deed, and people in our communities and ministries have experienced such harm, and
- WHEREAS, the Church is called to condemn sin in every form and manner, both in public and in private, including racism in all of its expressions, such as racial profiling; unjust incarceration; economic injustice and inequality; discrimination in education, employment, and housing; xenophobic sentiment, and inhumane treatment of immigrants and refugees, and
- WHEREAS, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has condemned racism in eight synodical conventions resulting in convention resolutions, and
- WHEREAS, in 1994 the CTCR issued a document called “Racism and the Church” that was commended to the Synod by the 1995 convention, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, that the Northwest District of the LCMS publicly condemn the sin of racism in all its manifestations, giving honor to the Father “from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named” (Ephesians 3:15); confessing the Son, who, by His Incarnation and sacrificial death gave value and dignity to every human being; and calling on the Spirit to work in us true repentance and renewal of life, and be it further
- RESOLVED, that honest conversation about racism and its effects be encouraged in the District by creation of a District Task Force on Racism and its Effects to develop tools to help congregations see and respond to racism and its effects in their local setting, and be it finally
- RESOLVED, that the Northwest District in convention memorialize the LCMS in convention to again address the sin of racism in a convention resolution calling for repentance, dialogue, and public witness.

(cf Resolution 2-03a The Northwest District of the LCMS Publicly Condemns The Sin of Racism;
Overture 2-05 To Acknowledge and Repent of the Sin of Racism Page 6-27)