



do justice • love tenderly • walk humbly with God Micah 6:8

January 20, 2025

We begin all of our prayer in the presence of our loving Creator; because we are all created in the very image and likeness of God!

As a Christian community, we know this:

Everyone should be treated fairly!

Daily reflection:

(Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; “Strength to Love”)

When we think about our obligation to treat everyone fairly, we often turn to the Gospel parable of the Good Samaritan. While Rev. Martin Luther King was sitting in a jail in Birmingham, he wrote a collection of sermons that were published in his book, *Strength to Love*. In it he reflects on the parable of the Good Samaritan:

“I imagine that the first question the priest and Levite asked was: ‘If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?’ But by the very nature of his concern, the good Samaritan reversed the question: ‘If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?’”

Daily call to action:

Dr. King knew that we, as Christians, have an obligation to look beyond our own self-interests – and that we are called to take action on behalf of those who are treated unjustly. In his last speech (I’ve Been to the Mountaintop), he said, “*We need to go and say, ‘God sent us by here to say to you that you’re not treating His children right...’*”

As we honor Dr. King’s legacy, let us also commit to take action and to raise our own voices on behalf of those who are treated unjustly.

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

That leaders around the world, in our country, and in our own city will treat all people fairly.

For migrant families, that they will find good jobs and safe places to live.

For an end to war, racism, and discrimination.

For all of us, that we will recognize and appreciate each other’s gifts and talents.

Blessing: (the prayer of Aaron over the people of God: Num. 6:23b–26)

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

May the Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

And we say together with all of the people of God:

Amen.