

# The Anglican Province of Christ the King

St. George's Anglican Pro-Cathedral

1210 Dixie Trail

Raleigh, NC 27614

(919) 786-0640

## Archiepiscopal Residence:

10317 Crisp Drive

Raleigh, NC 27614

[APCKArchbishopJEU@hotmail.com](mailto:APCKArchbishopJEU@hotmail.com)



28 August, AD 2020

Feast of St. Augustine of Hippo

## A STATEMENT ON RACISM FROM THE APCK COUNCIL OF BISHOPS

One of the prerogatives of the Archbishop is to speak God's word to the Province and to speak for the Province to the world. As the subject of societal racism is topical, and passions run so high, we need to state our church's position on the subject of racial strife and discrimination. Therefore, with the full consent and support of the members, we, the Council of Bishops of the Anglican Province of Christ the King wish to make the following statement.

The Bishops of the Anglican Province of Christ the King hereby denounce, condemn, and rebuke racism in any way, shape, form or fashion in which it may present itself in our society. Furthermore, we anathematize and censure any person who practices racism or who denigrates or maligns any persons in any way because of their racial or ethnic heritage. Racism simply has no place among us!

These practices and beliefs are in direct conflict with the Judeo-Christian ethic given us as Christians by Our Lord Jesus Christ in His new Commandment to love one another as found in St. John 13:34-35 – "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

The Love which God has for us and the Love by which we are to Love God and neighbor is summed up in St. Matthew 7:12, part of the Sermon on the Mount. It is the Golden Rule ~ *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*. We are reminded of this every Sunday in the Summary of the Law. This is, without a doubt, how we should live, move, and have our being in the world: Love God and love our neighbors (everyone) as ourselves, even if they treat us badly.

Therefore, the Council of Bishops exhorts all members of the Province to take these words and the teachings of Our Lord to heart and practice them in your daily lives. After the senseless murders of George Floyd, Cannon Hinnant, and others, accompanied by the civil unrest that has swept our nation; concurrent with a pandemic that has changed our very way of life, all of us

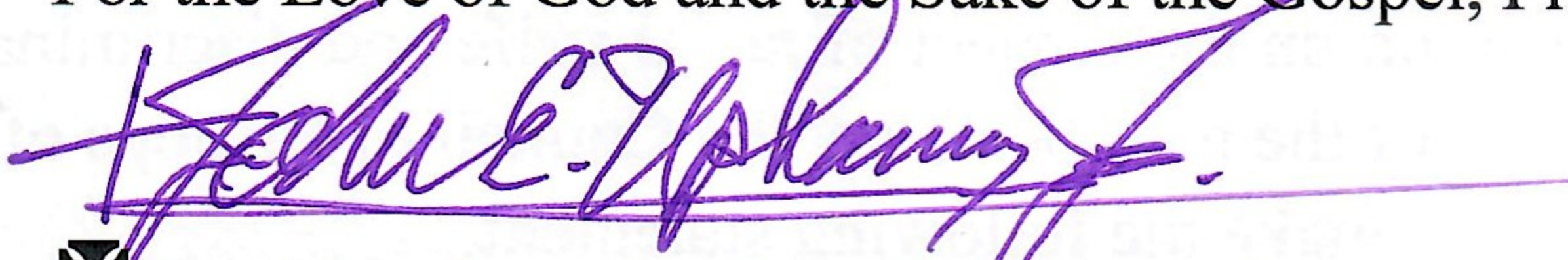


need to stand up and model to our friends and neighbors; to the city and to the world how to live, behave, and reflect the Love of God to each other, instead of being pawns for Evil to use to foment chaos, disorder, confusion, and bedlam throughout society. It is a matter of personal sacrifice and personal sanctity. We are called to this way of Life and Love as Christians so we may overcome all forms of Evil with God's Love.

To continue us on our pilgrimage to God in these catastrophic times, I call on each member of the Province to deny and overcome every temptation to hate or resent and transform it into opportunities to love our neighbors as ourselves by the power of the Holy Ghost dwelling within you, as God loves each one of us and, further, to make the following Prayer for Social Justice, from our Book of Common Prayer, part of your *daily* devotion:

***ALMIGHTY God, who hast created man in thine own image; Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice among men and nations, to the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

For the Love of God and the Sake of the Gospel, I remain,



✠ The Most Rev. Dr. John E. Upham, Jr.

Archbishop, Anglican Province of Christ the King

For the Council of Bishops

*An Excerpt from the Sermon Christ and Culture by Robert Sherwood Morse*

“We are called to personal sanctity. In our pilgrimage into God with God, God is the most wonderful person in this universe. He told us that if we loved Him, we would keep His commandments. The saints are those remarkable beings who have done this; loved God and all that He created, loved one another, their families, parents, children, friends, and even more remarkable, loved their enemies. We should. . . find our common mutuality in Christ. God does not separate us according to age, race, class, or gender. There is only Christ and His saints. We are called to be part of that great company of light.”