



# *Racial Reconciliation and Discipleship in the Missionary Church*

Our Presiding Bishop has called us into a deeper understanding of the relationship between evangelism and racial reconciliation. It has been said that Sunday morning is the most segregated time in America, because our worshiping communities often reflect the dividing lines of race rather than the unity of Christ's Body or the glorious diversity of God's creation. At this year's gathering we wish to explore the connection between discipleship, mission, and racial reconciliation. We understand ourselves, as Christians, to be called to reconciliation. How does making disciples facilitate and celebrate racial reconciliation in our particular contexts? How are the church's legacies of racial division and racial healing affecting your work of evangelism and mission? What signs of hope do you see? Within the context of the Great Commission, what roles do confession, repentance, forgiveness and reparation play in the work of racial reconciliation within ourselves, our congregations and the Episcopal Church?

# The Mirror Effect

James 1:23, 24

For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

# Woundedness

“If a white person has inflicted the wounds of racism upon black people, the cost has been that the white person would receive the mirror images of that wound into himself. But the wound is there, and it is a profound disorder, as great a damage in his mind as it is in his society.”

Wendell Berry

# Concursus Dei

The continuous accompaniment of God  
in creation.

# The Rev. Howard Washington Thurman

Because if I hear the sound of the genuine in me and if you hear the sound of the genuine in you, it is possible for me to go down in my spirit and come up in your spirit. So that when I look at myself through your eyes having made that pilgrimage, I see in me what you see in me. Then the wall that separates and divides will disappear and we will become one because the sound of the genuine makes the same music.

Spelman College, 1980

Racism is a *dis-EASE*

“Deep within the word American is the association with race....American means white, and Africanist people struggle to make the term applicable to themselves with ethnicity and hyphen after hyphen after hyphen.”

Toni Morrison



“Deep within the word Episcopal is the association with race....Episcopal means white, and minorities struggle to make the term applicable to themselves.”

# General Convention Actions

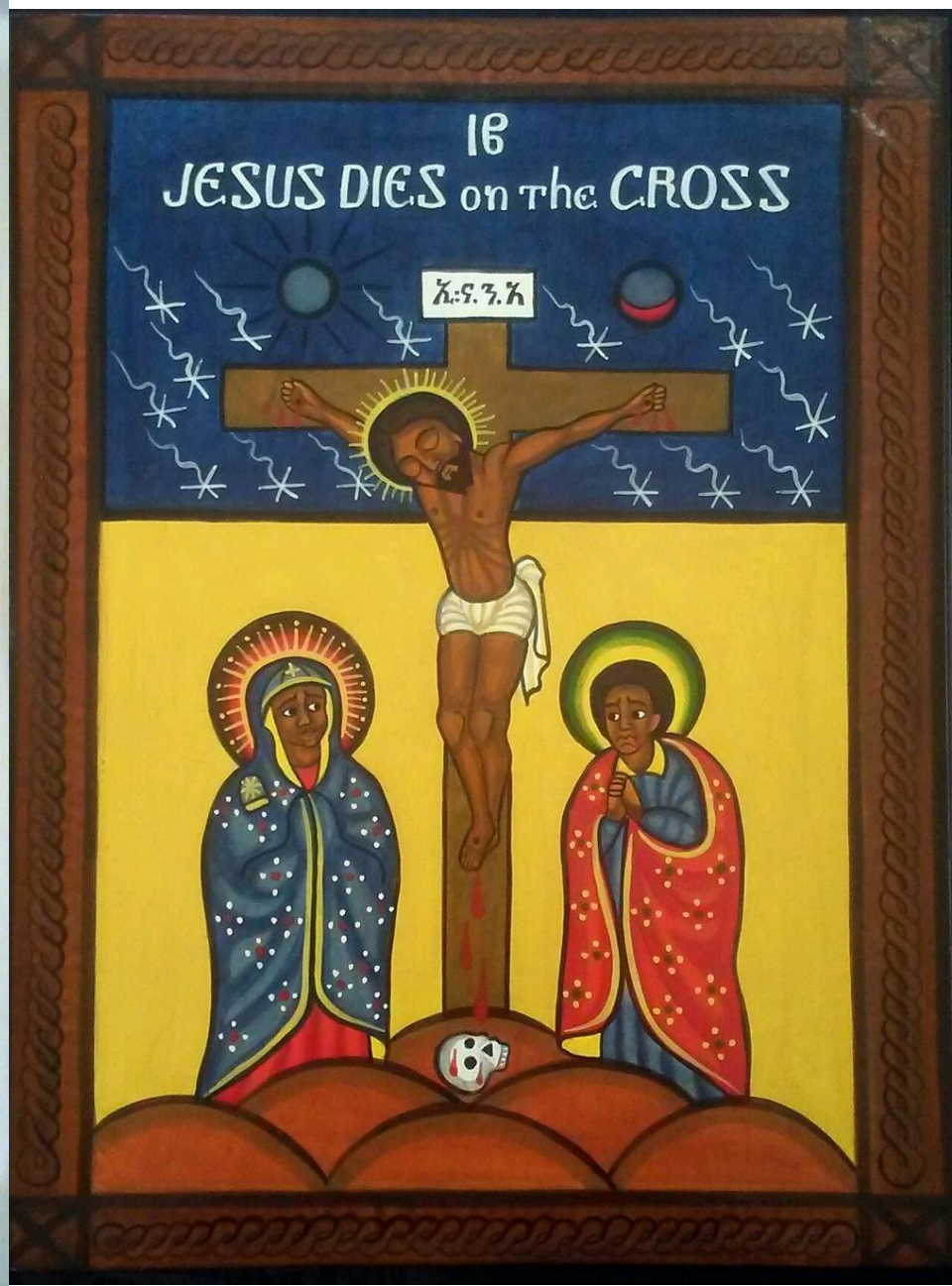
- 1967-\$9MM for “black empowerment in the poorest neighborhoods”
  - \$67MM in today’s currency
- 2015-\$2MM for reconciliation and evangelism

# Collaborative Inquiry Team

- Chrismation- “marked as Christ’s own forever.”
  - Marked by Curse of Ham
  - Marked Men and Marked Women (Bulls eye target)



XIII  
Jesus is taken down  
from the cross.



16  
JESUS DIES on the CROSS

X.P.X.

# Positive Biblical Images of Darkness

- Light/Dark historically mapped to race
- Light is white is good. Dark is black is evil.
- Ten Commandments-Exodus 20:21
  - “Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.”
- Psalm 18, “God wrapped darkness about him; \*  
God made dark waters and thick clouds his pavilion.”

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