

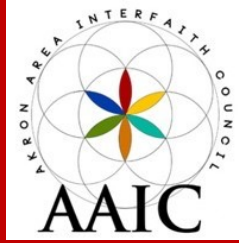
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Prayer After the Capitol Protests

Eternal and loving Lord,
who calls us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with You,
because we know that before You nations rise and fall and pass through times of peril,
we pray that You would search our hearts and align us with the freedom which defines
and sustains us . . .
and in the wake of Wednesday's turmoil, we pray that You would inspire us to turn
our thoughts to what is honorable in the sight of all.
Illumine our political landscape with Your radiance, so that we may be grounded in civility . . .
and teach us through the wisdom that You share through our sisters and brothers among us,
so that You would guide us to surmount division through Your unity,
that You would equip us to quell our arrogance with humility,
and that You would empower us to overcome violence with Your peace.
Grant that the faithful testimony of those with us and those apart from us
would summon us to stand in solidarity
with all people who suffer from injustice, inequity, or oppression.
Startle us with the newness we so desperately need . . .
bless us with the strength of character that continues the legacy of democracy . . .
and nourish all of us who hunger and thirst for righteousness with Your truth that defends
the rights of all people.
Instill within us
wider horizons than our own self-interests . . .
nobler ends than prejudice and political partisanship . . .
and greater visions than power and control . . .
and then send Your Spirit among us to guide our steps with renewed standards of ethics and
a deeper commitment to accountability,
so that we may participate in Your work of promoting equality for all, justice for all, and
hope for all,
and we may shine the light of goodness to all the world,
through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
FOR
JANUARY 9, 2021

NEW COVENANT
COMMUNITY CHURCH



Join Akron Area Interfaith Council for

***"An Interfaith Meditation:
Prayers for the Pandemic"***

January 17, 2021— 2 p.m.

***at the intersection of World Religion Day and
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.***

***Co-sponsored by
First Congregational Church of Akron***

***Join the interfaith community as we lament the
losses we have endured, racial injustice, and
meditate together for interfaith work, healing,
and reconciliation. Register at:***

<https://bit.ly/InterfaithMeditation>

***For more information contact
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