

Sisters and brothers of Plymouth, let us pray,

Almighty God,

You breathe life into your creation and call it good.

You create each of us in your image, know each of us by name, and call each one of us your beloved children.

You call us to love you with all our hearts, all our souls, all our minds, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We lament the many ways we fail to do so.

We lament the horrific 8 minutes 46 seconds of May 25, 2020.

We will not avert our eyes from the chilling and dehumanizing cruelty revealed as the breath of life was taken from George Floyd.

Weeping Savior,

You have tasted the tears of grief.

You call us to weep with those who weep.

Across our county and around the world, our brothers and sisters spill into the streets, crying out, "How long?"

Open our ears that the cry for justice shall not be overshadowed by violence or destruction.

You have told us what is good and what you require of us: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.

May we listen to your Word and do what it says.

Spirit of Truth,

Open the eyes of our hearts to the malignancy of racism.

Help us to embody the abundant love you have for each of your children.

For such a time as this, pour your Holy Spirit upon your people.

May your faithful righteousness and compassion stir in the deep waters of our souls.

Let us not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Help us to nurture the faithful freedom that can only grow in the sacred soil of truth and grace.

Steadfast Loving God,

Nothing can separate us from your love.

When our Lord completed the saving work you began in him, he cried out from the cross, "It is finished."

Be with us as we come alongside one another in faith, hope and love.

Remain with us as we strive to do the sacred work you require of us, so that the sin of racism will no longer separate us from one another or cast a shadow on our children's future.

Soon and very soon, may we lift up our voices to you, singing, "It is finished."

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. Amen

