



# 2023 UNITY CHURCH SPIRITUAL JUSTICE PRACTICE SERIES / LGBTQ/ JUSTICE

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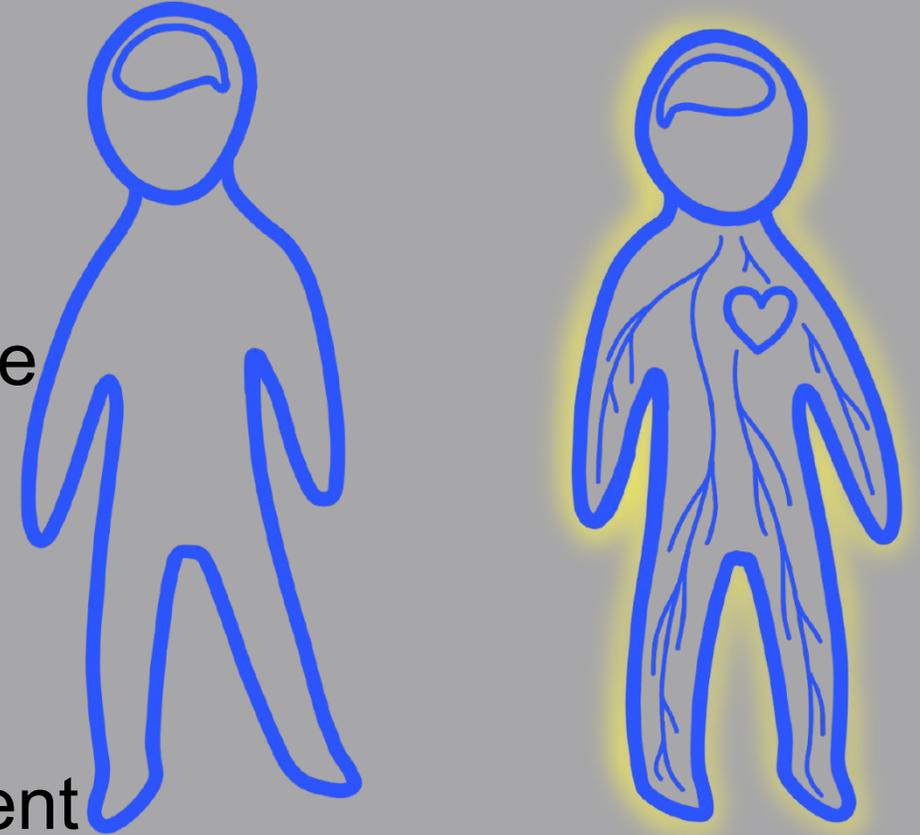


## WE ARE GATHERED TO DISCUSS LGBTQ+ JUSTICE...

What are my body, heart, and mind telling me right now?

Is there a deeper need underneath this?

What words describe my needs in this moment and in this context?





## REFLECT / DISCUSS →



How do I describe my commitment to LGBTQ+ justice?

What about this is important to me in the context of church and spiritual practice?

What is and is not LGBTQ+ justice to me?

What have been my patterns of showing my commitment to LGBTQ+ justice



**Gender/** Identity, Expression, Roles

**Sex/** Biology, Chromosomes

**Sexual Orientation/** Identity, Attraction, Behavior



WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR SPIRITUAL PRACTICE/  
WHAT IS IMPORTANT FOR OTHERS TO KNOW/

Gender/ .....

Sex/ .....

Sexual Orientation/ .....



## white supremacy + LGBTQ justice

**white supremacy is  
about control**

**a belief we know  
when, where, and how  
bodies should be**



**either/or + binary  
are harmful to  
everyone**

**homophobia,  
transphobia, sexism,  
and misogyny **limit all  
bodies and our self-  
determination****

# DOMINANT CULTURE GENDER / SEXUALITY PATTERNS

- Assume adults are partnered + monogamous
- Assume we know how someone identifies
- Assume we know what someone should be doing with their body
- Assume binary masculine + feminine roles
- Assumed procreation
- Projected desexualization
- Assume access to femmes' body, labor, intellect, care
- Assume right to know and understand



## TO HOLD IN OUR AWARENESS

**LESBIAN**  
**GAY**  
**BISEXUAL**  
**TRANSGENDER**  
**QUEER**  
**CISGENDER**  
**STRAIGHT**  
**ASEXUAL**  
**.....AND MORE**

- We all have gender and sexuality
- White supremacy seeks to control which limits all of us
- Capitalism tries to sell us a white, wealthy, partnered and cis narrative of LGBTQ people
  - Receive and believe
  - Not a vocabulary test
- Proximity does not equal justice
- Resist a competition of injustices
- The political right chooses the policy fights most often



# MINDSETS' CAPACITY

**MINIMIZATION** / VOCAB LIST, DO + DON'T, INVESTED  
IN REPRESENTATION DIVERSITY

**ACCEPTANCE** INTERPERSONAL CURIOSITY,  
CONVERSANT IN STRUCTURAL AWARENESS  
/INCLUSION/

**ADAPTATION** SHIFT STRUCTURE, POLICY, PROCESS  
WITH FOCUS ON OUTCOMES EQUITY



# SOME POSSIBLE BELIEFS OR PERSPECTIVES /

**MINIMIZATION** / IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE  
LGBTQ/ PEOPLE HERE AND LEADING

**ACCEPTANCE** HOW DO MY/OUR BEHAVIORS SHOW  
I/WE CARE ABOUT LGBTQ/ PEOPLE AND JUSTICE/

**ADAPTATION** WHEN DO OUR PRACTICES REINFORCE  
BINARY AND CONTROL/ WHAT ARE OUR GOALS/ WHEN  
AND HOW DO WE NEED TO SHIFT/



## REFLECT / DISCUSS →



What values/beliefs are connected to my gender identity or sexual orientation?

When and with whom do I notice and name gender and sexuality?

When and how does either/or thinking show up? (emphasizing one aspect of identity, subscribing to gender binary, desire to control etc.)



# INTERSECTIONALITY / THE ANTIDOTES TO EITHER/OR THINKING/

- Notice when you or others are simplifying complex issues
- Avoid trying to assign a single cause to a problem or a challenge. Acknowledge the ways in which oppressions intersect and reinforce each other as well as the ways in which oppression can be operating at the interpersonal, institutional and structural levels.



1. What practices would I like to incorporate and give attention to in my spiritual work/ministry?
2. What do I want to try, shed, release, invite in my spiritual work/ministry?

**RETURN TO YOUR GROUPS →  
PRACTICE LISTENING +  
REFLECTING BACK WHAT YOU  
THINK YOU'VE HEARD. CHECK  
YOUR REFLECTIONS. MAKE  
OFFERS WITH PERMISSION.**

