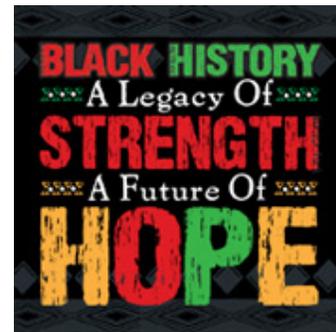


“It is when you look into the face of another human being and see that he or she is your brother or your sister. Because if you cannot do that, then no matter what time it is, it is still night!”
Author unknown

Quiet reflection

Reading: *On the Pulse of Morning* by Maya Angelou

Lift up your eyes upon
 The day breaking for you.
Give birth again
 To the dream.
Lift up your hearts.
Each new hour holds new chances
 For new beginnings.
Do not be webbed forever to fear
The horizon leans forward,
 Offering you space to place new steps of change.
Here on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister’s eyes,
 Into your brother’s face, your country
And say simply
Very simply
With hope
Good morning.



Reflection

Leader: As we embark on a journey to explore privilege and racism, we reflect on the invitation of Maya Angelou to lift up our hearts as each new day holds new chances for new beginnings. Let us take a few moments of quiet to consider: *What lifts up my heart as I envision my religious community overcoming racism?*

(pause)

Optional sharing

Closing Prayer

All: Creator God, we thank you for the gift of this day. With your grace and hearts full of hope we are here to give birth again to your dream that we all be one. Amen.

Prayer adapted from: Pax Christi USA; Maya Angelou et al