

Racism & Reconciliation

First Sunday in Lent, Year C



Focus Text: Romans 10:8b-13

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all...

Pastoral Reflection by Rev. James Brown, Presiding Elder, Dunn-Lillington District, A.M.E. Zion Church, Fayetteville, NC]

It is rare that the issue of racial reconciliation is attached to salvation. Many times, the issues of race are only discussed from a legal or political perspective, but in our text there is a direct correlation between salvation and racial reconciliation.

Personal Vignette from the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission

As a Commission that looks a bit like Greensboro in microcosm, we found that this process — and our own struggle to hear and understand each other — had a profound impact on our perceptions of the issues we explored. Our individual and collective commitment to the truth helped us persevere. And the human stories and emotions we encountered along the way moved us to do our best to leave behind a legacy we hope will serve Greensboro for years to come.

Key Fact

Only 7 percent of American churches are racially integrated, according to the Pew Center.

Image adapted from original at http://webpages.scu.edu/ftp/mmostamandy/Diversity_Matters_photo_without_wording_.jpg