



June 6, 2020

There are times, particularly since the deaths of Breana Taylor, Ahmaud Arbrey, and George Floyd, when Debbie and I feel so far away. We would so love to be with you in solidarity praying, crying, and marching.

Our pastor, Brian Kirk of First Christian Church in St. Joseph, Missouri, contacted us to ask if we would hold a sign stating, "Black Lives Matter" as part of a montage for worship on Sunday. We readily agreed. Here is one opportunity to be in solidarity and the thought came to us. We could use this photo to show our support in solidarity.

We stand with all who are working, in so many different ways to root-out systematic racism and injustice in our nation. We stand with our white sisters and brothers acknowledging our privilege simply because of the color of our skin.

We stand with those who put themselves in harm's way to bring lasting and just change – law enforcement officials, political leaders (including our four former presidents), civil leaders, religious leaders of all faiths, social workers, community organizers, healthcare workers, and so many more.

I was eleven years old when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at the Lincoln Memorial. At the time I had only a vague understanding of what I was watching. There were thousands of people peacefully marching. I remember nothing of the other speeches but I vividly remember Dr. King saying, "No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until 'justice rolls down like water and righteousness an everlasting stream'".

It was years before I knew he was quoting the Prophet Amos. (Amos 5:24) It was more years before I became deeply aware of Amos's full message. Amos was not satisfied. Dr. King was not satisfied. We should not be satisfied.

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