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THE HEALING
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FOUNDATION

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THE CENTER FOR
RELIGIONS, RIGHTS,
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Moral Declaration Worship Weekend Toolkit

October 14-16 and November 4-6

www.breachrepairers.org
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#MoralRevival

Fellow Clergy,

On October 14-16th and November 4th-6th, join faith communities across the country declaring that now is the time for a moral revolution of values, saying “we, as a faith center, lift up and defend the most sacred moral principles of our constitutional values,” by participating in the Moral Declaration Worship Weekends and by signing The Higher Ground Moral Declaration (bit.ly/moraldec). Thusly, demonstrating to your local and state elected officials that you and your congregation demand: **economic democracy**: pro-labor, anti-poverty, anti-racist policies that provide economic liberation to all people; **equality of education**: ensure every child receives access to high-quality, well-funded, constitutionally diverse public education; **healthcare for all**: move decisively towards a universal, transparent, and equitable healthcare system; **criminal justice reform**: address the continuing inequalities in the system for black, brown and poor white people, and fight the proliferation of guns; and **equal protection under the law**: voting rights, women’s rights, LGBTQ rights, labor rights, religious freedom rights, and immigrant rights.

This toolkit provides resources for faith leaders to help plan worship services as part of the Moral Declaration Worship Weekends. This toolkit is meant to be a model to keep us all within a framework. Check out the suggested resources in this toolkit. Modify them to fit the needs of your congregation. But most of all, put your faith into action!

Please find these tools in the pages that follow:

1. Moral Worship Weekend Service Purpose
2. Moral Worship Weekend Service Guidelines
3. Sample Moral Worship Weekend Call to Worship
4. Possible Music List
5. Moral Worship Weekend Lectionary Readings
6. Moral Worship Weekend Litany
7. Moral Worship Weekend Advertisement Flyer
8. Moral Worship Weekend Bulletin Half-Sheet Insert

Thank you all for your journey to rekindle a prophetic and moral vision for justice in your communities,

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II
President and National Lecturer
Repairers of the Breach

As always, our organizers are here to support you. Feel free to contact them at any time.

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Purpose

This Higher Ground Moral Declaration provides a moral agenda for our nation on issues including: democracy and voting rights; poverty and economic justice; workers' rights; education; healthcare; environmental justice; immigrant rights and challenging xenophobia; criminal justice; LGBTQ rights; and war-mongering and the military. For each issue area, an individual moral and constitutional foundation is established. The positions are neither left nor right, nor conservative or liberal. Rather, they are morally defensible, constitutionally consistent, and economically sound. Most importantly, they represent, as Dr. King urged, a revolution in values.

This Higher Ground Moral Declaration was delivered to 30 state capitols and in Washington, DC on September 12, 2016 to challenge the narrow construct of those who purport to represent the, so-called, "religious right" by petitioning state leaders, and candidates for state leadership. Thousands of people of goodwill have participated online and in person in revivals in prophetic witness to those impacted by the matrixes of oppression, moving our country toward a moral revolution of values. The Higher Ground Moral Declaration was also delivered to the RNC and the DNC, in July 2016. We now call on faith leaders to preach and teach in their faith centers on two weekends (October 14-16 and November 4-6) prior to Election Day, encouraging their congregants to get out the vote and to vote with their moral conscience.

Moral Declaration Worship Weekend Service Guidelines

- Sermon or lesson focused on the matrixes of oppression, specially the intersections of the following key issues :
 - systemic racism
 - the economic liberation of all people
 - ensuring every child receives access to quality education
 - healthcare access for all
 - criminal justice reform
 - ensuring historically marginalized communities have equal protection under the law.
- 2-3 testimonies for congregational witness. Testimonies are given by those persons impacted by the issues listed above and as such, made invisible by being forced to the margins of our society. For an example please view testimonies from our revivals on our YouTube channel: <http://bit.ly/2diFc4Z>
- While your message will be non-partisan, it should activate the voting capacity of your congregation. Encourage your congregants to Get Out The Vote (GOTV), drive shut-ins to the polls, march as a congregation to the polls, and register voters with your faith center and in the community near your faith center.
- Encourage congregants to sign the Higher Ground Moral Declaration.
- Engage in social media using #MoralRevival to spread your worship message to the greater community around your faith center.
- Livestream your worship service (Facebook Live and Periscope are great options as well). Email your livestream link or social media handles to Esther Merono (emerono@auburnseminary.org) so that we can amplify your local work.
- Invite press (print media and local news outlets) to your worship. Press release will be provided.

Sample Call to Worship
(Micah 6:8 and Isaiah 58:12)

Come, brothers and sisters:
Let us seek justice.

Come, mothers and fathers:
Let us restore our streets.

Come, friends and foe:
Let us love mercy.

Come, ancestors and descendants:
Let us repair the breach.

Come, persons from all faiths and none:
Let us walk humbly with a God of many names.

ALL:
Come, courage and doubt, together in power:
Let us create God's commonwealth of love.

Possible Music Selections

Music, hymns, and choral selections should reflect the spirit of the Moral Declaration Worship Weekends. You may consider singing one or more of the movement songs listed below.

Movement Songs

I Woke up this Morning
Somebody's Hurting My Brother
We Shall Not be Moved

**Possible Lectionary Selections
(from Moral Declaration)**

Hebrew Scriptures:

Genesis 1:12, 29-31; Leviticus 19:33-34 and 24:22; Deuteronomy 16:19-20; Proverbs 31:9; Ecclesiastes 7:12; Isaiah 2:4, 10:1-2, and 58; Jeremiah 22:16; Micah 2:13 and 6:8; Zechariah 7:9-10

New Testament:

Matthew 6:14-15 and 8:14, Luke 4:18-19; John 10:10; Galatians 3:28; James 2:6 and 5:4

Qu'ran:

9:71

Hadith Source:

*Bukhari, Volume 3, Book 43, Number 624
Al-Tirmidhi*

Moral Declaration Worship Weekend Litany:

Leader: We have heard the prophet's call to repair the breach and we know our Constitution's goal of a more perfect union.

People: We reach back to our sacred texts that affirm life, love, and justice. "This is what the Lord says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless, or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood." (Jeremiah 22:3)

Leader: We affirm the prophets and proclaim, "Doom to you who legislate evil, who make laws that make misery for the poor, that rob my destitute people of dignity, exploiting defenseless widows, taking advantage of homeless children." (Isaiah 10:1-2)

People: We hear the cries of the people from the New Testament, "All the workers you've exploited and cheated cry out for judgment. The groans of the workers you used and abused are a roar in the ears of God." (James 5:4)

Leader: We uphold dignity and respect for all from the Qu'ran, "The believers, both men and women, are responsible for one another: all enjoin the doing of what is right, and forbid the doing of what is wrong" (Qu'ran 9:71)

People: And we will not rest in our quest for freedom until it comes as is affirmed in the Bhagavad Gita, "For the protection of the virtuous, for the extirpation of the evil-doers, and for establishing Dharma, righteousness, on a firm footing, I am born from age to age." (Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 4: 7-8)

Leader: We believe this to be true: All people have inherent rights, and no one can take them away.

People: We have the right to life, to liberty and to the pursuit of happiness.

Leader: We believe that the power of our governments derives from us, the people

People: For the purpose of providing for the general welfare and protecting our human rights.

Leader: We believe in the values of democracy we were taught, so we cannot accept our democracy's feeble state.

People: We cannot accept voter suppression and intimidation that target people of color and the poor.

Leader: We cannot accept demagoguery and fear-mongering that demonize and divide.

People: we cannot accept that 45 million are poor in the richest country in history, or that 1 in 5 children are food insecure.

Leader: We cannot accept wages that don't provide for a decent life, or the suppression of workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively.

People: We cannot accept segregation and inequality in our public schools, or the attempts to privatize and profit-ize them.

Leader: We cannot accept that 29 million Americans don't have health insurance, including more than 4 million denied Medicaid expansion by their state.

People: We cannot accept inaction in the face of climate change and its disproportionate impact on impoverished communities.

Leader: We cannot accept that 1 in 3 Black men born today can expect to spend time in prison, nor that our country holds one quarter of the world's prisoners but only 1/20 its population.

People: We cannot accept endless war, which spends lives and resources only to destroy lives and resources.

Leader: We cannot accept attacks on our neighbors: immigrants, religious minorities, people of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer folks, the disabled, or the poor.

People: We cannot accept the way things are because we have been given a moral vision of how things ought to be.

Leader: We are here to summon the better angels of our nature and press together toward higher ground.

All: FORWARD TOGETHER, NOT ONE STEP BACK!



MORAL DECLARATION WORSHIP WEEKENDS

October 14-16 | November 4-6

In this country today, poverty and inequality are rampant; voting rights and democracy are being trampled; millions of people lack the health care, living wage jobs, and quality education they need; and racism, hatred, and bigotry are disintegrating any possibility of life, liberty, and a pursuit of happiness for everyone in these United States.

Our socio-political process has been hijacked. Far too much of our national political discourse and activity have been poisoned by the dominance of regressive, immoral, and hateful policies directed toward communities of color, the

poor, the sick, our children, immigrants, women, voting rights, the environment, and religious minorities. We still have too much racism, materialism and militarism.

We cannot remain silent. Our country is in need of a moral revolution of values to champion the sacred values of love, justice, and mercy in the public square.

Sign the Higher Ground Moral Declaration: bit.ly/moraldec

Participate with social media: [#MoralRevival](https://twitter.com/MoralRevival)

Join faith centers across the nation, declaring:
NOW IS THE TIME FOR A MORAL REVOLUTION OF VALUES!



Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II



Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes



Rev. Dr. Traci Blackmon



Sister Simone Campbell

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ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY

Pro-labor, anti-poverty, anti-racist policies that provide economic liberation to all people.

EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Ensure every child receives access to high-quality, well-funded, constitutionally diverse public education.

HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

Move decisively towards a universal, transparent, and equitable healthcare system.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Address the continuing inequalities in the system for black, brown and poor white people, and fight the proliferation of guns.

EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW

Voting rights, women's rights, LGBTQ rights, labor rights, religious freedom rights, and immigrant rights.

We call on our candidates and elected officials to do the same.

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