

LENT 2025

WELCOME

Thank you for leaning into this Lenten journey toward racial justice. We hope this calendar will help you stay grounded in your faith, nourished by the Spirit, and discerning how you are being called to respond during these wild days.

Each week of Lent, we will explore different intersectional movements toward racial justice and consider how they might be offering us wisdom and inspiration for this moment. We include daily insights from movement ancestors and weekly reflection questions and discernment practices to help guide your Lenten journey. We invite you to spend some time with each day's quotation as a source of grounding and connection to each other and the Holy, as Jesus did during his own wilderness journey.

We hope this Lent journey will offer resources for resisting the distractions of the chaos machine and discerning your calling in these wild days, as we look toward the new day rising in, though, and among us.

WEDNESDAY MAR 5

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Ours is not the struggle of one day, one week, or one year. Ours is not the struggle of one judicial appointment or presidential term. Ours is the struggle of a lifetime, or maybe even many lifetimes, and each one of us in every generation must do our part."

– John Lewis

THURSDAY MAR 6

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Coalition work is not work done in your home. Coalition work has to be done in the streets. And it is some of the most dangerous work you can do. And you shouldn't look for comfort. Some people will come to a coalition and they rate the success of the coalition on whether or not they feel good when they get there... Today wherever [we] gather together it is not necessarily comforting. It is coalition building. And if you feel the strain, you may be doing some good work." - Bernice Johnson Reagon

FRIDAY MAR 7

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Solidarity does not assume that our struggles are the same struggles, or that our pain is the same pain, or that our hope is for the same future. Solidarity involves commitment, and work, as well as the recognition that even if we do not have the same feelings, or the same lives, or the same bodies, we do live on common ground."

- Sara Ahmed

SATURDAY MAR 8

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What kind of justice work have you been committed to in the past?

What drew you to it?

What might that teach you about what struggles are calling you in this moment?

SUNDAY MAR 9

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE LECTIO DIVINA

Read Luke 4:1-13 slowly several times. Notice what word or phrase shimmers as you read. Consider what that word or phrase might be holding for you as you discern your calling into solidarity and struggle during these wild days.



FARMWORKERS MOVEMENT

MONDAY MAR 10

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Our opponents in the agricultural industry are very powerful and farm workers are still weak in money and influence. But we have another kind of power that comes from the justice of our cause. So long as we are willing to sacrifice for that cause, so long as we persist in non-violence and work to spread the message of our struggle, then millions of people around the world will respond from their heart, will support our efforts... and in the end we will overcome." - César E. Chávez

TUESDAY MAR 11

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world."

- Delores Huerta

WEDNESDAY MAR 12

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"The Constitution said that everybody has equal rights and justice. You have to make that come about. They are not going to give it to you."

- Larry Itliong

THURSDAY MAR 13

MOVEMENT

We hope to see a day in which, when one says "farmworker," the word won't be associated with powerlessness, voicelessness, inability to define one's own destiny. Our dream is that when consumers think of who farmworkers are, they understand that we have taken up our pens to write our own history. We will continue dreaming and we will continue working together to realize our dreams. We have the notebook of destiny in our hands, and we're writing it today."

- Gerardo Reyes Chavez

FRIDAY MAR 14

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Leadership, I feel, is only incidental to the movement. The movement should be the most important thing. If the leader becomes the most important part of the movement, then you don't have a movement after the leader is gone. The movement must go beyond its leaders. It must be something that is continuous, with goals and ideals that the leadership can build on."

— Philip Vera Cruz

SATURDAY MAR 15

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What kinds of power do you notice being celebrated in our society today? What other kinds of power do you notice operating in justice movements? How are you being called to use your power as a follower of Jesus?

SUNDAY MAR 16

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE EXAMEN

In a posture and attitude of prayer:

(1) Acknowledge an awareness of the Divine. (2) Review the week in a posture of gratitude. (3) Recognize a moment where you were acting/living in full alignment with your values. (4) Recognize a moment where you were not. (5) Choose a moment of misalignment to pray into.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MOVEMENT WISDOM FORWILD DAYS

GENDER JUSTICE MOVEMENTS

MONDAY MAR 17

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Above all else, Our politics initially sprang from the shared belief that Black women are inherently valuable, that our liberation is a necessity not as an adjunct to somebody else's but because of our need as human persons for autonomy...

If Black women were free, it would mean that everyone else would have to be free since our freedom would necessitate the destruction of all the systems of oppression."

- Combahee River Collective

TUESDAY MAR 18

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"We are pitted against each other in order to keep us from seeing each other as allies. Genuine bonds of solidarity can be forged between people who respect each other's differences and are willing to fight their enemy together. We are the class that does the work of the world, and can revolutionize it. We can win true liberation."

- Leslie Feinberg

WEDNESDAY MAR 19

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them."

— Sojourner Truth

THURSDAY MAR 20

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"We have to remain visible. They have to see trans folks, they have to know that we're not going nowhere, that we've been here ever since God made humans. and they have to get over it. I don't need their permission to exist; I exist in spite of them. I want you to train and teach and love on and create families within my community and gender nonconforming people, so that we can understand that we have a culture, we have a history, we have a reason to be here. We have a purpose." -Miss Major Griffin-Gracy

FRIDAY MAR 21

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"What woman here is so
enamored of her own
oppression that she cannot
see her heelprint upon
another woman's face? What
woman's terms of oppression
have become precious and
necessary to her as a ticket
into the fold of the righteous,
away from the cold winds of
self-scrutiny?"
- Audre Lorde

SATURDAY MAR 22

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How are different aspects of your identity related to your calling to justice work in this moment?
What do you know about collective liberation across difference?
What do you want or need to learn?

SUNDAY MAR 23

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE BODY PRAYER

Take some deep breaths and center into the core of your body.

Consider what values and commitments lie at the core of your being.

Notice how each part of your body is connected to that core.

Pay attention to what these connections reveal to you about how you are being called to live out your values and commitments in the world in this moment.

Offer gratitude to your body and to the Creator whose image you carry.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT ON UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MOVEMENT WISDOM FORWILD DAYS

ANTIAPARTHEID MOVEMENTS

MONDAY MAR 24

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"If you hear the dogs, keep going. If you see the torches in the woods, keep going. If there's shouting after you, keep going. Don't ever stop. Keep going. If you want a taste of freedom, keep going."

— Harriet Tubman

TUESDAY MAR 25 WEDNESDAY MAR 26

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"In South Africa, we could not have achieved our freedom and just peace without the help of people around the world, who through the use of non-violent means, such as boycotts and divestment, encouraged their governments and other corporate actors to reverse decades-long support for the Apartheid regime."

- Desmond Tutu

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"I am of the mind that discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion is never acceptable. There is nothing in this world that will make separate and unequal okay, and there's nothing – and I'll use this word – that makes apartheid okay. In South Africa, in Palestine and Israel, in the US. That's not complex for me."

- Ta-Nehisi Coates

THURSDAY MAR 27

MOVEMENT WISDOM

Everybody now admits that apartheid was wrong, and all I did was tell the people who wanted to know where I come from how we lived in South Africa. I just told the world the truth. And if my truth then becomes political, I can't do anything about that.

- Miriam Makeba

FRIDAY MAR 28

MOVEMENT WISDOM

I think we've become blind in this country to the ways in which we've managed to reinvent a caste-like system here in the United States, one that functions in a manner that is as oppressive, in many respects, as the one that existed in South Africa under apartheid and that existed under Jim Crow here in the United States.

- Michelle Alexander

SATURDAY MAR 29

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What movement wisdom do you discover when you consider similarities and differences in global struggles for justice across time?

How is this wisdom connected to your calling as a follower of Jesus?

SUNDAY MAR 30

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE INTERDEPENDENCE CENTERING PRAYER

Consider your connection to movements for justice across time and space.

Call to mind all the gifts those movements have brought into your life.

Find one word that gives expression to that connection.

Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed,

settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word.

See what the Spirit reveals to you as return again and again to this word.



LAND BACK MOVEMENT



MOVEMENT WISDOM

"It's important that
Indigenous People have
access to their land- to be
given back the land that was
stolen from them. For all
people that are now living on
our territory, what does it
mean to be a guest on
Indigenous people's land?
What does it mean for us to
have reciprocity with the land
again? How do we be good
guests and good hosts?"

- Corrina Gould

TUESDAY APR

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Our history is a living history, that has throbbed, withstood and survived many centuries of sacrifice. Now it comes forward again with strength. The seeds, dormant for such a long time, break out today with some uncertainty, although they germinate in a world that is at present characterized by confusion and uncertainty."

- Rigoberta Menchú Tum

WEDNESDAY APR 2

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Knowing that you love the earth changes you, activates you to defend and protect and celebrate. But when you feel that the earth loves you in return, that feeling transforms the relationship from a one-way street into a sacred bond."

- Robin Wall Kimmerer

THURSDAY APR 3

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"When you hear the words decolonization, white supremacy, patriarchy or even racism, do you feel something? Do you get a chill down your back, randomly start crossing your arms, get tense all over your body, or even just feel an urge to resist? Well good! ...Your body is meant to respond, whether that be physical or emotional, and it's the same when deconstructing what you've been taught. It tells you that something is there and that you must go through it and find ways to process it." - Kris Archie

FRIDAY APR 4

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"I like to say that what we're going through right now is like a labor and a birth, that the movement is really in the works. Like now, [it's] experiencing some labor pains and that's why there's some chaos and disorganization. A lot of people have never done anything like this before... Both tribal and indigenous people as well as supporters from all walks of life and all nations, all together for this one force of protecting the water. It's more than this pipeline, on this land, at this time. I see this movement continuing." - Daphne Singingtree

SATURDAY APR 5

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How is repair a part of your calling during these wild days?
What role does accountability play in your struggle for justice?
What might be emerging from the cracks and fissures of this moment?

SUNDAY APR 6

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE LISTENING TO THE LAND

Go outside and take a moment to dwell with something in your landscape.

Notice what grounding and guidance it is offering you.

Offer gratitude for the wisdom and love the earth offers you.



DISABILITY JUSTICE MOVEMENT

MONDAY APR 7

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"The Disability Justice framework understands that all bodies are unique and essential, that all bodies have strengths and needs that must be met. We know that we are powerful not despite the complexities of our bodies, but because of them."

- Patty Berne

TUESDAY APR 8

MOVEMENT WISDOM

We deserve to have our boundaries listened to. We deserve respect. We deserve dignity. We deserve to have our humanity seen. We deserve an opportunity to contribute to society. We deserve the ability to make mistakes. We are not the only ones

who deserve all these things. Every living being on this planet does. Your experiences of ableism and with disability can give you a greater ability to understand the pain of the world if you let it... It's our responsibility to make this world more just and loving, to fight for people to have all the things they deserve as people have fought for us..- Stacey Park Milbern

WEDNESDAY APR 9

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"What does it mean to shift our ideas of access and care from an individual chore, an unfortunate cost of having an unfortunate body, to a collective responsibility that's maybe even deeply joyful? ...If collective access is revolutionary love without charity, how do we learn to love each other? How do we learn to do this love work of collective care that lifts us instead of abandons' us, that grapples with all the deep ways in which care is complicated." — Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

THURSDAY APR 10

MOVEMENT WISDOM

Disability is not a 'brave struggle' or 'courage in the face of adversity.' Disability is an art. It's an ingenious way to live...Disability is not a 'burden' to be pitied or feared. It is a source of beauty, knowledge, and unique perspectives.

– Alice Wong

FRIDAY APR 11

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Abled culture teaches abled people to be entitled. You are entitled to never have to learn anything about disability and ableism. You are entitled to get to move through the world, and through our movements, with little-to-no understanding or political analysis about disability, even as you pontificate about every other system of oppression and violence. But, you are not entitled to our deaths. You are not entitled to the deaths of our loved ones in the name of capital, privilege and "normal." You are not entitled to our silence about our pain and suffering and the wet tar grief that envelops us." - Mia Mingus

SATURDAY APR 12

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How do your experiences of oppression, discrimination or injustice help you connect to other people's struggles? What wisdom lives in the ways you have learned to survive and flourish? What movements have you been a part of that have grown from this kind of wisdom?

SUNDAY APR 13

DISCERNMENT PRACTICE CONNECTING TO ANCESTORS

Take a moment to call to mind an impactful movement ancestor.

What are learning from this ancestor?

Now take some time to consider what kind of ancestor you want to be.

What do these insights show you about your calling in this moment?



MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES

MONDAY APR 14

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"If one really wishes to know how justice is administered in a country, one does not question the policemen, the lawyers, the judges, or the protected members of the middle class. One goes to the unprotected – those, precisely, who need the law's protection most! – and listens to their testimony."

– James Baldwin

TUESDAY APR 15

MOVEMENT WISDOM

I learned that racism, like most systems of oppression, isn't about bad people doing terrible things to people who are different from them but instead is a way of maintaining power for certain groups at the expense of others."

— Alicia Garza

WEDNESDAY APR 16

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future, and renders the present inaccessible."

– Maya Angelou

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MOVEMENT WISDOM

In order for us as poor and oppressed people to become a part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed. This means that we are going to have to learn to think in radical terms. I use the term radical in its original meaning-getting down to and understanding the root cause. It means facing a system that does not lend itself to your needs and devising means by which you change that system." — Ella Baker

GOOD FRIDAY

MOVEMENT WISDOM

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will." - Frederick Douglas

HOLY SATURDAY

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Whose voices are you listening to as you discern how you will move toward justice during these wild days? Where are you being guided to delve deeper, to get to the root? What grounding have you found to help you stay committed to the struggle?