

LENT

in the **Black Church Tradition:**
A 40-Day Justice Journey

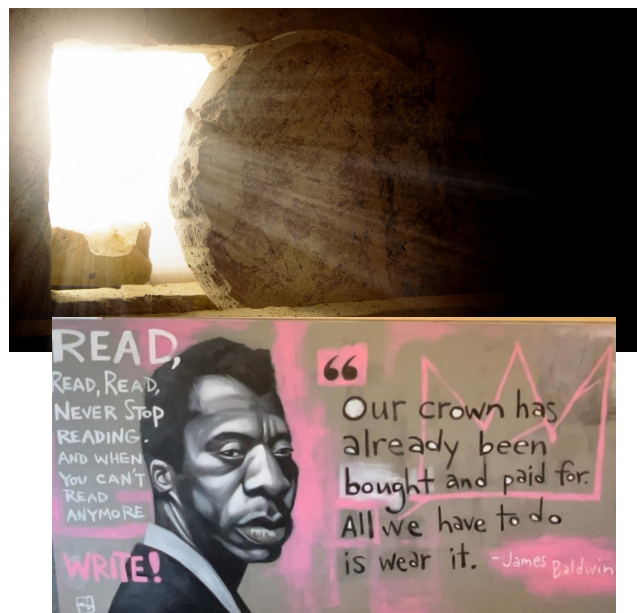
POWERED BY



Week 6

The Resurrection & Liberation of All People

Over the course of the first 35 days of this Lenten journey, we have examined the world as it is—naming and confronting the systems that oppress: racism, white Christian nationalism, over-policing, economic exploitation, and the abuse of political power. We have seen how these forces show up in policy and practice, not only in the halls of power but in the everyday lives of our people. As we approach Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday, we remember that resurrection is not just a promise for the afterlife—it is a call to action in this one. Jesus’ resurrection was an act of divine defiance against death, empire, and despair. It is also a blueprint for how we, as disciples, are to co-create a world of freedom, healing, and equity.



As we enter this final week—Resurrection Week—we shift our focus. Resurrection is not only about spiritual renewal; it is also a call to co-create with God a world rooted in justice, equity, and care. We invite Black faith leaders and communities to move from resistance to **re-imagination**, to articulate not just what we are against, but what we are building: a proactive, liberative vision for Black people of faith and for all God’s children.

This week, we ask you to:

- Revisit and reflect on the arc of resurrection hope.
- Reflect deeply on what Jesus meant by “life more abundantly” through the lens of the **social determinants of health**—conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).
- Engage with scripture to **imagine a world where “The Good News” that serves the poor, oppressed, sick, unhoused, children, the stranger, and the aging is made manifest on earth through the resurrection POWER and our prophetic witness.**

Our goal is that by the end of this week, each participant will craft their own **Resurrection Public Power Statement**—a declaration of what they believe resurrection justice could look like in our world, and how they plan to pursue it in faith and action.

This final week invites us to **dream boldly and live courageously**, guided by a Gospel that centers the poor, welcomes the stranger, heals the sick, and uplifts the marginalized. Let us reflect on what resurrection looks like—not only in our personal lives, but in our systems, communities, and collective witness.



Week 6

The Resurrection & Liberation of All People

Theme: **The Moral Imagination of Resurrection – Daring to Dream of a Just World**

Jesus' resurrection was an act of divine defiance against death, empire, and despair. This final week calls us to dream in public and live in resurrection power—not just in belief, but in systems, policies, and prophetic witness. As we reflect on the empty tomb, we ask: What would resurrection look like if it broke out in our cities, schools, hospitals, borders, and economies?

Day 36 – John 10:10

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

🗨️ **Reflection:** What does “abundant life” look like for the most vulnerable among us—the unhoused, the aging, the sick, the immigrant, the children? Jesus offers not just life, but life to the full. Reflect on how housing, education, food, income, safety, and wellness are spiritual matters and justice imperatives.

Start shaping your Resurrection Public Power Statement: What kind of world are you committed to co-creating through faith and justice?

🙏 **Prayer:** God of resurrection, awaken our moral imagination. May we not only believe in the empty tomb, but work to empty prisons, fill stomachs, heal communities, and raise voices. Let resurrection power live in us, now and always. Amen.

Day 37– Isaiah 58:12

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations...”

🗨️ **Reflection:** Where do you need resurrection in your life and your community? Consider how systems of despair—poverty, incarceration, trauma—can be rebuilt with justice and mercy. What might resurrection look like in your family, your city, your nation?

Dr. King's dream wasn't just about racial harmony—it was about economic repair. He believed in a kind of modern Jubilee. And so must we.

👉 Prayer: God of restoration, breathe new life into dry places. Help us rebuild what empire tried to destroy and raise up generations with your justice and joy.

Day 38– Romans 8:21

“Creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of God’s children.”

🗨 **Reflection:** The resurrection vision includes not just humanity, but all creation. Think about how the earth suffers under systems of greed, pollution, and exploitation. What does liberation look like for the planet—and for the people who bear the brunt of environmental racism?

👉 Prayer: Creator God, let your resurrection power renew the earth. Free your creation from exploitation, and teach us to live gently, humbly, and in harmony with all that lives.

Day 39– Matthew 28:5-6

“The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid... He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.’”

🗨 **Reflection:** Resurrection begins where fear ends. What fear is holding you back from dreaming boldly or speaking prophetically? What bold truth will you declare in your Resurrection Dream Statement—what is God calling you to resurrect in your witness?

👉 Prayer: Risen Christ, roll away the stone of fear in us. May your resurrection power embolden our witness and ignite our voice. Give us courage to rise with you.

Day 40– Revelation 21:4-5

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain...’ He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’”

🗨 **Reflection:** Reflect on every injustice we’ve named this Lent—racism, white nationalism, incarceration, economic inequality, inadequate housing, and broken healthcare. Then imagine: What would it look like if God made everything new? What would new systems, new policies, and new ways of loving look like?

👉 Prayer: Alpha and Omega, write a new story in us. Let your resurrection remake not just our hearts, but our laws, our schools, our hospitals, and our streets. May everything be made new. Amen.

Weekly Action Steps: For Individuals and Congregants:

- **Write a “Resurrection Dream Statement”:** Describe what your community would look like if resurrection justice came alive. Share it with your church, post it online, or offer it as a prayer during Easter worship.
- **Take Action:** Choose one concrete justice commitment to carry forward beyond Lent—support an organizer, join a justice ministry, or engage a policy campaign.

Weekly Action Steps: For Clergy Leaders and Ministries

- **Preach resurrection through the lens of liberation:** Proclaim an Easter Gospel that not only celebrates an empty tomb, but denounces injustice and proclaims God’s new world.
- **Launch or recommit to justice ministry:** Use Easter as a public re-entry point for year-round prophetic work. Name specific goals—organizing campaigns, policy work, or mutual aid—and pursue them in community.



