



MERCYHURST
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Dear Mercyhurst Community,

On this Juneteenth, as we commemorate the emancipation of enslaved African Americans, I am mindful that freedom is not achieved passively. Lasting freedom requires daily effort from all of us. In a nation and world that continue to tolerate racism, violence, and division, let us all do our part to bring healing and hope to others.

As we long for freedom from racism, may each of us truthfully confront our biases and the ways in which racism penetrates our lives. As we long for freedom from violence, may each of us actively practice nonviolence in our daily attitudes and actions. As we long for the freedom to be our unique, diverse selves, may each of us courageously express our own viewpoints and beliefs, while genuinely listening to others with open minds and hearts.

Today I say to our black and African American students and employees that we celebrate the historic freedoms and equities that have been achieved in our nation, and we stand together as a community to continue the struggle for greater equality, justice, and freedom.

Please join me in praying an Antiracism Prayer from the Sisters of Mercy:

Good and gracious God, who loves and delights in all people, we stand in awe before You, knowing that the spark of life within each person on earth is the spark of your divine life.

Differences among cultures and races are multicolored manifestations of your light.

May our hearts and minds be open to celebrate similarities and differences among our sisters and brothers.

We place our hopes for racial harmony in our committed action and in your presence in our neighbor.

May all peoples live in peace.
Amen.

Yours in Mercy,

Kathleen A. Getz