

ANTIRACISM POLICY
WASHINGTON PRESBYTERY

(Presented for a First Reading at the March 12, 2024 stated meeting of presbytery, then presented for a second reading and adopted at the May 14, 2024 stated meeting of the presbytery)

The presbytery and all its sessions, congregations, and members shall:

1. Define antiracism as the practice of confronting and changing policies, behaviors, and beliefs that perpetuate racist ideas and actions.
2. Affirm that racism is a sin because it is an offense to God and declare that the sin of racism is expressed as a policy, behavior, and/or belief against a person or people based on their identification and/or membership in a particular racial or ethnic group that is considered a minority.
3. Confess that our sin has led us to erect religious, cultural, economic, and political barriers along racial and ethnic lines and that these barriers have separated us from one another and deprived many of us the right to develop our personal and corporate identities.
4. Respect the rights and freedom of all people ~~of color~~ regardless of race, ethnicity, or nationality where the cries of people who have become victims of racial injustice and/or discrimination are to be taken seriously and are given full voice and opportunity to make their complaints, without retaliation, to their appropriate councils.
5. Support allies who speak out against persons and systems that perpetuate racial injustice.
6. Commit to dismantling racism in its attitudes and structures in all congregations and councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)