

SCHC NOON-DAY PRAYERS
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024
SOCIAL JUSTICE



CALM YOUR MIND WITH A MINUTE OF SILENCE



“Juneteenth reminds us that we must try to understand and talk about American slavery and its legacies. This includes talking and teaching about slavery in our history books, churches, and political discourse. It means remembering the histories of those who were enslaved here in North America and those who have continued to experience and confront racial injustice.”

Juneteenth and the Call to Remember, June 15, 2022, *Racial Reconciliation*, By Willis Foster Sr. and Edna Johnston



“On “Freedom’s Eve,” or the eve of January 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African Americans gathered in churches and private homes all across the country awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect.

At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered as all enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free. Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States.”



Emancipation Day celebration, June 19, 1900 held in "East Woods" on East 24th Street in Austin.

Credit: Austin History Center.

JUNETEENTH

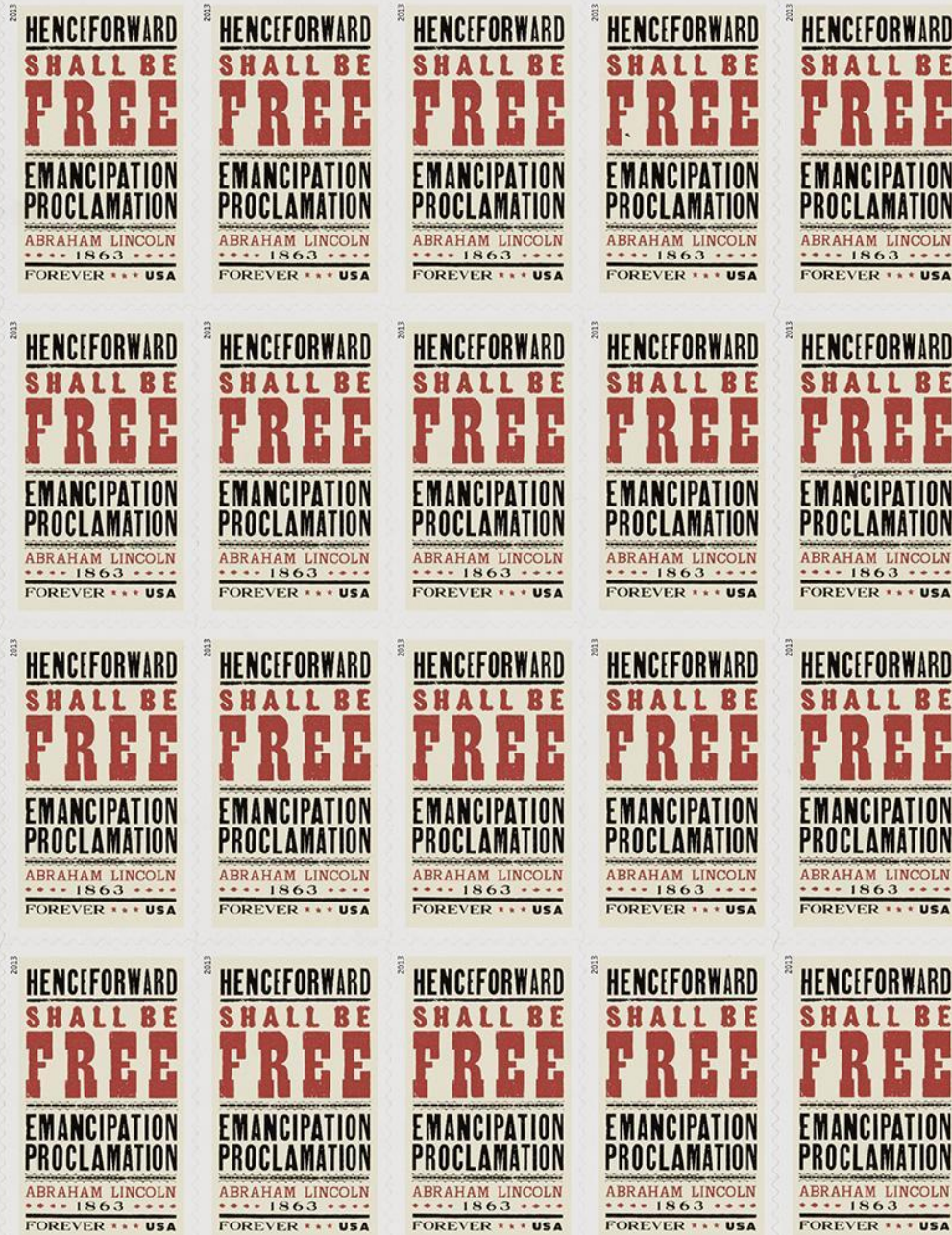
“But not everyone in Confederate territory would immediately be free. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control.

As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later. Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "[Juneteenth](#)," by the newly freed people in Texas.” *National Museum of African-American History and Culture*

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

Gordon Granger, Union General, June 19, 1865

FREEDOM



“Over the decades, many advocated the establishment of Juneteenth as a national holiday. Perhaps no two people promoted the commemoration more vigorously than activist and founder of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, Rev. Ronald V. Myers Sr., M.D. (1956–2018), and 96-year-old Texan and community leader Opal Lee, whom many consider the “Grandmother of Juneteenth.”

. . . in 2016, at the age of 89, she began a walk from her home in Fort Worth to Washington, D.C., to bring awareness to this important cause.

Lee trekked two and a half miles each morning and afternoon, a representation of the two and a half years Black Texans remained enslaved after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. It didn’t take long for word to spread and soon countless others joined Lee on her march. The 1,400-mile walk concluded with a press conference that put Juneteenth on the nation’s radar. “

National Museum of African-American History and Culture

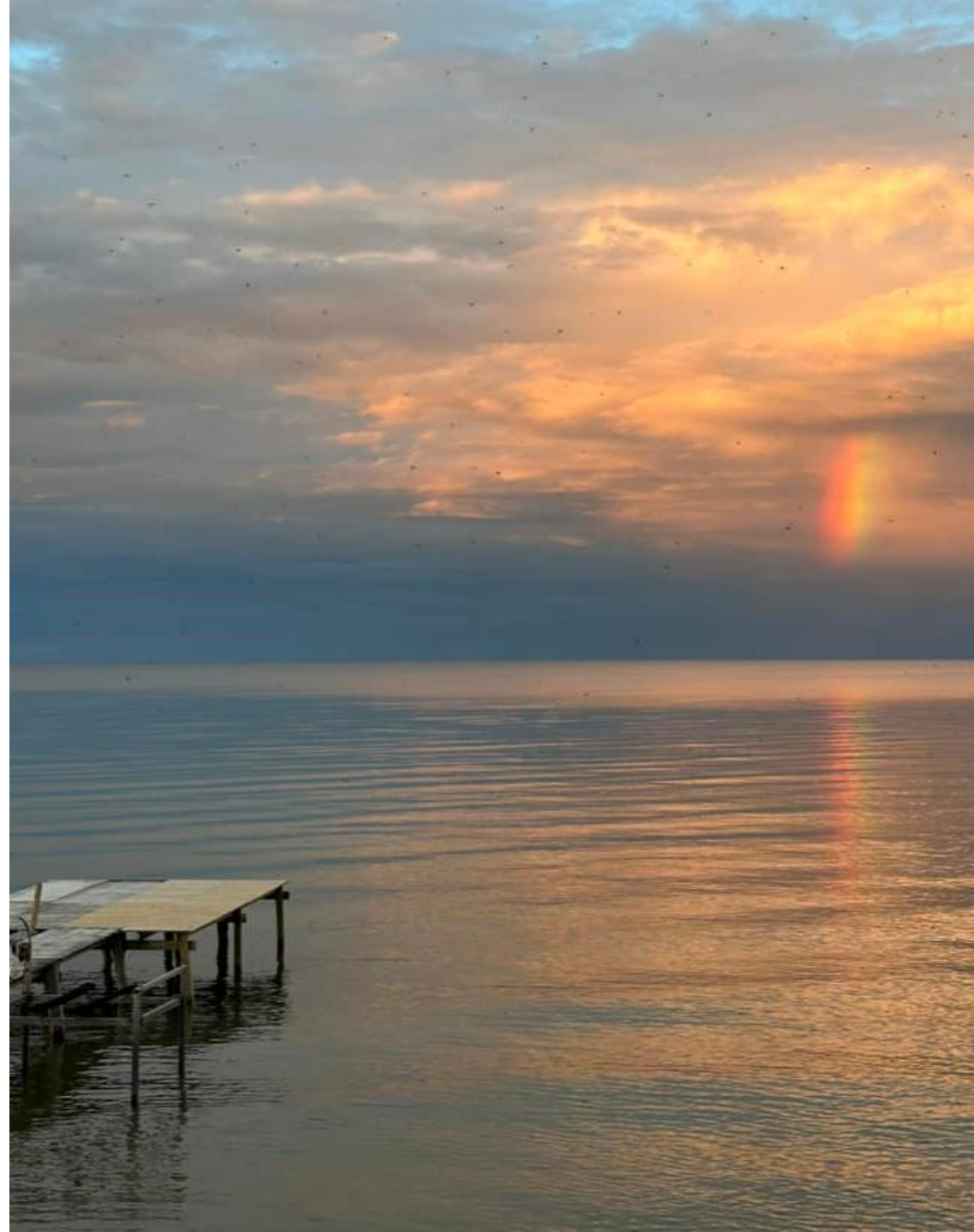
USPS press sheet of twenty Emancipation Proclamation Freedom stamps designed by Gail Anderson, 2013. Gail Anderson is one of that 3.5% [of Black American graphic designers]. Anderson is a New York-based designer, writer, educator, co-author, partner at Anderson Newton Design, and one of the most influential Black designers in the game. Today, Anderson is the chair of the BFA Advertising and Design departments at the School of Visual Arts and serves as creative director at the School of Visual Arts Press.

“In 2020, the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and other Black Americans at the hands of police sparked a new social justice movement and renewed national interest in racial equity. Amid this wave of social and political activism, Lee held her annual walk, and the signatures on her petition to make Juneteenth a national holiday totaled over 1.5 million.

The next year, in 2021, President Biden finally designated June 19 as a federal holiday. Juneteenth was no longer a whisper in history.

The first national recognition of Juneteenth sparked an outpouring of joy and unity across this country. From coast to coast, Americans of all backgrounds enjoyed parties, attended soulful concerts, and shared communal feasts in a triumphant reminder of the rich tapestry of African American culture we celebrate today.”

National Museum of African-American History and Culture



HENCEFORWARD

**SHALL BE
FREE**

Isaiah: 52:7

**How beautiful
are the feet :**

**Of those who
bring good
news.**



A Collect for Juneteenth

Almighty God, you rescued your people from slavery in Egypt, and throughout the ages you have never failed to hear the cries of the captives; We remember before you our sisters and brothers in Galveston, Texas whom, on this day, received the glad tidings of their emancipation; Forgive us for the many grave sins that delayed that liberating word; Anoint us with your Spirit to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Bishop Dean Johnson, Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

Picture: Bronze figures look out from the Texas African American History Memorial on the grounds of the Texas Capitol in Austin, Texas. The monument, erected in 2016, traces the history of African Americans in Texas from the 1500s to the present. The central portion of the memorial, by sculptor Ed Dwight, depicts the original Juneteenth in Texas in 1865.

AMOS 5 : 18-24 (NRSV)

The Day of the LORD a Dark Day

¹⁸ Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

¹⁹ It is darkness, not light, as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear, or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹ I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animal, I will not look upon.

²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.



The Word of the Lord *Thanks Be to God*

PSALM 97:1-3, 10-12

The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice :

let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him :

righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

A fire goes before him :

and burns up his enemies on every side.

The Lord loves those who hate evil :

He preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light has sprung up for the righteous ;

and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in the Lord you righteous :

And give thanks to his holy name.



GALATIANS 3: 23-20

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

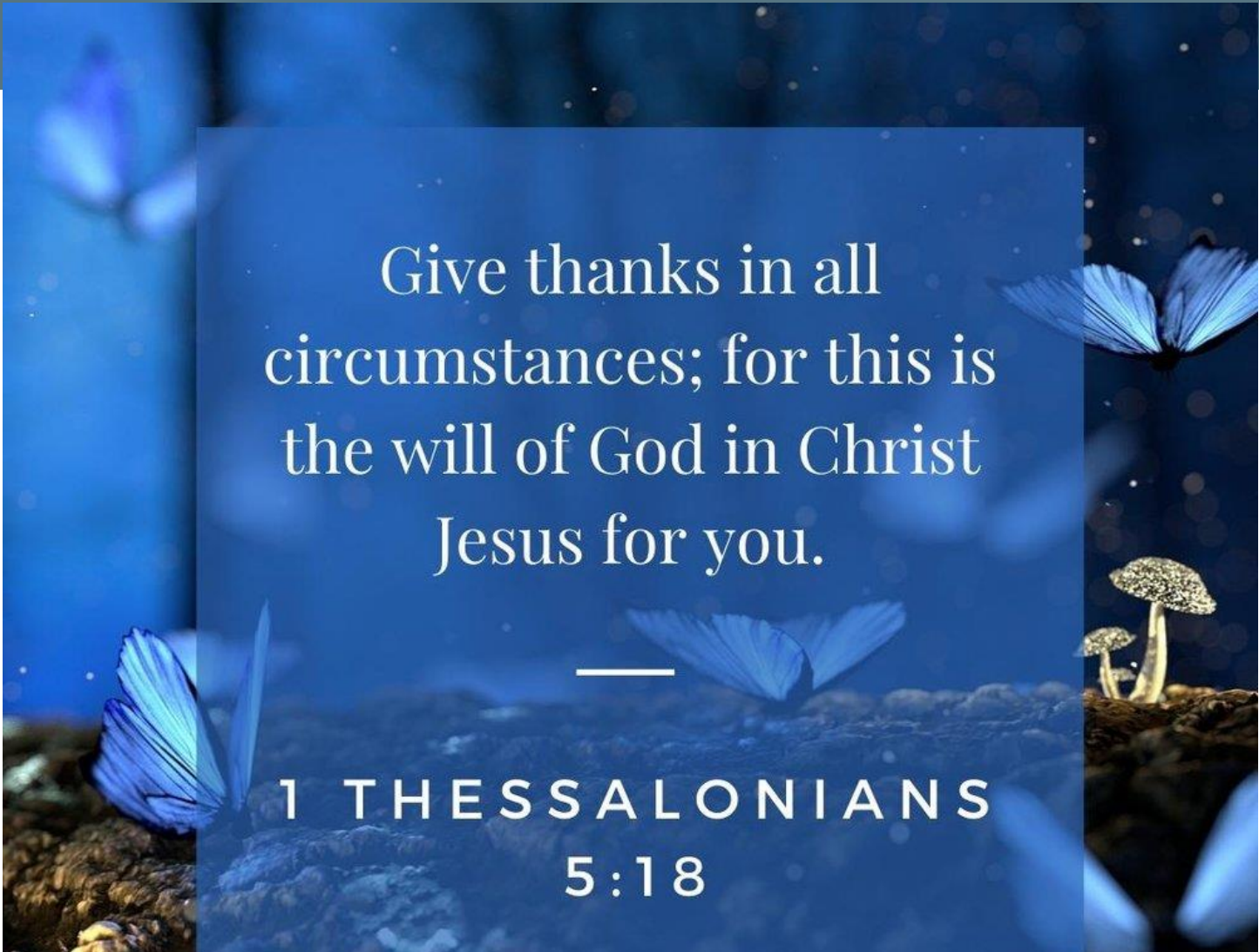
The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

THANKSGIVINGS

Please offer your
Thanksgivings either
silently or aloud.

We Thank You, Lord.
**And Bless Your Holy
Name.**

A blue-tinted background image featuring butterflies and mushrooms. The scene is set against a dark blue, starry sky. In the foreground, several butterflies with iridescent blue and purple wings are shown in flight. On the right side, a small, glowing mushroom with a textured cap and a thin stem grows from a dark, rocky surface. The overall atmosphere is serene and ethereal.

Give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is
the will of God in Christ
Jesus for you.

—
1 THESSALONIANS
5:18

PRAYERS

Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before us, resist the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and most loving God, through your Son Jesus, who came among us as a slave choosing rather to serve his disciples than to be served by them; help us in our weakness not to seek to oppress others, nor to make peace with any form of exploitation, but in all things earnestly and of our own free will to seek to serve each other following Christ's good example, this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



INTERCESSIONS

**Almighty God, thank you for the cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. Surround us with living saints who remind us of the sort of people we are trying to become. When we fall short of who we want to be, catch us in the arms of your grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
*Amen***

Please offer your Intercessions either silently or aloud.

O Lord, Hear Our Prayer.
And Let Our Cry Come Unto You.



COMPANION DAILY PRAYER



Give us grace, O Eternal Father, that we strive to keep the way of the cross and carry in our hearts the image of Jesus crucified. Make us glad to conform ourselves to thy divine will, that being fashioned after his life-giving death, we may die according to the flesh and live according to the spirit of righteousness, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord and only Savior. Amen.

**LET US BLESS
THE LORD**

**THANKS BE
TO GOD**

