

## **A Better Way to Show What the Bible Offers**

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The Coronavirus tinderbox was bound to explode with violent behavior. Masks have fallen away that reveal the selfish behavior that Primate and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry, called the true pandemic in his Pentecost sermon. This sermon was delivered in the week following the death of George Floyd at the knee of a policeman in Minneapolis amidst the violent reaction of people who feel the words we pray in the Baptismal Covenant, "respect the dignity of every human being," does not apply to them. Bishop Curry made clear that there is a better way to show what the Bible offers.

Bishop Curry made the statement that should have been made in front of St. John's Episcopal Church, Washington D.C. Monday evening, June 1st. In his sermon, he spoke of the power of the love offered by wearing a mask that says, "By this mask, I care for you more than myself." This mask, then, is a powerful symbol of the love of God proclaimed by Jesus in the Holy Bible. Violent death, sadly still a part of life, can be undone not by a simple show of force but by the hard work bound up in sharing love. In short, a better way to show what the Bible offers is to live the words of the Prophet Micah: Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly with your God.