

Stations of Craftivism

Channeling anger at injustice and passion for a better world into creative objects and activities that uplift and point us toward God's beautiful creation.



Stations of Craftivism are eight opportunities to craft and interact prayerfully with the concepts of Craftivism.

Craftivism is a word coined in 2003 by Betsy Greer as, **"A way of looking at life where voicing opinions through creativity makes your voice stronger, your compassion deeper and your quest for justice more infinite."**

These stations hope to connect and expand our ideas of activism with creative power to bring positive reconciliation to our lives and our world.

Key Concepts:



Protesting NOT as using tactics of aggression, confrontation, shaming, bullying, demonizing, threats, emotional or physical violence - but instead focusing on uplifting the things we care about, with generosity, compassion, and love.



'Gentle protest' of having smaller conversations, focused on connecting to and building relationships with other people.



Active works of creation that empower us to live out their faith in uplifting ways.

Each Station is themed with an activism interest. You may engage in all eight, or only ones you wish. There are Scripture readings, prayers and prayer practices and activities at each station - participate as you feel called.

Mental Health Awareness

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD, in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD. Psalm 27:13-14 (NASB)

Activity

Decorate rocks with phrases that encourage others. Your rock can encourage, inform, or remind someone of mental health awareness.

Leave at this station until dry, and you can pick it up later! Place your rock somewhere once home or at church for others to find and enjoy, or share with a friend.

Craftivism Learning

Be the tortoise.

Breathe; take it slow.

Craftivism is about taking a thoughtful approach to mindful activism.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Health, 1 in 5 youth aged 13 to 18 experiences a mental health condition, with anxiety being the most common.

Mental health isn't only about struggles - it's a continuum that ranges from facing challenges to thriving. Christ calls us to support each other and to find ways to live our best lives in Hope. Hope is the ability to see beyond the current constraints and limitations of a situation, watching or acting for signs that a given situation can improve.

Mental Health Awareness Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

I don't want a seat at the table of the oppressor. I want a blanket and pillow down by the ocean. I want to rest. - Tricia Hersey

Life is a hard battle anyway. If we laugh and sing a little as we fight the good fight of freedom, it makes it all go easier. - Sojourner Truth



Prayer Practice - Breath Prayer

Breath prayers are short, memorable phrases that link contemplative prayer to breathing rhythms. Stand or sit comfortably and close your eyes. Remember that God is with you. Say the words inside as you breathe in and out.

Inhale: I am still being made.
Exhale: I can honor my becoming.

Inhale: I was meant for love.
Exhale: God, help me to receive it.

Inhale: I need more than me.
Exhale: We get free together.

Inhale: I'm no burden.
Exhale: I am the gift.



O Christ, whose friends fell asleep in the garden on the night he needed them most, relieve, support, and be present with us when we are challenged in mind and spirit. Strengthen and uphold the companions, families, and medical professionals who walk with compassion on journeys of healing. Grant us a sense of your presence in going slowly, being thoughtful and mindful as we break barriers of stigma and advocate for mental health awareness. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. *Amen.*

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

LGBTQ+ Equity



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26

Activity

Create buttons that would let queer youth know that they are loved and made in the image of God. Please leave your finished buttons at this station with a card with your name, and you can pick it up later!

Craftivism Learning

Comfort in contemplation.

Use the slow, stitch-by-stitch, nature of crafting to help you consider the complexities of your interests. It can lead to a deeper understanding of them and their solutions.

Faithful Episcopalians have been working toward a greater understanding and radical inclusion of all of God's children for nearly a half-century.

The Episcopal Church warmly welcomes our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic, and any other identities (LGBTQIA+) siblings, but that is not to say that the entire church is at the same place on this journey.

As with all spiritual journeys, everyone walks at their own pace. Some Episcopal congregations are actively involved in LGBTQ ministry; others are more reserved; some are still wrestling with their beliefs and feelings. But we're on this journey together, and The Episcopal Church is dedicated to full inclusion and equality in the church as well as in society as a whole.

Statistics tell us that at least 1 in 5 teenagers identify as LGBTQ+, however, because of a lack of safe environments, 42% of LGBTQ+ youth have seriously considered ending their life.



LGBTQIA+ Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

Love takes off the masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within. - James Baldwin

*I am so perfect so divine so ethereal so surreal
I cannot be comprehended
Except by my permission - Nikki Giovanni*



Prayer Practice - Imagination Prayer

Use your imagination to engage with a scene from Scripture, to grow closer to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

- Choose a Scripture passage and read it over at least once.
- Engage all your senses and visualize the scene.
- Pay attention to details, like sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and feelings.
- Trust that God is communicating with you.



O Holy three-in-one God, we thank you for the ways visible and invisible that we find your goodness. Help us to always seek that goodness in one another, even when it is different and queer from our own realities. Remind us to honor the freedoms won by siblings before us, and help us to bravely commit our honest selves to a deeper understanding of what is needed to come. Help us to love without exception. *Amen.*

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

School Safety & Gun Violence



Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Proverbs 31:8

Activity

The Postcard Project invites Episcopalians to engage in “slow advocacy” - shift the focus from reactionary outreach to long-term, big-picture strategy and relationship-building with your government officials.

Write a postcard to your government officials (State Legislator, Congress, etc.) to carry out your faith through action.

Decorate one side of the postcard however you choose, and write a simple, positive message on the back. Take your postcard with you, or leave them on the table to be mailed.

Craftivism Learning

Small and beautiful.

The world can be gorgeous, even in just small ways. Don't worry about size, or imperfections either; they're endearing.



13% of youth did not go to school last year because of safety concerns, and 9% have been threatened or injured with a weapon at school. School safety is a growing concern, chief concern being school shootings.

On a daily basis, schools are among the safest places for children to be. But senseless gun violence does sometimes happen and it can create a feeling of fear that is very real. We can address the factors that lead to violent incidents and implement strategies that contribute to a healthy school climate.

School Safety & Gun Violence Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

There is a concerted effort right now to convince you that “nothing can be done.” It is designed to make you give in to the exhaustion of this moment. Don’t believe it. It’s a lie. We have power if we mobilize it. — Sherrilyn Ifill



Prayer Practice - Praying for Your Opponents

Christ calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves, even the ones we don’t like. Praying for our opponents whose beliefs, words, or actions cause violence, injustice, or harm is important not only for us to continue in compassion but for us to remain in a relationship with God.

- Pray to Listen: Seek to understand others - not to persuade, compromise, or legitimize them - but to seek their humanity and preserve your own.
- Pray to Reimagine: Focus not only on what you are working against but the future you are fighting to bring about.
- Pray for Empathy: Remind yourself of the need for humility and humanity, that our opponents are as complex and infinite as you are. If we can see their reality they may be able to glimpse ours.



O God of many deliverances, the protector of all who trust in you, spread hope and determination for the resolution of gun violence, and help us to reject all violence on moral, ethical, and spiritual grounds. Let our shared lament become possibilities shared in safer communities, safer homes, and safer people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns in peace with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory ever lasting. *Amen.*

We share God’s care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

Racial Reconciliation



There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

Activity

Show your solidarity with a positive message poster placed in your windows at home.

Craftivism Learning

Solidarity, not sympathy.

Preserve the dignity of others by showing solidarity with them in your craft. Understand their struggles and you'll understand their solutions.

Activism is not about charity.

Race is a label for people based on their appearance, ancestry, and cultural customs. Some examples included in the US Census are "Asian", "Black" or "African American", and "White". These labels are oversimplified and do not reflect the beauty of a diverse and whole people, loved by God in all forms.

Racism is a system of oppression when a group of people are mistreated, disempowered, or discriminated against because of their racial identity. Throughout history, racism has been used to give, take away power, or maintain the power of one group over another.

As faithful people, we know that God loves all of God's children.

We are called to be anti-racist. Anti-racism is taking action to support equal rights and opportunities for all of God's people.

In the United States, around 50% of teenagers are non-white, a significant increase from previous generations. However, there are still harmful systems in place that harm non-white people and privilege white people.

We are all created in God's image - therefore God must have meant for us all to be different and diverse. We can do this by showing solidarity and being a part of enacting their solutions.

Racial Reconciliation Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

Somebody told a lie one day. They couched it in language. They made everything black ugly and evil. Look in your dictionary and see the synonyms of the word black. It's always something degrading and low and sinister. Look at the word white, it's always something pure, high, and clean. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

The changes we have to have in this country are going to be for the liberation of all people - because nobody's free until everybody's free. - Fannie Lou Hamer



Prayer Practice - Confession

When we confess our sins we are seeking, with love, the places of ourselves that need changing. "I'm sorry," can be words of transformation and our confession ties our longing for peace with our actions of reconciliation, as we are continually assured that God does forgive us when we are honest and sorry about what we've done wrong.

Creator God, we confess every attempt to steal and grant dignity, as if it is something we have dominion over. We lose ourselves in a world of racism. In demeaning others, we mistakenly believe that our own self-worth may be magnified, but in doing so we only become less human. Forgive us. Remind us of who we are, and what we're made of, so that we may forgive ourselves and become faithful keepers of our birthright to beauty, justice, and belonging. Amen. (Cole Arthur Riley, adapted from Black Liturgies: Dignity)



O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all peoples may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP, 815

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. Amen.

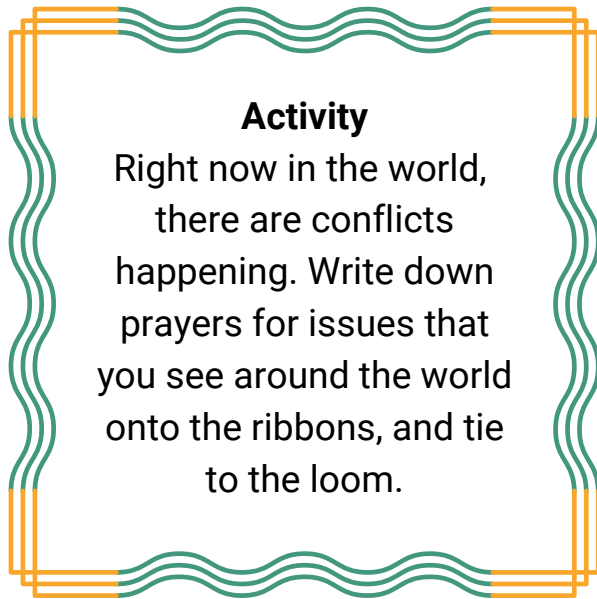
World Peace



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

Ephesians 6:18

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Matthew 5:9



Activity

Right now in the world, there are conflicts happening. Write down prayers for issues that you see around the world onto the ribbons, and tie to the loom.

Craftivism Learning

Empathy does not point fingers.

Try to see everyone's perspectives. Everyone faces different challenges, so aim to make critical friends, not aggressive enemies.



In 2011, around 14 million youth were forcibly displaced by conflict and disasters. Today, that number is much higher.

Israel/Palestine - The Episcopal Church has a longstanding policy in support of reconciliation and restorative justice and advocates for sustainable peace. We advocate for a just and peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Ukraine - The Episcopal Church joins voices in solidarity with the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches in pleading for an end to military aggression in that land.

Sudan - Sudan is experiencing a humanitarian crisis due to a conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Over 13 million people have been displaced from their homes since April 2023.

Haiti - Haiti has been under a State of Emergency since March 2024, due to gang violence, political turmoil, poverty, and natural disasters.

World Peace Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

*In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen, we can hear the whisper in the heart
Giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair. - Howard Thurman*

Forgiveness is the way we return what has been taken from us and restore the love and kindness and trust that has been lost. With each act of forgiveness, whether small or great, we move toward wholeness. Forgiveness is nothing less than how we bring peace to ourselves and our world. — Desmond Tutu



Prayer Practice - Silence

We live in a noisy world, but we can retreat into silence to be refreshed as well. Practice sitting in silence, perhaps simply feeling your fingerprints, listening to your heart beating, and enjoying the moment for as long as you need. There is no need to time this but go as long as you need to lean into the silence and feel refreshed and centered in your body. Seek God in this connected silence, finding that God's presence may be very close if even unheard through loud moments in our lives.



O God, who pitched your tent in our midst, you will never call us to bomb our way to peace but to find an end to aggressions with forgiveness and the actions of love. We pray for our human family in these dangerous and perilous times, for all who fear for their lives caught in a crossfire, for all who grieve the losses of conflict, and for leadership on all sides of disputes to seek reconciliation and peaceful solutions; All this we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. Amen.

Recycling & Waste Reduction



*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
Psalm 24:1*

An estimated 2.4 million tons of plastic waste is generated by teenagers in the US each year. One easy way to reduce waste is to bring your own shopping bags.

Activity

Upcycle a t-shirt into a bag that can be reused again and again.

Look for instruction sheets on the table!



Craftivism Learning

Humility holds the key.

The world needs us to change before it can. Consider your role in the bigger picture. Work with people, never against them and always keep an open mind.

As a whole church, we have promised to place the care of God's Creation at the heart of our common life. Together, we have taken up church-wide action in order to safeguard the integrity of Creation and to sustain and renew the life of the Earth.

Being mindful of consumption is important because God has entrusted us to be stewards and participants in all of Creation. Responsible stewardship is mindful and pays attention to what we need as whole people and world citizens - not just our wants and individual desires.

We can work to be faithful stewards through prayer and action, advocacy, conservation, and mutual fellowships to reduce waste and conserve resources.

Recycling & Waste Reduction Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

Every human being has paid the earth to grow up. - Maya Angelou

I would hurl words into this darkness and wait for an echo, and if an echo sounded, no matter how faintly, I would send other words to tell, to march, to fight, to create a sense of the hunger for life that gnaws in us all. - Richard Wright



Prayer Practice - Reading Prayer

Pick a sacred Scripture, poem, or other meaningful piece of literature. Read through your selection twice, out loud or in your head, pausing in between each reading. Focus on a word or phrase that strikes you. Repeat the word or phrase to yourself and reflect on what it means to you. Allow your reflections to connect and converse with God.



Rebel Jesus who rejected the marketplace from God's sacred space, keep us from seeking a vain sense of control and false satisfaction in grasping for more things we don't need. Turn us away from shopping endlessly in private online malls for mass-produced happiness that does not fill our despair, boredom, and longing. Instead, guide our hearts to love heavenly things and kindle within us a wholesome desire to use your resources respectfully and wisely, with simple joys that come of loving and serving one another; through Jesus, we pray. *Amen.*

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

Immigration



So Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Matthew 2:14-15

Activity

Decorate the flag with one of the countries that you have in your heritage. Add the flag to the wall of flags.



Craftivism Learning

Provoke with Curiosity.

Not shouting, but encouraging, we can provoke thought and action. Intriguing activism inspires, not trying to intimidate.

In the US, 18% of children are immigrants or children of recent immigrants. However, discriminatory policies and hurtful rhetoric cause harm to immigrants and their children. One of the ways that we can combat hatred towards immigrants is by understanding that almost all of us have lineage that is not indigenous to America, and everybody comes from somewhere.



Immigration is a complex and multifaceted issue with far-reaching impacts for our families, communities, local economies, national security, and the role of the U.S. in the world. However, The Episcopal Church seeks to address issues of global migration and its root causes as the number of displaced people surpasses 117 million worldwide. Our advocacy continues to be needed.

We seek and serve Christ in all persons, and we will continue to fulfill our baptismal covenant by proclaiming in word and example the Good News of God in Christ, striving for justice and peace among all people, and protecting the dignity of every human being.

Immigration Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together. - Desmond Tutu

But still, like dust, I'll rise. - Maya Angelou



Prayer Practice - Guided Meditation Prayer

Invite the presence of an ancestor. They may appear as an image, a sensation in your body, an emotion, or a flow of energy. They might be a great-grandparent or an ancestor from the distant past. This person lived at least three generations before you and died before you were born. You have never met them, and yet a part of them lives in you.

Don't plan to converse or interact with this ancestor. Don't try to identify or figure out anything about them. Simply observe this person's presence. Sit and breathe. When you are ready, thank your ancestor for visiting you and return to yourself and your present location.



Holy One of Bethlehem, from your earliest days you knew the threat of death, the terror of flight, and the pain of exile. Help us to honor our human story as people moving in strange places, invented lands, and maps where boundaries exist only in our minds. Awaken our hearts to the migration of your human family, a tapestry of kinship that expands past time to grace. All this we ask in your name, a refugee from jealousy, greed, and dominance. Amen.

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

Neurodiversity



For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:13-14

Activity

Color outside the lines. Help create a colorful mural that goes beyond traditional shapes and lines, symbolizing the importance of breaking boundaries and valuing unique perspectives.

An optional tear-off positive message flyer is available to color. Take it home and post it somewhere

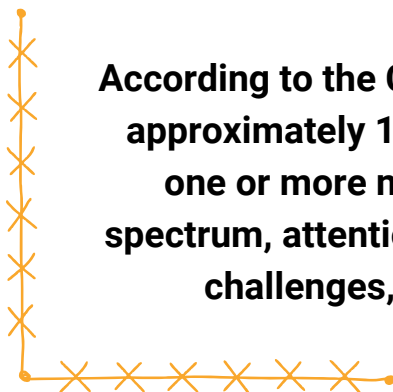
Craftivism Learning

Embrace positivity.

Take the most encouraging tone you can. Being cynical is easy, but a positive compassionate world vision has the power to fuel dreams and build movements.



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 1 in 6 children aged 3–17 years (about 17%) have one or more neural differences. This can include the autism spectrum, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), learning challenges, and other neurodevelopmental conditions.



Every one of us processes and engages with information in a slightly different way; no one person alone is neurodiverse, just as no one person alone is diverse. We all contribute to a community of differences together, and we are all wonderfully made.

Honoring different needs in our worship life is important too, because God welcomes us all equally.

Neurodiversity Station

Great Creator, still creating,
Show us what we yet may do.

I believe, and still do, that our bodies are our selves, that my soul is the voltage conducted through neurons and nerves, and that my spirit is my flesh. - Ta-Nehisi Coates

I will not have my life narrowed down. I will not bow down to somebody else's whim or to someone else's ignorance. – bell hooks



Prayer Practice - Praying in Color

Doodle. Scribble. Tinker without purpose. To begin, find a piece of paper and any writing implement you enjoy. Ask God to be a part of your time, and doodle in ways that reflect your connection. You might want to write down a name for God, for people or situations you want to pray for, but words are not necessary. When you are done thank God for spending time with you and reflect on what you've drawn.



Christ is enough to break all barriers, even the invisible ones. Thanks, God, for all the ways in which we are diverse people. Teach us new ways of being and belonging.
Amen.

We share God's care and challenge;
Offering and receiving welcome,
We become Christ to one another. *Amen.*

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Table Conversation Starters

Table Conversation Starters

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Table Conversation Starters

Table Conversation Starters

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Table Conversation Starters

Table Conversation Starters

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Table Conversation Starters

Table Conversation Starters

What are you doing to take care of yourself, both your body
and your mind? What self-care activities or coping strategies
do you use?

Who would you go to for support if you were having
problems with your mental health?

What's been stressing you out lately?

Is it awkward to talk to your friends about your feelings?
Why or why not?