

WHAT IS A LIBERATIONIST?



There is no single way of *being* a liberationist. So this document is more of a *description* than a *definition*. We just want to illustrate our collective hope for what's coming: **liberation**.

CELEBRATORY

We collectively dream dreams, see visions, and seek a more excellent way. We claim another world of possibilities. We celebrate the hope of new creation through Christ Jesus. And with faith that imagines different futures, **we sing!**

We sing the South African protest song "freedom is coming."

We sing Ella's Song: "we who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes" (Sweet Honey in the Rock)

We sing, with Nina Simone, "I wish I knew how it would feel to be free."

SUBVERSIVE

Our baptismal vows are **revolutionary**. As members of the Body of Christ, we accept "the freedom and power God gives us to **resist** evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves." Christian community celebrates liberation as anti-oppression, flourishing, and empowerment of the marginalized.

We subvert and reject anything and all things that stand against the unconditional love of God's grace.

HEALING

Christ Jesus calls the church to **healing from the trauma** that lingers in our body. Jesus' ministry bears witness to this possibility. Restoration is our birthright. And the reality is that our current realities do not have to bind us forever. Because whom Christ sets free is free indeed.

We cling to the hope that healing is coming ... with freedom!

INTERSECTIONAL

All life is connected. Our flourishing is co-related. **Radical solidarity** paves the way for change. God's good vision for creation is justice and equity. Just as standing in a street intersection is dangerous; so too is the call to justice. Liberation as intersectional justice endangers inequity. With **courage**, we live at the intersections of life that binds us together in the breaking of chains.

We testify to the truth that grace and social holiness manifest as justice in this world.

Being a Liberationist isn't simply about doing, it's a way of being in the world. Liberation is a **posture** of possibility. *Liberation is a spiritual and social way of living* — and liberationists live in the blessed assurance that **God loves us in freedom**.

"The Spirit of our God is upon us, because the Most High has anointed us to bring Good News to those who are poor. To proclaim release to those held captive. To cast vision for those who want to perceive God's new thing. To let the oppressed go free. To proclaim the year of our God's favor" (Luke 4:18-19)

WE'RE ON OUR WAY. YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE JOURNEY.

FREEDOM. FLOURISHING. FAITH.

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