

# GRACE READS

Sponsored by the Social Ministries Committee

Grace Reads Booklist (Alphabetized by title)

## **All Our Children: The Church's Call to Address Education Inequity**

**Lallie B. Lloyd | April 2017**

A call for congregations and faith-based justice groups to engage in public education advocacy through partnerships with under-resourced schools. Includes theological grounding and practical examples from the Episcopal Church.

## **Called to Act: The Origins of Christian Responsibility**

**Michael W. Hopkins | September 2023**

This book roots Christian responsibility in baptism and traces how early Christian social struggles can inform today's activism. A theological call to engage with justice, community care, and political engagement.

## **Christian Slavery: Conversion and Race in the Protestant Atlantic World**

**Katharine Gerbner | 2019**

Explores how religion shaped slavery and race in Protestant colonialism. Gerbner reveals how Christian conversion was used to justify or deny freedom for enslaved people, embedding race in theology.

## **The Color of Christ: The Son of God and the Saga of Race in America**

**Edward J. Blum and Paul Harvey | 2012**

Traces the evolving visual portrayal of Jesus in American history. Explores how white and nonwhite depictions of Christ were used to justify or resist white supremacy and social injustice.

## **The Crisis of Christian Nationalism**

**Allen K. Shin & Larry R. Benfield (Editors) | October 2024**

A report by the House of Bishops Theology Committee analyzing Christian nationalism through Anglican frameworks. Offers theological critique and guidance to help Christians resist this dangerous ideology.

## **Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto**

**Vine Deloria Jr. | 1969**

A landmark manifesto blending irony, history, and sharp critique of U.S. race relations, Christian missions, and federal policy toward Native Americans. Still essential reading for understanding Indigenous rights.

**Dear White Christian: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation**  
**Jennifer Harvey | 2014**

Harvey challenges the ineffective reconciliation paradigm often embraced by white Christians. She argues for a shift toward reparations and justice as biblical and necessary for racial healing.

**God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships**

**Matthew Vines | Revised & Expanded Edition**

Vines presents a scripturally grounded argument for affirming same-sex relationships, confronting traditional interpretations and showing compatibility with Christian faith and ethics.

**God Believes in Love: Straight Talk About Gay Marriage**  
**Gene Robinson | June 2013**

Written by the first openly gay Episcopal bishop, this accessible book makes the case for same-sex marriage using reasoned theological and secular arguments rooted in Robinson's own experience.

**Hope on the Border: Immigration, Incarceration, and the Power of Poetry**  
**Seth Michelson | October 2025**

A moving narrative nonfiction that gives voice to unaccompanied minors in U.S. detention centers. Through poetry and storytelling, it reveals their experiences and the systemic injustices they face.

**How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith**  
**Mariann Edgar Budde | May 2023**

A guide to the defining moments that shape our courage, drawn from scripture, history, and personal narrative. Bishop Budde urges us to meet life's pivotal moments with faith and strength.

**Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption**  
**Bryan Stevenson | 2015**

The memoir of a young lawyer defending the wrongly condemned and marginalized. Through the story of Walter McMillian and others, Stevenson makes a compelling case for compassion and systemic justice reform.

**Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times**

**Bishop Michael Curry | 2020**

Bishop Curry calls readers to the discipline of love as a revolutionary, hope-filled way to address racism, inequality, and division. A spiritual guide for resilience and action.

**Pagans in the Promised Land: Decoding the Doctrine of Christian Discovery**

**Steven Newcomb | 2008**

Newcomb critiques U.S. Indian law through its theological roots, arguing that it rests on biblical conquest narratives. Offers a radical rethinking of law, land, and Indigenous sovereignty.

**Proclaim! Sharing Words, Living Examples, Changing Lives**

**Marcus George Halley | April 2020**

This book connects Episcopal liturgy with social justice from a Black, queer, millennial lens. A blend of memoir and theology, it explores how liturgy can fuel activism and faithful proclamation.

**Racism and Religious Diversity in America**

**Jeannine Hill Fletcher | 2017**

Fletcher argues that Christian claims of religious superiority often underpin white supremacy. She offers ways to disentangle racial and religious domination and seek real healing and responsibility.

**We Carry the Fire: Family and Citizenship as Spiritual Calling**

**Richard A. Hoehn | February 2021**

Hoehn proposes a spirituality rooted in action and solidarity, advocating for justice, ecological responsibility, and democratic renewal grounded in faith and shared humanity.

**When God Became White: Dismantling Whiteness for a More Just Christianity**

**Grace Ji-Sun Kim | May 2024**

Kim uncovers the history of racialized images of God and critiques the colonial legacy of a white male deity. She calls for a reclaiming of God's diverse, nongendered, nonwhite essence for a more equitable church.

**When We Stand: The Power of Seeking Justice Together**

**Terence Lester | May 2021**

Lester encourages collective action to confront injustice, showing how community, collaboration, and faith make transformation possible. A practical and inspiring guide for grassroots Christian activism.