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To all who are part of the Christian Church in the Southwest, who are loved by God and called to be a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world,

Siblings, even as we are all members together in the Body of Christ, so too we are citizens of this democratic nation, the United States of America. However, in this age, the democracy we have taken for granted as the bulwark of our freedom is ever increasingly in danger. Hard won rights long thought to be sacrosanct have been struck down; others may also be under threat. It can surely be agreed that we are navigating an uncertain and contentious moment in this country's history. There is much that those who are advocates for the poor, the marginalized, the "least of these" can view as tragically wrong. And because that is so, it is our responsibility to speak up utilizing every avenue we have at our disposal. By that we are referring to the most cherished right this nation has for us to make our voices heard, our vote. In the name of championing justice, we must vote. If we want a say in the running of our local communities, we must vote. Finally, unless we all exercise our right to vote, our democracy itself may be in peril. Therefore, we urge each one of us who, for whatever reason, may have decided against voting in this upcoming election to prayerfully reconsider. As justice seekers we can do no less.

In the spirit of all we have shared, the Reconciliation Committee offers these attached resources that we pray you use as inserts for your October 23, October 30, and November 6th worship bulletins.

The Reconciliation Committee of the Christian Church in the Southwest, dedicated to serving Christ Jesus, believing that God calls us to do the work of justice making - with our eyes fixed on the requirements of Micah 6:8 to "act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Grace and Peace,

Reverend Alfred M. Walker

Reverend Alfred M. Walker, M-Div. Community Regional Minister for Anti-Racism and Reconciliation, Christian Church in the Southwest