

SOCIAL PRINCIPLES 2020

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Worship & Liturgy

Hymns: UMH 639 Bread and Justice
UMH 628 Eat this Bread
UMH 444 O Young and Fearless Prophet



Scripture: Amos 5:7-13
Matthew 6:7-13

Sermon Starters:

Read John Wesley's quote at the beginning of the Economic Community section. Consider how all of the world belongs to God, and we are its stewards. Therefore, to hoard or overconsume or degrade our environment is to be poor stewards of the world's resources that God has entrusted to us.

In the Lord's Prayer, we petition to "give us this day our daily bread." Contemplate how farming plays in ensuring we receive our daily bread. Name the ways we have denied our neighbors daily sustenance and the call to be in solidarity with the "least of these." Highlight places in your community where agricultural workers and the land are treated with respect and dignity.

Hold a communion service recognizing the earth and all the workers that contribute to making communion elements.

Teaching

Human Trafficking and Slavery:

The section on human trafficking calls all United Methodists to educate themselves about the sources of labor and practice socially responsible consumerism. Visit [Slaveryfootprint.org](https://slaveryfootprint.org) to learn how your purchasing power may be contributing to slave labor.

Wealth and Poverty:

Hold a small group discussion on the section Poverty and Wealth and John Wesley's sermon on "The Use of Money." How does your understanding of poverty impact how you relate to your neighbor? What concrete practices and policies might respond to the good news that Jesus proclaims for those living in poverty?



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Advocacy

- Support efforts in your community that promote fair labor standards for all workers.
- Host a letter writing campaign to decision makers about the importance of addressing poverty and hunger in your community.
- Connect with your Church and Society chair in your annual conference or visit [Ministry with the Poor](#) to learn more about ministries addressing poverty and economic inequality.



Your Response

Share the good news for the **TRANSFORMATION** of the world...

Use your purchasing power to support companies and organizations that pay their workers a living wage.

Stand in solidarity with workers. Support worker-led campaigns for fair pay and dignity of work. Learn more ways to take action with the [National Farm Workers Ministry](#).



For more information contact:

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