

Jenne Perlstein's story



My Candle chosen for use as the Christ candle for worship

This large white candle stands on my mantel piece, and it felt appropriate to use as a part of the Black Lives Matter/First Nations reflective service.

Firstly, because it is white, thus more neutral, so as not to take away from the contrasting earth colours of the objects with it, such as bark and rocks, spears & the beauty of First Nations paintings or the green of the leaves used in the background to the Liturgy offering.

Secondly, I stood it in a brass bowl given by a friend to me for use as part of my altar in my home, and as she supports & work towards justice for First Nations people herself, it felt right to balance the candle in this bowl.

Thirdly, I just realised, it can stand for the whiteness of those of us with privilege and not having to bear the racism that black & coloured people do. Yet is solid and present, just as Christ is, in our reflection and struggle to acknowledge the suffering of Black people, and hopefully, as white allies, we can uncomfortably help them to carry the very large Cross they bear, and take it up ourselves, following them and Christ.