

Pride Month

Every morning, the black darkness of the night hosts the silver stars of the Universe. As the blackness turned into inky blue, blue turns into rose red. As the world wakes up, the red turns to fiery orange and then into bright yellow followed by a sweet blue. And thus, the day begins.

I am pleased tonight that we are hosting a service of the spirituality of color and pride. The month of June is celebrated as “Pride Month” throughout the world in the gay community. Its history began in 1969 during the Stonewall Uprising in Greenwich Village in Lower Manhattan. The Pride movement, much like Black Lives Matter, notice of the Native Indians and recognition of all minority peoples has been brought to the surface of America life and existence throughout the world. Tonight, we want to specifically enjoy the colorful spiritual accents of the gay community.

The color **pink** represents sex and the appreciation of our bodies. The spirit of God created Adam and Eve and did so in a loving and creative way. We appreciate that our bodies are special and wildly creative, each one different and unique in its own way.

The bold color of **red** represents life at its most cheeky. This vivid color reminds us of the excitement of the events of our lives. Our spirituality embraces red as the flamboyant show-off color of the sunrise after a simmering quiet night.

The color **orange** represents healing. Its warm textures bring comfort and passionate feelings to our physical spirits and emotions. The Great Spirit showed Moses who the “Great I Am” was through the burning bush high up on the mountain. Orange shows strength and force.

The color **yellow** represents sunlight. The sunlight brings exuberance and positiveness to our spirits. The Bible tells us that God created the darkness and the light. And it was good. Yellow brings joy and brightness even on the dreariest of days.

The color **green** represents nature. Green allows us to look forward to the spring growth of trees, grass, bushes and flowers. In the Bible, God gave Adam and Eve the extraordinarily beautiful garden of Eden filled with lovely foliage. And the baby Moses was allowed to float down the river beside the willows of nature.

The color of **turquoise** represents magic and art. It is this color that brings us excitement away from our sometimes-mundane lives. Perhaps an exquisite piece of artwork might cause us to stop and pause in our everyday lives. Or the magic of a tiny ladybug or sparrow makes us remember who the Creator is.

The color of **indigo** brings serenity. Indigo is considered a spiritual color because it brings tranquility to the soul. It calms our inner selves and allows us to remember what is really important in our lives.

The color **violet** represents the color of the Spirit. Perhaps it is often the Native Americans that remind us of the importance of spirit. We need to slow down and listen to our inner spirit and remember the importance of Spirit.

There are over 50 LGBTQ flags representing various and unique groups. The transgender colors are light blue, pink and white in the center.

Today, I would like you to consider your favorite color. Note what you are wearing. Look around the room and see what colors others are wearing. I remember our office decided to wear bright colors one day at work. As I looked in my closet, I realized

that I only had dark colors with more black and tan than lighter colors. It was at that moment that I realized that I needed to go shopping.

Colors influence our moods. If the weather is dark, we may feel gloomy and sad. If the sun shines, our spirits are lifted, and our day may sparkle with life.

Our personalities may change depending on our when we are born, the colors we are drawn to and how we see the world and those around us. What is important to us? How do we view our vision of our day, and how we see it through the lens of our spirit.

Color definitely affects our spiritual mood. Depending on how we see color influences our spiritual wellbeing. I challenge you to look closely at the colors in your life. Choose wisely the focus on those colors. Take pride not only in this month, but in every day. Take delight in pink, red, orange, yellow, green, turquoise, indigo and violet and all the pallets of the creation.

Namaste, my friends.

*Rev. Donna Stroud, M.Div.
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