

October 4, 2016

To Denise Anderson and Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderators of the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and J Herbert Nelson, the Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),

We are deeply disturbed by the fact that a Muslim cleric was invited to lead the 222nd General Assembly in prayer at its meeting in Portland, and it is our desire that this action not be swept under the rug but be brought to light and dealt with honestly. Christians cannot pray to Allah in the name of ecumenism. Such things can only be done in the name of syncretism which is not supported by Christian scriptures or the constitution of our denomination. In light of this contradiction between who we claim to be and what happened in Portland, we respectfully ask you to do the following in a public manner that affirms the Lordship of Jesus Christ to the Church and world:

1. Disavow on behalf of the General Assembly the content of the prayer prayed by Wajidi Said.
2. Explain the process by which this moment came to pass, including naming the staff people who gave approval to it and any ways in which they are being held accountable for their actions.
3. Offer a plan that ensures that such a prayer does not happen at General Assembly again.

We make these requests for the good of the Church as together we seek to live out Jesus' call to make and baptize disciples throughout the world.

In the Peace of Our Lord,