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July 7, 2015

The Very Reverend Gary Hall  
Washington National Cathedral

Very Reverend Sir,

I am writing on behalf of Jesus People for Animals, the Christian outreach division of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and as a follower of Jesus. In a recent sermon, you called for the removal of Confederate imagery from the National Cathedral's stained-glass windows and said that new images should match "our shared aspirations for a diverse, just, and compassionate nation." We couldn't agree more, and we would be honored to sponsor a [replacement window](#) that promotes compassion and respect for *all* God's creation.

As we learn from the life of Jesus, Christians are called to stand up for the marginalized and downtrodden. That means promoting a culture of respect for everyone, including the animals who are suffering right now on severely crowded factory farms, in burning-hot transport trucks, and in blood-filled slaughterhouses. Today, pigs are mercilessly castrated, cows are branded with hot irons, and chickens have part of their sensitive beaks seared off with a hot blade—all without any painkillers. In slaughterhouses, animals are hung upside down, their legs are slammed into shackles, and their throats are cut, often while they're still conscious. Many never feel the warmth of the sun, form friendships, roam free, or do any of the other things that God intended for them.

The stained-glass window we are proposing would promote a diverse, just, and compassionate world as well as shine a light on our duty to give loving stewardship to all creation. Since it first opened its doors, the National Cathedral has boldly confronted the nation's most pressing moral and social issues, and we look forward to hearing that you will expand the circle of compassion to include animals. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Taylor D. Radig  
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