



A Statement from the  
Metropolitan Association Black Clergy  
New York Conference, United Church of Christ

### **BLACK LIVES MATTER**

Our nation is at war with its own soul. The United States of America must confess its original sin, slavery. It must also acknowledge lynchings, Jim Crow, and systemic racism. As Black Clergy, we recognize that prayer by itself is not enough. We are outraged. Enough is enough.

The fight for justice requires action, sustained effort in community engagement and tenacious commitment to exercising the right to vote. Men and women were beaten, imprisoned and killed for our right to vote. We dare not take that right for granted and we dare not faint in the fight against the evil of voter suppression.

We stand in solidarity with the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks and many countless known and unknown Black Women and Men who have suffered brutality and abuse for over 400 years. We affirm the right of all descendants of Africans who were enslaved in the Americas to live the lives they were created to live by God.

June 18, 2020