

Following the horrific death of George Floyd in the USA on 25th May I ask that you may please continue to pray and work in these coming days for an end to racism and injustice. Some points for prayer are offered below. You will of course have your own experiences and concerns;

- ❖ for George Floyd's family, friends and country;
- ❖ for all in our community and country who suffer racism;
- ❖ for racism to stop; for changes to be made across the whole of our lives and society;
- ❖ for those who are white to have the courage to speak up when they hear and see racist comments and actions. Knowing that silence means consent;
- ❖ for the safety of all Black, Asian and other ethnic minority people, who are at a higher risk from Covid 19.

The 2nd June statement from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York is below.

'Recent events in the United States of America have once again drawn public attention to the ongoing evil of white supremacy. Systemic racism continues to cause incalculable harm across the world. Our hearts weep for the suffering caused – for those who have lost their lives, those who have experienced persecution, those who live in fear. God's justice and love for all creation demands that this evil is properly confronted and tackled. Let us be clear: racism is an affront to God. It is born out of ignorance, and must be eradicated. We all bear the responsibility and must play our part to eliminate this scourge on humanity.

As Dr Martin Luther King Jr said, "In a real sense, we are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Therefore, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

We pray that God's abounding wisdom, compassion and love will guide leaders across the world to forge a better society.'

'We must pray and work together for a new and more just society.'

The Archbishops of Canterbury & York,