

Dear Menlo Church,



The writer of Ecclesiastes says there is a time to be silent, and a time to speak. This is not a time to be silent.

Racism is a sin that dehumanizes people made in God's image. It has stained our country from its birth. Racism's evil needs to be named and racism's destruction needs to be stopped.

As a community of faith, we mourn with our Black brothers and sisters — for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, and all victims of this and other injustice, and for the centuries of protest and prayer that have failed to bring it to an end.

We claim that discipleship to Jesus Christ must unequivocally affirm the full dignity and equality of each human being.

We ask God to lead our nation into a new day. We ask God to use our church in this cause, to make us agents of God's love in the spheres of our homes, communities, education, vocation, and citizenship, so that the blight of racial injustice might be removed from human hearts and social systems.

– *Menlo Church's Session.*

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