June 9, 2020
To the Members of the Denver City Council,

In light of the recent horrific events surrounding the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Elijah McClain, and many others, we, the faith and spiritual leaders of Colorado representing the wide diversity of traditions, races, cultures, and images of the Divine and the organizations below, declare our resolve to stand together in solidarity for all marginalized people across this country. We especially stand with the African American community in the fight against police brutality and in the long and difficult task of dismantling systemic racism and white supremacy culture.

As a spiritual community, we are committed to ensuring all persons are treated with dignity. To that end,

- We will foster unity through prayer, non-violent demonstrations, and collaboration across our traditions
- We will hold ourselves accountable for modeling unity, civility, grace, compassion, and righteous indignation towards the mistreatment of any of God’s children. We are prepared to challenge our fellow faith leaders who are unwilling to engage authentically in this struggle.
- We will hold our civic leaders accountable to develop laws and policies that protect the marginalized, underserved, and targeted among us. We are prepared to encourage our members to use their votes to elect only those officials who support these policies and laws.

In faith, we call upon our civic leaders to first, implement the currently approved policies and second, to join with us in drafting and enacting policies that further address police abuse and misconduct, including

- Systematic demilitarization of the police force with specific parameters around how and when military-grade equipment can be used as well as clear timelines for implementation
- Greater transparency around police investigations of misconduct, immediate community access to body camera footage and transparent disciplinary hearings
- Re-activation of the Use of Force Advisory Committee (or similar) to draft these and other policing policies

We hope you recognize, as we do, that the time is NOW for systemic change to our policing policies in this country. We hope you will support the above requests and we look forward to working with you to save lives, increase justice, and dismantle the system of racial inequity that has shaped so many unjust policies and our culture.

Submitted with the support and commitment of the following organizations:

Interfaith Alliance of Colorado
Greater Metro Denver Ministerial Alliance
Together Colorado Action
Multicultural Mosaic Foundation
Colorado Council of Churches
Multi-Faith Leadership Forum
Wisdom House