

## **Statement of Solidarity: Black Lives Matter**

**We, at the First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta, join with the Alliance for Black Lives in support of Justice for Black Lives. We are standing with many Black communities in their demand for the end to racist police brutality and white supremacy in all its forms. We also stand in solidarity with the demands for demilitarization of the police and reducing funding of police departments in favor of social programs and institutions that deal with the underlying causes of poverty and crime.**

**We live in a country where our policing and incarceration systems not only devalue Black people, but kill them. We mourn and stand in solidarity with the families and friends of George Floyd (Minnesota), Ahmaud Arbery and Yassim Muhammad (Georgia), Breonna Taylor and David McAtee (Kentucky), Tony McDade (Florida), Mubarak Soulemane (Connecticut), and so many other Black, Indigenous and other People of Color, whose lives were cut short by the centuries long war on Black bodies in our country. Enough is enough. This must end.**

**We share in the responsibility to dismantle the legacy of racism and white supremacy, and to seek justice. We pledge to continue educating ourselves about white privilege and systemic racism. We will continue to invite Black, Indigenous and Other People of Color to use our weekly Celebration of Life platform to share their wisdom, knowledge and perspective. We will take action to support ongoing Black community and People of Color organizing programs.**