



## Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

**Ephesians 4:3 NIV** 

The death of George Floyd last week and the ensuing events over the past weekend have highlighted to all of us the tragedy of social injustice. The resulting public outcry serves to remind us that social injustice knows no boundaries and is a global phenomenon. Discrimination is common wherever there are humans. Whether for reasons of race or economics or tribe or nationalism, we find ways to divide and to demonstrate power over one another.

The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) values all human life, all of which is created by God and in His image. We believe what is written in Matthew 22:39 that we should "*love our neighbor as ourselves*". As such, we denounce all forms of discrimination and racism. We grieve with all who have and are experiencing injustice. PAACS emphasizes the importance of caring for and loving all people, regardless of race, nationality, economics, and religion. We may fall short at times of this ideal. We are grateful to serve a God of grace and mercy who understands our weaknesses and yet still loves each one of us.

PAACS calls upon our partners across the globe to fervently pray for peace, love, and reconciliation. We call unto our God to bring healing to this broken world and broken hearts. Let us stand united as the body of Christ and be an example to the world. As followers of Jesus, let us obey Ephesians 4:3, *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."* Through prayer and God's power, we can overcome our impulse to divide and surrender to God's unifying love.

"...Love your neighbor as yourself." Matt 22:39

