

Statement from the Methodist Church at Coventry Central Hall

On May 25, 2020, George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, was killed in Minneapolis, when white police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck for almost nine minutes while George was handcuffed and lying face down on the street. The responses to this incident have included people protesting with the words "I can't breathe" which were George's final words.

The church leadership team at Central Hall believe that black lives matter, like those of George Floyd, Olaseni Lewis, Stephen Lawrence and many others who have suffered as a result of institutional racism.

George Floyd was killed between the feast of Ascension, when Jesus went into heaven, and Pentecost, when the breath of the Holy Spirit came. We believe George Floyd's death was against God's will. God desires dignity in death, space to breathe and fullness of life.