

You are invited to worship.....

Event: 2014 Commemorative Worship Service for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
When: Sunday, January 19, 2014, 3:00 pm | Praise Music starts at 2:30pm  
Where: Christ Our Hope Lutheran Church, Riverdale GA  
Sponsors: ELCA Southeastern Synod and the Lutheran Theological Center in Atlanta

### **About the 2014 “Beyond Tolerance” Theme**

In conversations across communities, nations and in our own relationships, that which is called right by one is called wrong by another. Rather than resolving these differences, tolerance is championed as the appropriate response to the varying perspectives that have emerged. Tolerance has no cohesive or healing power. It means little more than leaving one another alone. Tolerance does not give rise to reconciliation. It leads to indifference, not understanding, not healing. Tolerance allows the brokenness between us to remain in place.

Tolerance brings with it an implicit moral relativism. Who is to say what is right and what is wrong? This moral relativism suggests that there are no absolutes to which we can all be held accountable. Such a thing was far from the thinking of Martin Luther King. Dr. King said, "At the center of the Christian faith is the affirmation that there is a God in the universe who is the ground and essence of all reality."

Dr. King did not speak in terms of tolerance. The foundation of Dr. King's beloved community rests on love. Moving a world beyond mere tolerance towards reconciliation which bridges gaps between peoples must be our goal. Confronting wrong and injustice with truth, and a Biblical love, enables us to seek the absolute good of the other.

### **About the Preacher**

The preacher for the Service is the Reverend Doctor Keven Dudley, Pastor of the Church at North Point, Columbus, OH. He also serves as Affiliated Professor of African American Studies and Director of African American Relations at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, where he earned a Masters of Divinity degree. He holds a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership from Ashland Theological Seminary where he is Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology. He also is Professor of Religion at Ohio Christian University.

For more information, contact

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