

2022 KING HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

KING



IT STARTS WITH

TRANSPARENCY
RECONCILIATION
NONVIOLENCE
DIGNITY

EQUITY
EMPOWERMENT
COOPERATION
SUSTAINABILITY

NONVIOLENCE
DIGNITY

EMPATHY
TRUST

UNITY

JUSTICE

HUMILITY
HOPE

COMPASSION

TRANSFORMATION
NONVIOLENCE

TRUTH
KINDNESS

RESPECT

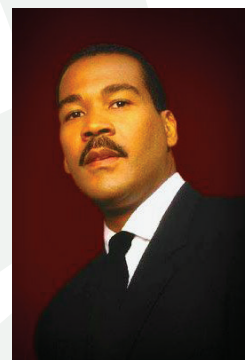
LOVE (AGAPE)
UNDERSTANDING

INTEGRITY

SHIFTING PRIORITIES TO CREATE THE BELOVED COMMUNITY







Founder
Coretta Scott King

Message From Dexter Scott King
Chairman, Board of Trustees
The King Center

The King Center's Board of Trustees extends a warm welcome to The King Center's 2022 observance of what would have been my father's 93rd birthday. Our country and world has experienced another very challenging year. During this time, your diligent prayers and continued support are appreciated beyond measure. This pandemic has reminded us all that despite any religious, philosophical or political differences, we are all still part of the same family; and as my father referenced, we are all interconnected and ultimately dependent upon one another for our survival.

During this time of such traumatic loss, we offer our condolences to all who have lost loved ones this past year. Our shared losses and trauma further the importance of my father's steadfast dedication to spreading agape love to all human kind. As a devoted preacher, he lived by the biblical edict found in the Gospel of John, to love one another, as God loves us. Challenging times provide us all the opportunity to come together and unite around the common purpose of healing. Love is the greatest God given salve to ease all wounds. My father stated that, "without love, there is no reason to know anyone, for love will in the end connect us to our neighbors, our children and our hearts". One of my mother's favorite bible verses was 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now abide faith, hope and love, these three; but the greatest of these is love". My parents tried to impress upon us all the importance of living a life of agape love for all. It is critical that we foster a spirit of unity and oneness, where we consider ourselves our brother's keeper. Where we focus on our shared desire for three meals a day for our bodies, education and culture of our minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for our spirits; as my father noted. For he earnestly believed that "in some not too distant tomorrow, the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty". I share my father's hope, faith and optimism in the future.

I'd like to think that the human spirit is as resilient as carbon that is packed deep in the earth's crust. Which, as a result of extremely harsh conditions and pressure, over time results in the creation of beautiful diamonds. The showers in the winter of our lives, produces flowers in the spring time. We must remain steadfast in our faith and not lose hope during the difficult times. Let us all reflect on one of my father's mandates, "life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" We will continue to pray for you, as you continue to pray for us. We must all remember that despite the difficulties of today and tomorrow, we should always have confidence that..... WE SHALL OVERCOME!

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc.
449 Auburn Ave. NE • Atlanta, Georgia 30312 • Phone: 404.526.8900 • Fax: 404.526.8962

www.thekingcenter.org



Founder
Coretta Scott King

Message From Dr. Bernice A. King
Chief Executive Officer and Board Member
The King Center

Greetings and welcome to The King Center's 54th annual observance of my father, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, birthday. As we commemorate his 93rd birthday and the 37th observance of the King Holiday, our 2022 King Holiday Observance (KHO) theme is ***It Starts with Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community***. The theme and corresponding messaging and events for the 2022 KHO reflect our belief that it is critical, and necessary for the survival of both humanity and Earth, that we shift our priorities for a strategic quest to create a just, humane, equitable and peaceful world. We must create this world where, in the United States, our freedom to participate in democracy via the vote isn't threatened and thwarted by partisan politics and agendas but is cemented in our constitution and in our collective conscience. I have deep faith that, if we shift priorities in the ways that my father described in 'The World House' chapter of his last book, *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*, we can create this Beloved Community across the globe and ensure that people have the freedom to participate in government; freedom to prosper in life; and freedom to peacefully co-exist in Community. It starts with me. It starts with each of us.

There are some foundational concepts from 'The World House' that I want to share. First, are the concepts of interconnectedness, interdependence, and interrelatedness. Throughout his writings and speeches, my father reiterated the fundamental, love-centered ideas that human beings are purposed to conjointly sustain life, as well as the planet, and that we cannot do that without learning to live with and for each other. Our very existence depends on it.

In 'The World House,' he expounds on this by stating that "This is the great new problem of mankind. We have inherited a large house, a great world house in which we have to live together...a family unduly separated in ideas, culture and interest, who, because we can never again live apart, must learn somehow to live with each other in peace." We are currently experiencing what happens to our conversation, our communities, and our consciences when we don't embrace that we are living in a world house and that we must learn how to live with each other in peace. It should be noted that my father is not referring to false peace, which avoids tension and overt conflict, while not seeking justice. He is referring to true peace, about which he said, "True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

On this King Holiday, I call us up to shift our priorities to reflect a commitment to true peace and an awareness of our interconnectedness, interdependence, and interrelatedness. This will lead us to a greater understanding of our responsibilities to and for each other, which is crucial for learning to live together, achieving "true peace", and creating the Beloved Community. We can't do either of these things without facing our painful past of slavery and racism and exploring, as well as working to eradicate, present-day racism.

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Founder
Coretta Scott King

We can't commemorate my father while also promoting false narratives about his teachings to create fear around Critical Race Theory and erase teachings on him at the same time. We can't deny the truth about where we are today, with racism persisting in housing, lending, policing, voting policies and other ways, and say that we want liberty and justice for all. We must make this shift, which includes truth and truth telling, to transform our World House.

Another concept, which is also foundational to my father's teachings and conveyed in 'The World House', is that of a multi-faceted, multi-layered revolution. In the chapter, he writes about the scientific/ technological revolution, the freedom revolution, and a revolution of values. The first two have taken place and continue to transpire. However, the third one, the revolution of values, requires our individual and collective attention, and must happen to change the trajectory of our world house.

This revolution of values will ground us in our moral commitment to each other so that, even as we pursue scientific and technological advancement, we do not prioritize the artificial over the authentic. A revolution of values will produce consistent, necessary reminders of these words from 'The World House': "When scientific power outruns moral power, we end up with guided missiles and misguided men. When we foolishly minimize the internal of our lives and maximize the external, we sign the warrant for our own day of doom" by destroying "ourselves in the misuse of our own instruments."

Today, with this prophetic, compassionate warning in mind, I call us up to shift our priorities to reflect a commitment to a revolution of values. This includes a shift from being a "thing-oriented society" to being a "person-oriented society." As my father wrote in 'The World House', "When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism [poverty] and militarism [war] are incapable of being conquered." Therefore, this shift is vital for eliminating "the giant triplets." And it encompasses utilization of a philosophy and methodology which, rooted in love, equips individuals, groups, communities and coalitions with the principles and steps to work for justice and create the Beloved Community.

That philosophy and methodology is Kingian nonviolence, which The King Center rebranded as Nonviolence365 and my mother, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, described as the "road to the Beloved Community." I invite you to study nonviolence with The King Center via our virtual experiences and new Nonviolence365 online e-learning platform. Join us.

As we commemorate, I call us up to shift priorities to ensure that we don't miss this moment to make our world house a just, humane, equitable and peaceful house. Let's shift priorities to create the Beloved Community. It starts with me. It starts with each of us and, together, we can make it so.

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449 Auburn Ave. NE • Atlanta, Georgia 30312 • Phone: 404.526.8900 • Fax: 404.526.8962

www.thekingcenter.org



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 17, 2022

The King Center
Atlanta, Georgia

To the King family and distinguished guests,

Last week, Vice President Harris and I were humbled to walk through the King Center to pay our respects to Dr. and Mrs. King and meet with members of the family, including Dr. Bernice King and Martin Luther King, III. Our visit to Ebenezer Baptist Church and the opportunity to meet with students at Clark Atlanta and Morehouse were moving experiences that I will always remember.

In a span of a few hours, we walked through the journey that Dr. King traveled with a singular purpose: to fulfill the promise of America for all Americans—a promise that holds that we are all created equal and deserve to be treated equally throughout our lives. Dr. King was not just a dreamer—he was a doer. Today and every day, we must commit to his unfinished work of delivering jobs and justice and protecting the right to vote from which all other rights flow.

Let there be no doubt: the ongoing attack on the sacred right to vote and on our very democracy is real, but so is the charge to keep fighting. In his time, through his courage and conviction, Dr. King held a mirror up to America and forced us to answer the questions: Where do we stand? Whose side are we on? In our time, the mirror is being held up to America and these questions are being asked again.

With humility, and with the guidance of Scripture to love good and establish justice in the gate, I know where I stand—with you and the America for which Dr. King lived and gave his life. On this day of remembrance, service, and action, may God bless Dr. and Mrs. King and their family. May God bless you all.

Keep the faith,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Joe Biden, written over a diagonal line.



This photograph shows President Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1964 into law. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. appears in the photo standing behind Johnson among politicians and civil rights activists.

© Public Domain. Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library, National Archives

Supporting a better future. Leaving no one behind.

Proud to support the King Center
and the beloved community.



Movement that inspires

CLIMBING TOWARDS A MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE WORLD.

Proud to support the 2022 King Holiday Observance.



KEEP CLIMBING
 DELTA 



CONGRESSMAN SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
WASHINGTON, DC

January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice A. King
Chief Executive Officer
The King Center
449 Auburn Avenue, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312

Dear Dr. King:

I am honored and humbled to extend my heartfelt greetings to you and all who are virtually attending the Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Commemorative Service, which marks the King Center's 54th birthday and Dr. King's 93rd birthday. Given the current state of affairs in America and across the world, there is no greater urgency than for us to stop and revisit the prophetic legacy embodied in the 2022 National King Holiday Observance theme: "It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community."

Your father, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., taught us and demonstrated with his life that bringing about effective and collective change requires the individuals in a community to develop like-minded ideas and work together to be on one accord. And only then can the work begin to create a better and more ideal society. But on this day, we also honor your mother, Coretta Scott King, for all she did to support her husband in his quest for a more beloved and inclusive world community.

It is my hope and prayer that today's commemorative service led by you and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc. will be a catalyst to reignite a universal quest for justice—economic justice, health justice, social justice, criminal justice, and electoral justice. On behalf of myself and all people of goodwill in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, you have our best wishes for a very inspiring and motivating celebration!

With warmest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

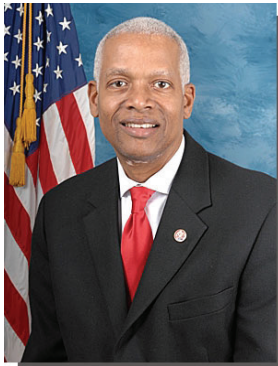


CONGRESSMAN HANK JOHNSON Georgia's Fourth District

January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice A. King
Chief Executive Officer
The King Center
Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Dr. King:



As we gather today to honor the work of Dr. King and Mrs. Coretta Scott King, we pause to give reverence to the struggle against prejudice, hatred, and intolerance.

On this hallowed national holiday, we once again rededicate ourselves to keeping the dream alive and fostering peace and equality.

Because of Dr. King's work and legacy, we can joyfully say as we go forth today: "Let Freedom Ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia" and throughout our nation and the world!

Yet, we must continue to commemorate "King's 2022 Holiday Observance: It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community." This annual observance is a chance to renew our vow to keep the dream alive – never shirking in our duty to make the progress we have achieved real and permanent.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Georgia, I send my heartfelt best wishes for an uplifting and inspiring commemorative observance.

Very truly yours,

Hank Johnson
Member of Congress



Celebrating our differences

Our unique experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives help shape how we approach the world and those around us. When we acknowledge those differences and understand how they bring us together, we all have cause to celebrate.

Wells Fargo is proud to celebrate The King Center and The Beloved Community Awards.

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MARS

Tomorrow starts today

Our 130,000+ Associates are valued, respected and encouraged to be their unique selves. We've taken time to listen and learn from our Associates by holding open and direct conversations, so everyone feels their voice is heard. No matter the visible or invisible differences, we have long-been committed to fostering an environment where everyone has an equal opportunity to reach their full potential, be heard and valued.

While inclusion & diversity (I&D) has long been a business priority, we know we have significant work to do, and we are accelerating our commitment to inclusion and diversity in our workplaces and communities. This commitment goes beyond our four walls, and includes our suppliers and partners, as well as how we portray our brands in marketing.

We remain committed to this journey and will hold ourselves accountable to achieve meaningful change.

LUCY MCBATH
6TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA
1513 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4501

5775 GLENRIDGE DRIVE
BUILDING B, SUITE 380
ATLANTA, GA 30328
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1006

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EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice A. King
Chief Executive Office
The King Center
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Dr. King,

It is my distinct honor to send warm greetings to you in celebration of the 2022 King Holiday Celebration. We have navigated another year of continued challenges but marked laudable progress in our sustained movement for the advancement of civil rights in America. I am grateful for this opportunity to pause and celebrate the life of your father, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year marks the 36th anniversary of the national King Holiday, the 54th anniversary of the King Center, and ultimately, what should have been your father's 93rd birthday. This year's theme, "It Starts With Me," reminds us all of the vital role we play in achieving Dr. King's Beloved Community. In our work to fulfill his dream, we must each do our part in eradicating poverty, hunger, and hatred. Though challenges stand in our way, I abide in the faith that the vision of a better tomorrow is truly possible if we practice the principles of love and peace with justice.

Thank you for honoring your father's life and legacy in all that you do. As we celebrate Dr. King this month, may we commit ourselves to the advancement of his vision for all the months of the year to come.

Sincerely,

Lucy McBath

Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



DAVID SCOTT
13TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

WWW.HOUSE.GOV/DAVIDSCOTT

DAVID.SCOTT@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1013

December 1, 2021

Dr. Bernice King,
The King Center, CEO
449 Auburn Ave NE
Atlanta, GA 30312

Dr. King,

As the United States Congressman for the Thirteenth District of Georgia, I am honored to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. During this time in which we celebrate what would be Dr. King's 93rd birthday and recognize the 36th anniversary of MLK Day Observance in the United States (January 17, 2022), I would like to highlight how fitting this year's theme is: **"It Starts With Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community."**

I am reminded of Dr. King's quote in "Beloved Community" (1957), which reads, *"Love is creative and redemptive. Love builds up and unites; hate tears down and destroys. The aftermath of the 'fight with fire' method which you suggest is bitterness and chaos, the aftermath of the love method is reconciliation and creation of the beloved community."*

A fierce champion for civil rights and nonviolent resistance against racial segregation, Dr. King was a hero who endowed his words with incredible foresight and compassion. As he presciently professed many decades ago, we cannot "fight with fire" without bitterness and chaos, for the only peaceful and democratic way to rally against hatred and injustice is with the forces of love and those that allow us to become invigorated in our resolve to serve, heal and strengthen—may we strive to follow in Dr. King's footsteps to honor those who came before us and continue building a brighter and more equitable future for generations to come.

This MLK Day, I invite you to join me in reaffirming my commitment to advancing the ideals of a beloved community and the memory of Dr. King by choosing creation over destruction; reconciliation over bitterness; and love over hatred. I am honored to share my support, enthusiasm, and pride in the work to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the ongoing and steadfast dedication to uplifting and empowering our neighbors and communities.

God Bless.

Sincerely,



David Scott
Member of Congress

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The King Center's

2022 BELOVED COMMUNITY
AWARDS



Soaring to new heights.

We celebrate those who always strive: to rise higher, push through every boundary, and overcome every obstacle. We're proud to show our support for the King Center's Beloved Community Recognition Award honorees, and all those whose achievements put them in rarefied air. Congratulations.



NIKEMA WILLIAMS
5TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

1406 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3801

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1005



January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice King
CEO, The King Center
449 Auburn Ave., N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30312

I am excited and honored to extend my most heartfelt congratulations and well wishes to all who have gathered for the observance of the 93rd birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the 54th Annual King Center Beloved Community Commemorative program and the 36th anniversary of the national holiday in Dr. King's honor.

Over the years, your tireless work, along with that of The King Center, continues to keep your father's legacy of love and non-violence alive throughout our country. As my friend, predecessor, and mentor, Congressman John Lewis would say, "keep getting into Good Trouble" as you continue to build the Beloved Community.

I, along with all of those who reside in the Fifth Congressional District, wish you and the King Center continued success.

Yours For the People,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nikema Williams".

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



THE KING CENTER

SINCE 1968

"I conceived of the Center as an extension of Martin's personality, not just a place, not just a building, but a spirit, one undergirded with his philosophy of nonviolence and love in action. It would be the official living memorial, a place where we would teach his philosophy, methodology, and strategies of nonviolence in the hope of bringing about social change and eliminating what he called the triple evils of society: poverty, racism, and war."
-Coretta Scott King



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change

"The King Center", established in 1968, by **Mrs. Coretta Scott King**, is the official living memorial to the life, legacy, leadership and nonviolent teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The King Center is dedicated to being a local and global resource by educating the world on Dr. King's nonviolent philosophy and methodology. We inspire new generations to carry forward his unfinished work and empower change makers who are continuing his efforts today. The King Center campus includes the crypt of Dr. and Mrs. King, the Eternal Flame, Freedom Hall, which features exhibits of Gandhi, Rosa Parks and Dr. and Mrs. King, Yolanda D. King Theatre for the Performing Arts and the Reflecting Pool. We are also home to The King Library and Archives, the largest repository of primary source materials on **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** and the American Civil Rights Movement in the world.

Each year, nearly a million people visit to The King Center to learn, to be inspired and to pay their respect to Dr. King.

Our mission is to empower people to create a just, humane, equitable and peaceful world by applying Dr. King's nonviolent philosophy and methodology (Nonviolence365°).



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www.thekingcenter.org

449 AUBURN AVENUE, NE | ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30312

Follow us on social media @TheKingCenter





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We succeed because you're determined to. Through your commitment, you're making your restaurants, your crew, and your communities better, lifting others whenever you can. Congratulations to all the inspiring members of the **National Black McDonald's Operators Association** on this 50th Golden Anniversary.





We're all unique.

Each person has different perspectives, experiences, and dreams. It's through inclusion that we learn, grow, and create a better world around us.

At Lowe's, we believe in making homes better for all, without exceptions. By celebrating the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., we also honor the legacy of equality for everyone.



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR



January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice A. King
449 Auburn Ave. NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312

Greetings,

It is my honor to address you on this important occasion as you gather to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As we pause to reflect on his commitment to nonviolence and his enduring dream of equality, I am thankful the 2022 Martin Luther King, Jr. Beloved Community Annual Commemorative Service provides an opportunity not just to remember the impact Dr. King had on his time, but also the lasting change his fight for justice continues to have on our world today.

Dr. King was a transformational leader whose message of love and redemption continues to resonate with us all. When his opponents rained down threats and violence, he stood strong in his beliefs and ultimately accomplished his goals by refusing to give in to hatred.

Today, we all draw inspiration from Dr. King's fight to right the wrongs he witnessed, and his love for each and every one of his brothers in Christ. On this day, and those that follow, may we take steps to spread peace and compassion in our own lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B:lh". The signature is stylized and appears to be a combination of the first letters of the first and last names.

Brian P. Kemp



ANDRE DICKENS
MAYOR



CITY OF ATLANTA

55 TRINITY AVE., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-0300

TEL (404) 330-6100

January 17, 2022

Dear Dr. Bernice A. King:

As the 61st Mayor of Atlanta, it is my honor to join the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc. on the historic occasion of Dr. King's 93rd birthday and the 36th anniversary of the national holiday.

Rich in history and diverse in culture, Atlanta is proud to be the home of Dr. King and the Cradle of the Civil Rights Movement. As a representation of hope and perseverance, we share the responsibility to become that shining city on a hill once again and build upon Dr. King's vision of the Beloved Community. This philosophy is based on a completely integrated society where justice, equal opportunity and love of one's neighbor rests firmly at its foundation. The City's efforts will remain consistent with the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change and other community partners to ensure Dr. King's vision becomes a reality.

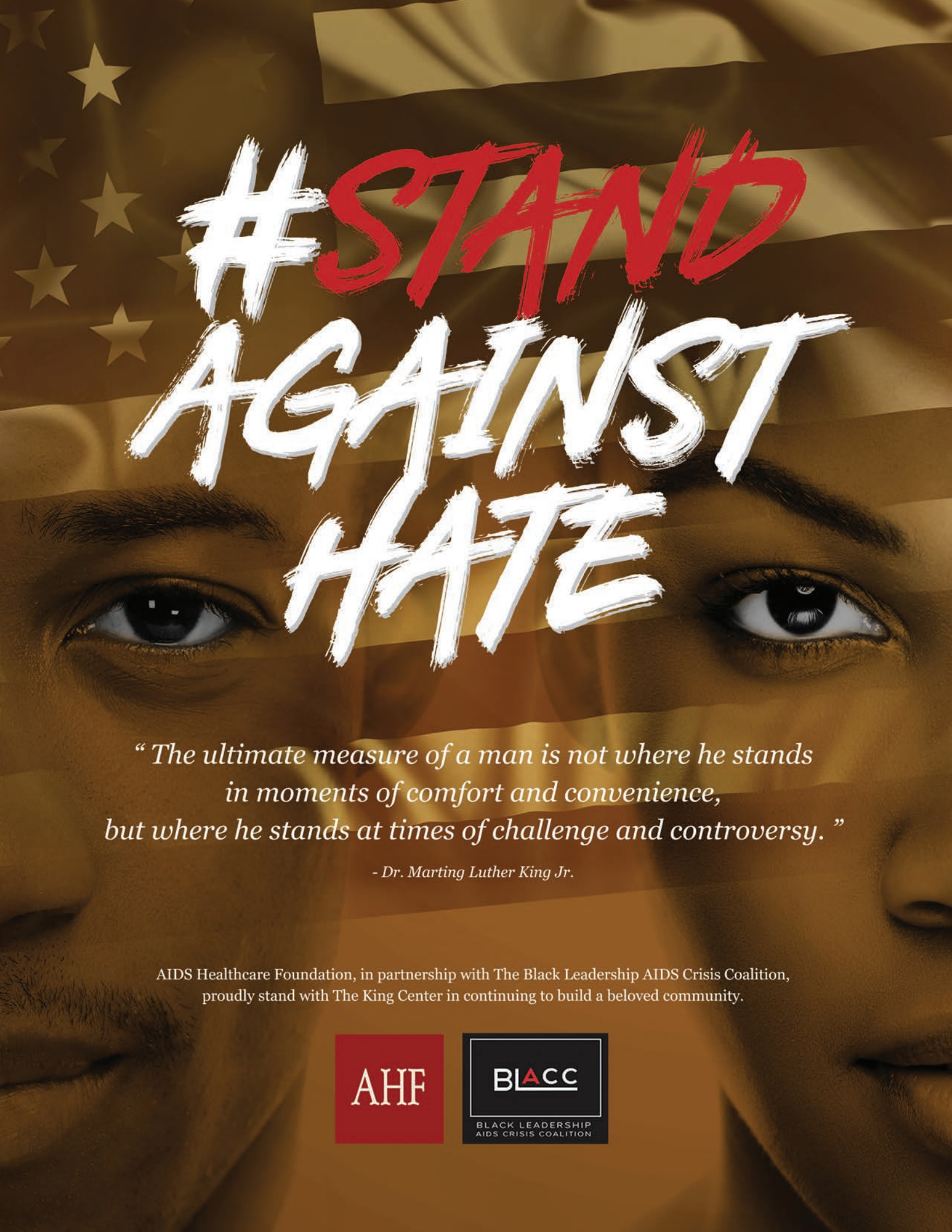
As a native Atlantan, I have dedicated my life to improving our city and serving its residents because I believe in the strength of community – especially when we work together. Dr. King once said, "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve." Therefore, on this day of service, let Dr. King's words resonate from Bankhead to Buckhead as we shift our priorities to move Atlanta forward.

On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I welcome and thank you for being a part of this celebration today. I send my best wishes for a blessed and meaningful experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andre Dickens", written in a cursive style.

Mayor Andre Dickens



#STAND AGAINST HATE

*“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands
in moments of comfort and convenience,
but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”*

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation, in partnership with The Black Leadership AIDS Crisis Coalition,
proudly stand with The King Center in continuing to build a beloved community.

AHF

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BLACK LEADERSHIP
AIDS CRISIS COALITION

2022 King Holiday Observance

It is our humble honor to sponsor this year's King Holiday Observance.

Papa Johns believes that investing in partnerships like The King Center, which brings people together to create the Beloved Community where **Everyone Belongs**, helps enable meaningful change.

We are committed to our top strategic priority of inspiring a culture of leaders who believe in diversity, inclusivity and winning. We're celebrating our progress through partnerships like this so that everybody in our global community and in Atlanta, the home of our newest corporate hub, can take pride in our transformation.



Better Ingredients.
Better Pizza.



BE THE SOLUTION.

Get Involved. Unite Together. #BeTheSolution



THE CLEVELAND BROWNS ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE
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ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

DOUG SHIPMAN
PRESIDENT

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
SECOND FLOOR EAST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
DIRECT (404) 330-6052
E-MAIL DSHIPMAN@ATLANTAGA.GOV

January 17, 2022

Greetings:

It is my honor to bring greetings on behalf of the entire Atlanta City Council as we once again celebrate and remember the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mrs. Coretta Scott King on this 2022 King Holiday. Gathering as we can in these trying times is more vital than ever as notions of community, justice, and freedom have been fundamentally questioned in our nation and throughout our world in the recent past.

It is personally quite special to be a small part of this occasion given my decade of leadership to build the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in downtown Atlanta and to showcase the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Papers Collection. Atlanta is so fortunate that the King Legacy lives every day, across institutions, throughout neighborhoods, and amidst the people young and old who live in and visit Atlanta. Moreover, the work of bringing a vision of the Beloved Community to reality is undertaken in numerous ways everyday in our city. Dr. King's ideals and ideas are an ongoing part of our community discourse, our policy making and our dinner table conversations. If Atlanta Influences Everything, the King Family always influences Atlanta.

Let us remember Dr. King's warnings of the three great scourges we must always battle to overcome- Racism leading to inequality, Consumerism leading to poverty, and Militarism leading to conflict. We at the Atlanta City Council continue to strive to bring Dr. King's solutions and vision to reality so that Atlanta can fulfill the hope Dr. King and Mrs. King had for their beloved city - that we may embody the table of brotherhood where all have a place.

May we all be one day called Drum Majors for Justice.

Sincerely,

Doug Shipman

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON COUNTY

FULTON GOVERNMENT CENTER
141 PRYOR STREET SW, SUITE 10032

Robert L. (Robb) Pitts
CHAIRMAN

ATLANTA, GA 30303

TELEPHONE (404) 613-2330

Robb.pitts@fultoncountyga.gov



January 17, 2022

Dr. Bernice A. King
Chief Executive Officer
The King Center
449 Auburn Avenue, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312

Dear Dr. King,

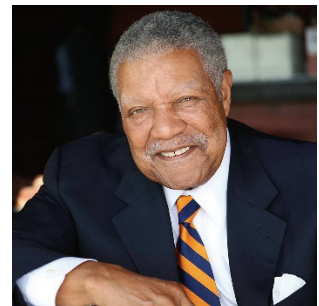
On behalf of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, I am honored to join in the Annual Commemorative Service for the 2022 King Holiday to observe and honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The King Holiday Observance means so much to so many. Dr. King fought back against injustice with his words, actions, and ultimately, his life. It is a debt that no one can repay. Instead, each year, we gather as a community in remembrance, respect, and celebration of each other and our progress as a nation.

Today's theme is "It Starts with Me: Shifting Priorities to Create the Beloved Community." Our communities serve as our backbone, both in times of hardship and times of joy. This past year has been an example of both; let us lean on each other.

Sincerely,

Robb Pitts





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King Speech at Sproul Plaza in Berkeley

Civil rights leader Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers a speech to a crowd of approximately 7,000 people on May 17, 1967 at UC Berkeley's Sproul Plaza in Berkeley, California.

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A single voice can inspire a movement.

"I Have a Dream." With these words Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s voice rang loud, passionate and true - creating a catalyst for change that continues today.

We are proud to support The King Center and their mission to empower people to create a just, humane, equitable and peaceful world.



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Lift Every Voice and Sing

By James Weldon Johnson

Lyrics:

*Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.*

Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s last book.

Nothing could be more tragic than for men **to live in these revolutionary times and fail to achieve the new attitudes and the new mental outlooks** that the new situation demands.

One of the great liabilities of history is that all too many people fail to remain awake through great periods of social change... But today our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change. The **large house** in which we live demands that we transform this **world-wide neighborhood** into a **world-wide brotherhood**. Together we must learn to live as brothers or together we will be forced to perish as fools.

We must work passionately and indefatigably to **bridge the gulf** between our scientific progress and our moral progress. One of the great problems of mankind is that we suffer from a poverty of spirit which stands in glaring contrast to our scientific and technological abundance. The richer we have become materially, the poorer we have become morally and spiritually.

Every man lives in two realms, the internal and the external. The internal is that realm of spiritual ends expressed in art, literature, morals, and religion. The external is that complex of devices, techniques, mechanisms, and instrumentalities by means of which we live. Our problem today is that we have allowed the internal to become lost in the external. We have allowed the means by which we live to outdistance the ends for which we live.

But our moral and spiritual “lag” must be redeemed. When scientific power outruns moral power, we end up with guided missiles and misguided men. When we foolishly minimize the internal of our lives and maximize the external, we sign the warrant for our own day of doom.

Our hope for creative living in this world house that we have inherited lies in our ability to re-establish the moral ends of our lives in personal character and social justice. Without this spiritual and moral reawakening, we shall destroy ourselves in the misuse of our own instruments.

Among the moral imperatives of our time, we are challenged to work all over the world with unshakable determination to wipe out the last vestiges of racism...

Racism is no mere American phenomenon. Its vicious grasp knows no geographical boundaries. In fact, racism and its perennial ally – economic exploitation – provide the key to understanding most of the international complications of this generation.

Racism can well be that corrosive evil that will bring down the curtain on Western civilization... If Western civilization does not now respond constructively to the challenge to banish racism, some future historian will have to say that a great civilization died because it lacked the soul and commitment to make justice a reality for all men.

I would say that other preservation is the first law of life. It is the first law of life precisely because we cannot preserve self without being concerned about preserving other selves. The universe is so structured that things go awry if men are not diligent in their cultivation of the other-regarding dimension. **"I"** cannot reach fulfillment without **"thou."** The self cannot be **self** without other selves. Self-concern without other-concern is like a tributary that has no outward flow to the ocean.

Deeply woven into the fiber of our religious tradition is the conviction that men are made in the **image of God**, and that they are souls of infinite metaphysical value. If we accept this as a profound moral fact, we cannot be content to see men hungry, to see men victimized with ill-health, when we have the means to help them. In the final analysis, the rich must not ignore the poor because both rich and poor are tied together. They entered the same mysterious gateway of human birth, into the same adventure of mortal life.

I suggest that the philosophy and strategy of **nonviolence** become immediately a subject for study and for serious experimentation in every field of human conflict, by no means excluding the relations between nations.

True **nonviolence** is more than the absence of violence. It is the persistent and determined application of peaceable power to offenses against the community – in this case the **world community**.

The stability of the large world house which is ours will involve a **revolution of values** to accompany the scientific and freedom revolutions engulfing the earth. We must rapidly begin the **shift from a "thing" oriented society to a "person" oriented society**. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered.

The profit motive, when it is the sole basis of an economic system, encourages a cut-throat competition and selfish ambition that inspire men to be more **I-centered** than **thou-centered**.

A true revolution of value will soon cause us to question the fairness and justice of many of our past and present policies. We are called to play the **Good Samaritan** on life's roadside; but that will be only an initial act. One day the whole **Jericho Road** must be transformed so that men and women will not be beaten and robbed as they make their journey through life. True compassion is **more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it understands that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring**.

A true revolution of values will soon look uneasily on the glaring contrast of poverty and wealth. With righteous indignation, it will look at thousands of working people displaced from their jobs with reduced incomes as a result of automation while the profits of the employers remain intact and say: **"This is not just."**

The Western arrogance of feeling that it has everything to teach others and nothing to learn from them is not just.

A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.

America, the richest and most powerful nation in the world, can well lead the way in this revolution of values. There is nothing to prevent us from **paying adequate wages** to schoolteachers, social workers and other servants of the public to insure that we have the best available personnel in these positions which are charged with the responsibility of guiding our future generations. There is nothing but a **lack of social vision** to prevent us from **paying an adequate wage** to every American citizen.

There is nothing except **shortsightedness to prevent** us from **guaranteeing an annual minimum – and livable – income** for every American family. There is nothing, except a tragic death wish, to prevent us from **reordering our priorities**, so that the pursuit of peace will take precedence over the pursuit of war.

A genuine revolution of values means in the final analysis that our loyalties must become **ecumenical rather than sectional**. Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in their individual societies.

This call for **worldwide fellowship** that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class, and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all men. This often misunderstood and misinterpreted concept has now become an absolute necessity for the survival of man...

When I **speak of love** I am not speaking of some sentimental and weak response. I am not speaking of that force which is just emotional bosh. I am speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principle of life. Love is the key that unlocks the door which leads to ultimate reality. This Hindu-Muslim-Christian-Jewish-Buddhist belief about ultimate -- ultimate reality is beautifully summed up in the first epistle of Saint John:

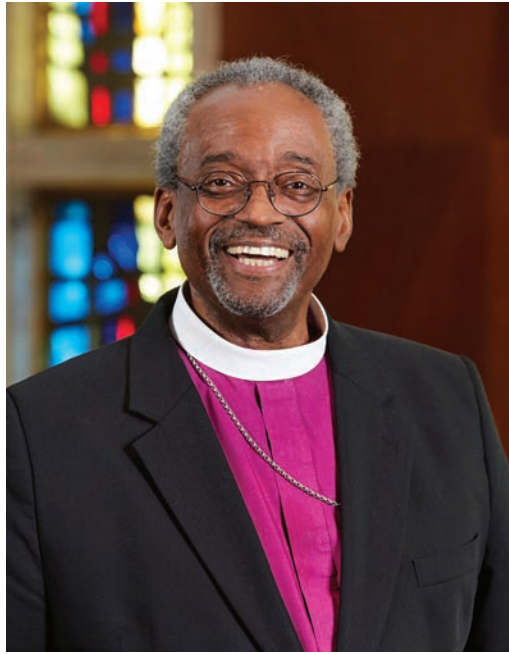
"Let us love one another, for love is God. And every one that loveth is born of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love." "If we love one another, God dwelleth in us and his love is perfected in us."

Let us hope that this spirit will become the order of the day.

We are now faced with the fact that **tomorrow is today**. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late.

There is an invisible book of life that faithfully records our vigilance or our neglect...

We still have a choice today: **nonviolent coexistence or violent coannihilation**. This may be mankind's last chance to **choose between chaos and community**.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL BRUCE CURRY

Presiding Bishop and Primate

Office of the Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry is presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church. In 2015, he was elected to a nine-year term and installed in this role at the church's 78th General Convention; he serves as chief pastor, president and chief executive officer, and chair of the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church.

Throughout his ministry, Bishop Curry has been active in social justice issues like racial reconciliation, climate change, immigration policy, and marriage equality. His vision as presiding bishop is focused on the person of Jesus and his way of love, and he invites Episcopalians to become "the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement."

Bishop Curry began ordained ministry in 1978 and served in parishes in North Carolina, Ohio, and Maryland until his election as the 11th bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina in 2000.

He has been extensively involved with Crisis Control Ministry, the Absalom Jones initiative, founding ecumenical

summer day camps for children, preaching missions, creating networks of family day care providers and educational centers, and brokering of millions of dollars of investment in urban neighborhoods.

Born in Chicago, Bishop Curry attended public schools in Buffalo, graduated with high honors from Hobart College, and received a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University. He furthered his education at The College of Preachers, Princeton Theological Seminary, Wake Forest University, the Ecumenical Institute at St. Mary's Seminary, and the Institute of Christian Jewish Studies.

Bishop Curry is the author of five books and a regular guest on national and international media outlets. In 2018, Religion News Association named Bishop Curry religion newsmaker of the year.

He is married to the former Sharon Clement, and they have two daughters, Rachel and Elizabeth.



2022 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
BELOVED COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

IT STARTS WITH ME: Shifting Priorities to Create The Beloved Community

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Pre-Service Moderator

Attorney Herbert Adams

ORGAN MEDLEY OF SPIRITUALS AND FREEDOM SONGS

Dr. Joyce Finch Johnson

Organist, Spelman College

Michael Mahaffey & D'liverance

Musical Selections

PRESIDING

Pastor Sam Collier

Lead Pastor, Hillsong Atlanta and Author of "A Greater Story"

Rev. Natosha Reid Rice

Pastor, All Saints' Episcopal Church and

Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Habitat for Humanity Int'l

OPENING ANTHEM

"Hallelujah" Chorus #44

The Commemorative Service Choir (*video*)

Dr. Patrice Turner

Director Commemorative Service Choir, Director of Worship & the Arts, Ebenezer Baptist Church

Accompanied by The Covington Regional Ballet

VIDEO PRESENTATION

The King Center

OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

Rev. Natosha Reid Rice

Pastor Sam Collier



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NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Angella Christie

Gospel's Premiere Saxophonist

THE INVOCATION

Bishop Leah D. Daughtry

National Presiding Prelate, The House of the Lord Churches

Founder, Power Rising

SCRIPTURES AND READINGS

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Rabbi Ronald M. Segal

Senior Rabbi, Temple Sinai

New Testament Scripture Reading

Minister Andrew Momon

Lead Pastor, Victory Midtown

Quran Reading

Ms. Soumaya Khalifa

Executive Director of the Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta

THE CALL TO COMMEMORATION

Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King

CEO, The King Center

MUSICAL SELECTION

"I Will Trust"

Drew Chambers

Gospel Artist

GREETINGS

The Reverend Raphael G. Warnock, Ph.D.

Senior Pastor Ebenezer Baptist Church,

United States Senate, State of Georgia



2022 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BELOVED COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

The Honorable Andre Dickens

Mayor, City of Atlanta, State of Georgia

The Honorable Brian Kemp (*video*)

Governor, State of Georgia

The Honorable Marcia L. Fudge

Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

“A Gospel Medley”

Korean Children’s Youth Choir

CRITICAL CONVERSATION:

“Faith and Reconciliation”

Moderator:

Rev. Natosha Reid Rice

Dr. Russell Moore

Director of the Public Theology Project at Christianity Today

Dr. Susannah Heschel

Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College

Reverend Shanan Jones

Senior Pastor, The Gathering Baptist Church

President, Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc.

WHITE HOUSE REMARKS

Office of the Vice President

The Honorable Kamala Harris

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

“The Prayer”

Ms. Emanne Beasha

Musical Artist



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BELOVED COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

YOUTH PRESENTATION

Presentation I: The World House

Mr. Torri Michael Khalid Rodney, Morehouse College, Junior

Mr. Joel R. Phanord, Clark Atlanta University, Junior

Miss Whitney Williams, Spelman College, Junior

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. *(video)*

Daniel Dae Kim

Actor and Producer and Founder and CEO of 3AD production company

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

Miss Daja White, 7th Grade

Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy Student

YOUTH PRESENTATION

Presentation II: The World House

Miss Taylor Bonner, Ebenezer Baptist Church, 11th Grade

Mr. Robert Starling Payne, Atlanta International School, 11th Grade

Miss Miriam Raggs, The Weber School, 11th Grade

Miss Nyha Ephraim, Camp NOW Leadership Academy, 11th Grade

Miss Salma Ramon, Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science & Technology, 9th Grade

Mr. Jose Rodriguez, Shiloh High School, 10th Grade

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Ana Navarro

Political Strategist and Commentator, CNN and The View

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Attorney Rose Wing

Former Cobb GOP Chair, Former National Federation of Republican Women Officer



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TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. Michael Tubbs

Former Mayor of Stockton, California and Executive Director, End Poverty In California (EPIC)

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Reverend Shanan Jones

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

“God Will Take Care You”

KeKe Wyatt

Recording Artist

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL BRUCE CURRY

Presiding Bishop and Primate

Office of the Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

“The Sound”

Bishop William H. Murphy, III

Pastor, The dReam Center Church of Atlanta

OFFERING

BELL RINGING CEREMONY

Members of the Atlanta Consular Corps

BENEDICTION

Dr. Don McLaughlin

Preaching Minister, North Atlanta Church of Christ

ANTHEM OF THE MOVEMENT

“We Shall Overcome”

LeAndria Johnson

Grammy Award-Winning Recording Artist



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IT STARTS WITH

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JUSTICE
NONVIOLENCE
COMPASSION
HUMILITY
HOPE
SHARING
KINDNESS
TRUTH
RESPECT
LOVE (AGAPE)
UNDERSTANDING
INTEGRITY

**SHIFTING PRIORITIES TO CREATE
THE BELOVED COMMUNITY**



2022 KING HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

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