

Marble Racial Justice Series

I Am What I Am: Queer, Questioning & Christian

*A Dialogue for World AIDS Day
with Guest Speakers*



Michael Roberson
Adjunct Professor,
The New School



Shawn Torres-Anderson
Associate Pastor
Bethany Baptist Church



Sonya Shields
Social Justice
& LGBTQ Activist

Thursday, December 1, 2022, 7:00pm

Please silence all electronic devices

WELCOME

Rev. Rashad McPherson

LITANY

Dyna Price

One: God of mercy and justice: Heal us from the ravages of HIV and AIDS that deplete immunity and make your children vulnerable to opportunistic infections.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Heal the ethnic and civil wars that contribute to the spread of HIV and AIDS.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Heal the broken social structures that condemn many to poverty and limit their resources to avoid infection.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Heal our broken hearts, relieve the grief that pains our spirits, and deliver us from the psychological pain of HIV and AIDS.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Give strength to medical professionals who have been the vanguard of care for people living with HIV and AIDS; administering life-saving treatments and affirming their dignity.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Heal the social stigma and discrimination that results in uncompassionate acts of isolation, and failure to provide quality care and prevention.

All: Heal us Lord. Have mercy on us.

One: Forgive us for being judgmental and increase our capacity to show compassion, understanding, and radical love to people affected by HIV and AIDS.

All: Heal us Lord. Make us and your church the instruments of your healing. Amen.

*— Adapted from "World AIDS Day Prayer: A Prayer for Holistic Healing"
by the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*

Program continues on other side

SOLO Worthy India Simpson, Joel Cross, Angela Cross
Tyneshia Hill, *soloist*; AJ Jagannath, *guitar*

DIALOGUE Sonya Shields, Rev. Shawn Torres-Anderson, Michael Roberson, Rev. Rashad McPherson

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

SOLO Bridge Over Troubled Water Paul Simon
Tyneshia Hill, *soloist*; AJ Jagannath, *guitar*

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



WE WELCOME OUR SPECIAL GUESTS TO MARBLE AND ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN TONIGHT'S EVENT!

Michael Roberson is a public health practitioner, advocate, activist, artist, curator, and leader within the LGBTQ community. He is an Adjunct Professor at The New School University/Lang College NYC, and Union Theological Seminary NYC. Michael is a recent TED Media Resident where he performed a global TED talk that was his love letter to the underground Black/Latinx House/ballroom community. Michael is a contributor for Time Magazine and a cultural consultant for the Pose TV show on FX.

Sonya Shields is a sought-after fundraising and communications consultant, executive coach, speaker, and workshop facilitator. She has raised over \$40 million to support the social justice and humanitarian efforts of local, national, and international organizations. Sonya currently works as the Senior Associate at Cause Effective, where she leads programming that supports leaders of color in leadership and fundraising.

Rev. Shawn Torres-Anderson is Associate Pastor of Operations at Bethany Baptist Church (Newark, NJ). For the last 8 years he has worked in public health at AIDS service organizations; including Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (Columbia, SC), as well as Gay Men's Health Crisis, Latino Commission on AIDS, and Ciciatelli & Associates all in New York City. Shawn is a Doctor of Ministry candidate at United Theological Seminary.

Tyneshia Hill is a singer, arranger, actor, producer, and director. She began studying voice classically in high school and quickly became a featured soloist, arranger, and choreographer for the Girls Choir of Harlem. Tyneshia is now the Artistic Director of the Alumni Ensemble of Harlem. When Tyneshia is not singing and producing she is somewhere bringing laughter and joy to her family and friends.



Tonight's event is hosted by our GIFTS Fellowship, a welcoming ministry at Marble Church that celebrates and supports LGBTQIA+ persons, their families and their allies. Since 1992, GIFTS (LGBTQ+ In Fellowship, Tradition, Service) has been a vibrant community at Marble and is spiritually committed to imagining a world in which people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are embraced as God's beloved children – a world in which we are all assured that we are created in God's image, each with our unique talents and gifts.



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Worship: Sundays, 11:00am

Keep the conversation going – visit Marble on Social Media

