

Founder's Day Lecture

Black Lives Matter: A Theology

Tuesday, March 5, 2023
6:30–8 p.m.

Event Space, 2nd floor of the
Younger Campus Center

Lakeland University
W3718 South Dr.
Plymouth, Wis.

Speaker: Craig Ford Jr., Ph.D.

Lakeland.edu/founders-day

Propelling the nation into a new consciousness over the last decade, the Black Lives Matter movement has galvanized conversations about the conditions under which Black people live in the United States: racism's many manifestations; social, economic, health, and other disparities; mass incarceration; police brutality—and these are just a few. Christians, like their non-Christian counterparts, are equally divided over the movement, its goals, indeed, even its slogan. Taking a different look at Black Lives Matter, Dr. Craig Ford's presentation will address Black Lives Matter through a theological lens, providing responses to questions like, 'What does the Black Lives Matter movement reveal about God and about who we are as diverse people?' and 'How should Christians (all people seeking the common good) continue to engage the movement in the year 2024?'



Ulrich Center
for Faith, Ethics & Justice



Craig A. Ford, Jr., is Assistant Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Saint Norbert College, where he teaches courses in Christian Ethics; Race, Gender and Sexuality; and Ecclesiology while also serving as co-director for the peace and justice interdisciplinary minor. He is also on the faculty at the Institute for Black Catholic Studies— hosted at Xavier University of Louisiana, the nation's only Catholic HBCU— where he teaches courses on Black Theology as well as on topics in moral theology from a Black perspective. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Yale Divinity School and Boston College, Dr. Ford writes on topics at the intersection of queer theory, critical race theory and the Catholic moral tradition.

Considering himself a scholar-activist, Dr. Ford's work bridges the academy and a wider popular audience, with publications in professional outlets like the *Journal of Moral Theology* as well as in popular outlets like *Commonweal*

Magazine and the *National Catholic Reporter*. Dr. Ford is also sought out as a workshop leader on issues of racial, sexual and gender justice, working not only with Catholic parishes but with other colleges, universities and professional bodies.

He has received numerous prestigious awards for his scholarship and his activism.