

The Reverend Dr. Liz Theoharis



The Reverend Dr. Liz Theoharis is Director of the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice at Union Theological Seminary and Co-Chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival with the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and teaches at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Rev. Dr. Theoharis is the editor of *We Cry Justice: Reading the Bible with the Poor People's Campaign* (Broadleaf Press, 2021). She is the author of *Always with Us?: What Jesus Really Said about the Poor* (Eerdmans, 2017) and co-author of *Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing* (Beacon, 2018). She has been published in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *Politico*, *The Hill*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *Boston Review*, *CNN*, *Religion News Service*, *Sojourners*, *Religion Dispatches*, *the Grio*, *La Jornada*, *Salon*, *Slate*, and elsewhere.

Rev. Dr. Theoharis has been organizing among poor and low-income communities for thirty years with organizations such as the National Union of the Homeless, the National Welfare Rights Union, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Domestic Workers United and many more. Raised in a family committed to social justice, civil liberties and

human rights, she has been involved in the movement for her whole life. Rev. Dr. Theoharis was awarded the Children's HealthWatch Champion Award in 2022, the 30th Annual Freedom Award by the National Civil Rights Museum, the Hunger Leadership Award from the Congressional Hunger Center, and Villanova Peace Award in 2021, each along with the Rev. Dr. William Barber II for their work with the Poor People's Campaign. In 2020 she was named one of 15 Faith Leaders to Watch by the Center for American Progress. In 2019, she was a Selma "Bridge" Award recipient and named one of 11 Women Shaping the Church by Sojourners. In 2018, she gave the "Building a Moral Movement" TEDtalk at TEDWomen, was named one of the Politico 50 "thinkers, doers and visionaries whose ideas are driving politics", and was also named a Women of Faith Award recipient by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Rev. Dr. Theoharis received her BA in Urban Studies from the University of Pennsylvania; her M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary in 2004 where she was the first William Sloane Coffin Scholar; and her PhD from Union in New Testament and Christian Origins.