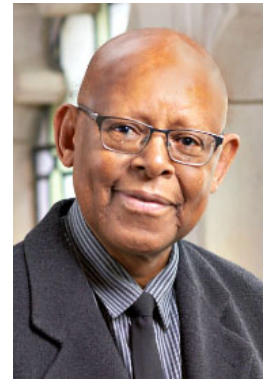


**INFORMATION EMBARGOED UNTIL 10 P.M., NOVEMBER 30, 2017**

**About James H. Cone, winner of the 2018 Grawemeyer Award in Religion**  
*Renowned theologian considers the lynching tree in the American theological imagination.*

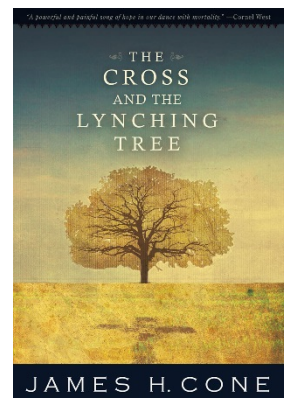
**November 30, 2017** – James H. Cone is the Bill and Judith Moyers Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary in New York. Known as the founder of black liberation theology, Cone is an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He is listed in the *Directory of American Scholars*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Religion*, *Who's Who Among African Americans*, and *Who's Who in the World*. He is the author of twelve books and more than 150 articles, and he lectures around the world.

Cone is an active member of numerous professional societies, including the Society for the Study of Black Religion, the American Academy of Religion, and the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians, and is a founding member of the Society of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion.



Cone's book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* (Orbis Books, 2011) earned him the 2018 Grawemeyer Award in Religion. Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, jointly with the University of Louisville, awards the \$100,000 prize to honor and publicize creative and significant insights into the relationship between human beings and the divine. The award also recognizes ways in which this relationship may inspire or empower human beings to attain wholeness, integrity, or meaning, either individually or in community

Cone is best known for his ground-breaking works, *Black Theology & Black Power* (1969) and *A Black Theology of Liberation* (1970); he is also the author of the highly acclaimed *God of the Oppressed* (1975), and of *Martin & Malcolm & America: A Dream or a Nightmare?* (1991); all of which have been translated into nine languages. The 30th Anniversary of the publication of *Black Theology & Black Power* was celebrated at the University of Chicago Divinity School (April 1998), and a similar event was held for *A Black Theology of Liberation* at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (April 2000) and at the Catholic Theological Society of America (June 2001). His research and teaching are in Christian theology, with special attention to black liberation theology and the liberation theologies of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He also teaches 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century European-American theologies.



Cone holds a B.A. degree from Philander Smith College (1958). In 1961, he received a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and later earned an M.A. (1963) and Ph.D. (1965) from Northwestern University. Cone has been conferred thirteen honorary degrees, including an *honoris causa* from the Institut Protestant de Théologie in Paris, France.

###