

Litany of Thanksgiving and Farewell

L. For fifteen years, Pastor Smith has served as our pastor. He has offered his gifts and has worked diligently for the building up of the Church in this place. By the grace of God, he has served us well.

P. Thanks be to God.

L. It is a time to give thanks and praise to Almighty God for what Pastor Smith has given us in our lives together.

P. Blessed be God and blessed be His Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits.

L. In this pulpit, you have proclaimed the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. You have challenged God's people and us to live out the Gospel mission in our daily lives.

P. We thank you for your preaching ministry.

L. At this baptismal pool you have baptized 45 new believers. The gift of new life in Christ comes from God and is administered by faithful pastors.

P. We thank you for presiding at the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

L. At the table, you have presided at the sacrament of Holy Communion. The meal is the Lord's and this congregation has been a provider of this meal so that young and old could be fed with the living Presence of Christ. You have presided over this meal so it could be served in an orderly fashion.

P. We thank you for presiding at the sacrament of Holy Communion.

L. You have presided over services of holy marriage. You were present at the beginning of something wonderful and encouraged the couples to include Jesus in their marriage.

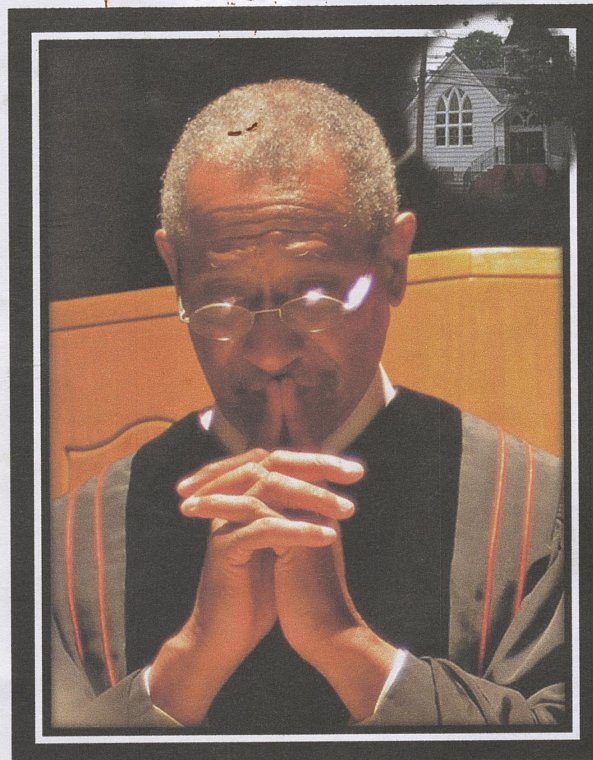
P. We thank you for sharing those times and other times of great joy.

L. You have presided at services where many gave thanks for the lives of people who had died. You walked with us in the midst of grief. You proclaimed the Good News of the Resurrection and gave us comfort.

P. We thank you for being with us in the time of loss.

L. Thank you for being a significant part of the lives of the youth and seniors. Thank you for being a visionary for the church renovation, an outdoor sanctuary, community activism and global missionary work.

ALL: We thank you for all you have done in this building for Kingdom Building. Amen.



CELEBRATION OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

THE REVEREND DOCTOR CHARLES H. SMITH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2012
THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MADISON, NJ

ORDER OF SERVICE

August 26, 2012 – 3:30pm

“Celebrating the Gospel, the Preacher and the Legacy”

“But there is a Gospel and you are privileged to be summoned to declare it. It can stand people on their feet for the living of their days. And also – what a privilege, almost too precious to be mentioned – it may be that the Gospel which you preach will then steady some poor pilgrims as they come to where the bridgeless river is and some of them, feeling the spray of Jordan misting in the face, just might thank God as they cross the river that He made you a preacher.” Gardner C. Taylor -How Shall They Preach

Rev. Dr. Valerie M. Griffin, Liturgist

Call to Worship

“Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful singing. Know that the Lord Himself is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him; bless His name. For the Lord is good; His loving kindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations.

The Processional of Clergy and

The Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir

The Invocation

The Choral Response

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit” Hymn #127

Congregational Hymn

“Blessed Assurance” Hymn #249

Scripture Lessons:

Old Testament: (paraphrased) Psalm 40

-Deaconess Gwen Pritchett

New Testament: Philippians 3:7-14

-Deacon Edward Sallie

The Occasion

Deaconess Allie Brewster

Greetings

Rev. Dr. Lee B. Spitzer

Executive Minister of ABCNJ

Litany of Thanksgiving and Farewell (back cover)

- Deacon Robert James

Ministry in Song

Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir

Presentations of Gratitude

Mayor Robert H. Conley, Borough of Madison

Men’s Ministry – Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Expressions of Gratitude – “The Legacy Continues”

Rev. Wayne L. Griffin, First Baptist Church, Madison

Dean Pansy King – Metropolitan Baptist Church, Newark

Trustee Roberta Parrish, Solid Rock Baptist Church, Irvington

Rev. Joseph Jones, Monumental Baptist Church, Jersey City

Minister Gordon Drewery, First Baptist Church, Madison

Introduction of the Preacher

Pastor Charles H. Smith

Sermonic Selection

Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir

The Preached Word

The Reverend Doctor W. Louis McDowell

Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Passaic, NJ

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Love Offering

Remarks

Rev. Dr. Charles H. Smith

Final Blessing

Rev. Dr. W. Louis McDowell