



# Class of 2024

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## GRADUATION RECOGNITION WORSHIP SERVICE

JUNE 23, 2024 | 10:30AM



REV. LEON PERRY III, SENIOR PASTOR

# Order of Service

## PRE-RECORDED SONGS OF PRAISE & WORSHIP

### VIDEO ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL and RESPONSE WORSHIP LITURGY: GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

**Leader:** Good morning, church family! Today, we gather not only to worship our Lord but also to celebrate and recognize the achievements of our graduates. Let us come together in joy and gratitude for this special occasion.

**Congregation:** We rejoice in the Lord always; again, we will say, rejoice!

**Leader:** We give thanks for the dedication, hard work, and perseverance of our graduates. As they embark on new journeys, may they carry the light of Christ with them.

**Congregation:** May the Lord bless you and keep you; may His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

**Leader:** As we lift our voices in praise, let us remember the words of the Psalmist: "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me."

**Congregation:** Our hearts leap for joy, and with our songs, we will praise Him.

**Leader:** Let us worship the Lord with gladness, for He is our God, our guide, and our strength. Today, we honor our graduates, knowing that with God, all things are possible.

**Congregation:** Amen! Let us worship together, celebrating God's goodness and the bright futures of our graduates.



# *The Processional*

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## **MCC LEGACY GRADUATES: DOCTORAL DEGREE**

**Dr. Herald “Chip” Johnson, Ed.D**

**Dr. Paulette Wilson, M.D.**

**Yvonne Bryant, J.D.**

## **MCC LEGACY GRADUATES: MASTER’S DEGREE**

**Reverend Leon Perry, III**

**Reverend Michael W. Durr**

**Minister Darnette Solomon**

**Brenda Ross**

**Dorothy Cole-Gary**

**Yolanda Hawthorne**

**Helena Wiley**

**Janice Thomas**

**Brian Graham**



**Brandon Graham**

**Yvette Graham**

**Lori Reavley**

**Gary Bell**

**LaShawn English**

**Danielle Stewart**

**Judith Bell**

**Veronica Mosely-Raggs**

**Gloria Stratton**

**MCC LEGACY GRADUATES: BACHELOR'S DEGREE**

**Brian Stewart**

**Nefertari Cutler**

**Shirlene Daniels**

**Chandra Nicks**

**Latrice Brooks**

**Gary Brooks**

**MaryE Young**



**Ruana Pace-Bell  
Deborah Peters  
Francis Isaac  
Shaniya Williams**

**MCC LEGACY GRADUATES: DIPLOMAS /  
CERTIFICATES**

**Jamaal Simms  
Marcella Lexsee-Wright  
Ruth Simpkins  
William Saunders  
Cheryl Van Eaton  
Linda Haggins  
Loretta Moppins  
Sylvia Mandeville**



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
2024 GRADUATES**

**Master Marcus Marks**



**Jah'ree Keys**

**Briana Stewart**



*Congratulations!*

**HONORABLE MENTION:**

**Leah Pruitt  
Aniya Winters**

## SCRIPTURE READING

### **Genesis 1: 1-5**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and He called the darkness "night." Evening came, and then morning: the first day.

## INVOCATION

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

### **"Lead Me, Guide Me"**

Chorus:

Lead me, guide me along the way,  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verse 1:

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Chorus:

Lead me, guide me along the way,  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verse 2

I am lost if You take Your hand from me,  
I am blind without Thy Light to see.  
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Chorus:

Lead me, guide me along the way,  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

MUSIC MINISTRY

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

SERMONIC SELECTION

**Brother Dennis Dent**  
*"The Impossible Dream"*

SERMON

**Reverend Michael W. Durr**

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

MCC 2024 GRADUATE RECOGNITION



# *Presentations & Blessing of 2024 Graduates*

Before you were even formed, God knew you.  
While in your Mother's womb, God named you.  
At your birth, God's breath filled you with life.  
Today we celebrate what you have become  
at this moment in time. And so we pray,

God of our beginnings,  
We thank you for the gifts of these graduates;  
their excitement, their awesome wonder and curiosity,  
their open speech and encouraging words.  
Their contributions have blessed and challenged us,  
and we have become a richer  
and more diverse community because of them.

As they step forward into the world that awaits,  
comfort their fears with the full knowledge of your divine presence.

Strengthen their resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus  
as modern-day disciples in a world that needs their spirit.

Guide their feet as they move through life,  
protecting them from the pitfalls of darkness  
while they help to lead future generations  
into the warmth and promise of your light.

We ask this blessing upon each of them,  
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

AMEN!



## CLOSING SONG

**"The Doxology"**

## BENEDICTION

We leave today  
going into a future  
as yet unmapped.

Take faith with you as you go;  
into the parts of your life not yet traveled by love,  
into the parts of the world unexplored by grace.  
Let compassion and hope be the roads that you follow  
today and always  
Amen.

## THREEFOLD AMEN

Celebration Reception in the  
Multi-Purpose Room

**Special Thanks to:** Rev. Leon Perry III, Faye Harris, Maxim Bokana, Aalyah Johnson, Deja Brooks, Chandra Nicks, Claudette Gregory, LaShawn English, Ray Walker, Ministry of Trustees, Media Ministry, Ushers Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, Loretta Moppins, Jeff Bezos.



REV. LEON PERRY, III

28<sup>TH</sup>

PASTORAL  
ANNIVERSARY

*Celebration*

SUNDAY, JULY 14TH  
10:30AM

YOUR PRESENCE ADDS TO  
THE JOY OF THIS CELEBRATION!

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
4610 S Prairie Avenue | Chicago, IL

[METROPOLITANCOMMUNITYCHURCH.NET](http://METROPOLITANCOMMUNITYCHURCH.NET)



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