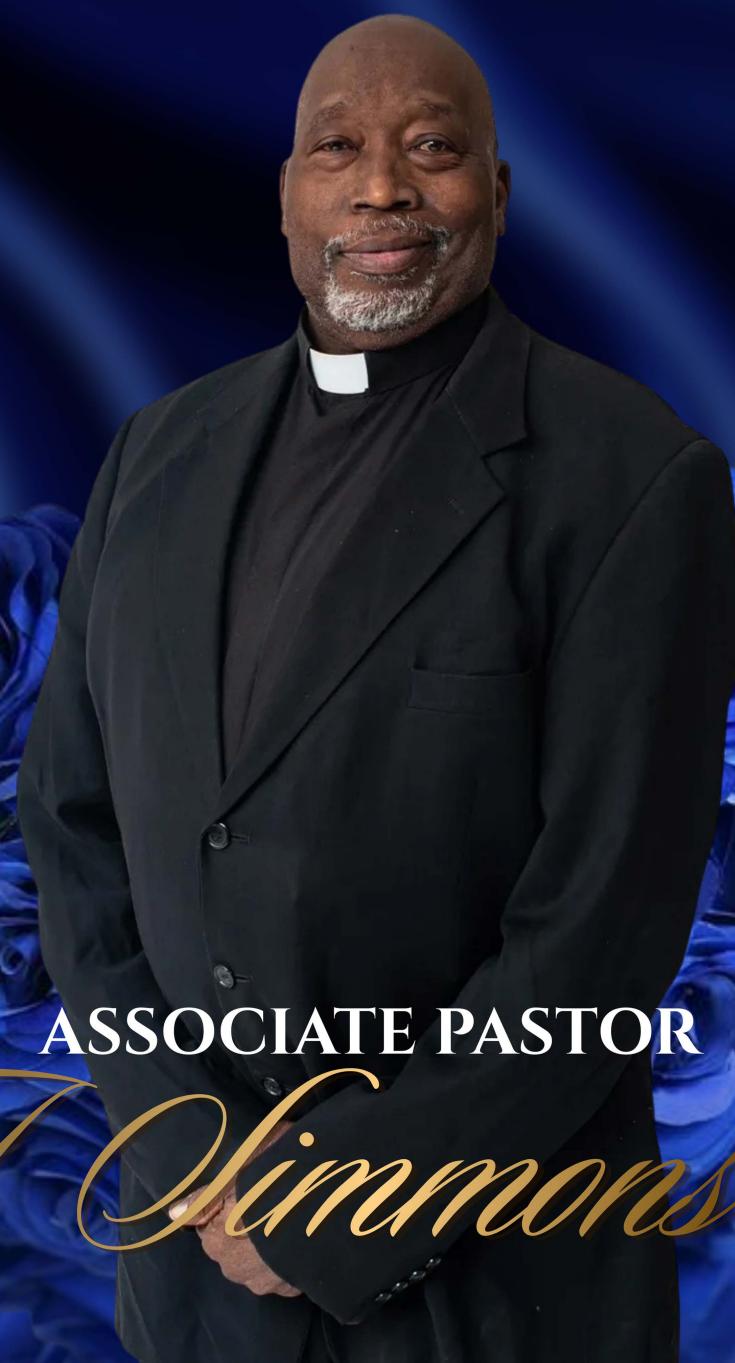


# *Celebrating the Life of*



ASSOCIATE PASTOR

*Joseph J. Simmons*

SUNRISE

MAY 14, 1964

SUNSET

JANUARY 20, 2026

JANUARY 31, 2026 | 11 AM

*Ministers For Christ Christian Center*

**PASTORS JD & DOMINIQUE MURRAY, SR. PASTORS  
PROPHETESS LOUISE HOLMAN, OVERSEER**

*Pastor JD Murray, Officiant*

# ORDER OF *Service*

**MUSICAL PRELUDE**

**GREETINGS**  
**PASTOR DOMINIQUE MURRAY**

**OLD TESTAMENT**  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR ODELL MURRAY**  
**NEW TESTAMENT**  
**MINISTER AMANDA WASHINGTON**

**SOLO**  
**MINISTER VIVIAN MURRAY**

**READING OF THE OBITUARY**  
**MINISTER K'ORA HILL**

**PRAYER OF COMFORT**  
**PASTOR RODNEY BATISTE**

**RESOLUTIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
**MINISTER AMANDA WASHINGTON**

**EXPRESSIONS**  
**CLERGY**  
**ALL OTHERS**  
**2-MINUTES PLEASE**

**SOLO**  
**PASTOR HELEN ROYSTON**  
I AM THAT I AM TABERNACLE OF PRAISE

**EULOGY**  
**SENIOR PASTOR JD MURRAY**

**RECESSIONAL**



# Celebrating

THE LIFE  
& LEGACY

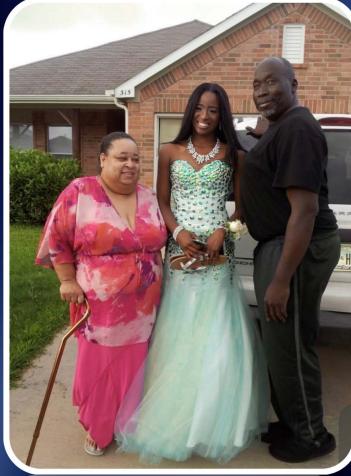


JOSEPH JEHOVAH SIMMONS, JR. WAS BORN ON MAY 14TH, 1964, IN EAST MEADOW, NY TO PROUD PARENTS, JOSEPH SIMMONS SR., AND EARTHA LEE HAYNES SIMMONS. JOE'S MOTHER WAS HIS HEART. JOSEPH WAS THE OLDEST OF 5, WITH 2 SISTERS, CASSANDRA AND KIMBERLY, AND 2 BROTHERS, EDDIE AND RAMEL.

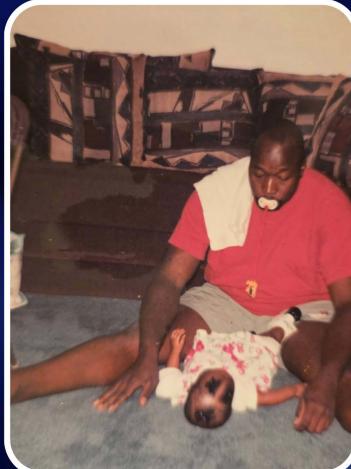
JOSEPH WAS A VETERAN WHO SPENT 4 YEARS ON THE SUBMARINE, GEORGE C. MARSHALL. HE MET DANIELLE BATISTE AT 14 YEARS OLD AND LATER MARRIED HER IN 1985. HE ALWAYS SAID SHE WAS HIS RIDE OR DIE. THEY WERE MARRIED FOR 40 YEARS. JOE AND DANIELLE WERE BLESSED WITH A BABY GIRL, RAVEN NICOLE, IN 1996...AND JOE'S WHOLE WORLD CHANGED. A GIRL DAD WAS BORN; HE EXCELLED AT BEING A DAD. LATER MAXIMILLION BATISTE WAS BORN IN 2012 AND JOE NOW HAD TWO KIDS. MAX KEPT JOE YOUNG AND ON HIS TOES. JOSEPH HAD 3 GODCHILDREN, JASMINE, JOHNATHAN AND AUSTIN. JOSEPH WAS ALL ABOUT FAMILY. JOE EXPANDED HIS FAMILY WHEN HE JOINED MINISTERS FOR CHRIST CHRISTIAN CENTER, UNDER BISHOP RICHARD L. AND PROPHETESS LOUISE HOLMAN. HE BECAME SAVED, SANCTIFIED, AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST. JOSEPH SERVED AS A DEACON FOR MANY YEARS, THEN AN ARMORBEARER, HE EVENTUALLY BECAME AN ORDAINED MINISTER AND LATER AN ASSOCIATE PASTOR. JOSEPH WAS DEDICATED TO HIS CHURCH. HE WAS THE CHURCH BUILDING MANAGER AND A TEACHER IN RHEMA WORD BIBLE SCHOOL. HE MARRIED QUITE A FEW COUPLES, AND WITH GRACE, OFFICIATED QUITE A FEW FUNERALS, INCLUDING BOTH HIS PARENTS-IN-LAW (CLARENCE & ANN BATISTE); AND WITH JOY, ONE CHRISTENING. JOSEPH HAPPILY SERVED AS ARMORBEARER AND JACK-OF-ALL TRADES UNDER SENIOR PASTORS JD & DOMINIQUE MURRAY.

JOE GRADUATED FROM RIDLEY LOWELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN ELECTRONICS. HE WORKED IN THIS INDUSTRY FOR MANY YEARS AND IS WHERE HE MET BISHOP HOLMAN. JOSEPH WAS 27-YEARS CLEAN AND SOBER AND RAN NA MEETINGS AND SERVED AS SPONSOR TO MANY. JOE WAS A 2-TIME KIDNEY TRANSPLANT PATIENT AS WELL AS AN ORGAN DONOR. THANK YOU AMANDA ROUGE! HE WAS "UNKIE JOE" TO ALL THE KIDS IN THE FAMILY AND A LISTENING EAR. HE WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY ALL HIS GRANDPARENTS AND HIS FATHER. THOSE HE LEAVES TO MOURN HIM ARE: HIS MOTHER, SIBLINGS, WIFE, DAUGHTER, SON, SON -IN- LAW, 2 SISTERS-IN-LAW, MANY AUNTS, UNCLES, NIECES AND NEPHEWS, AND A HOST OF COUSINS. HE ALSO LEAVES TO MOURN HIS 3 BEST FRIENDS, PASTOR JD MURRAY, BRO. KAMAN COOPER, AND ROB MILLER (HIS BEST MAN). WHAT IS TO BE REMEMBERED: A LEGACY OF A LIFE WELL LIVED BY A MAN FILLED WITH GENEROSITY, FUN, AND LOVE.

# Precious MOMENTS



# PRICELESS *Memories*



*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4: 7*

# Family & Friends TRIBUTES



"TO MY BEST FRIEND, PARTNER-IN-CRIME, PRIEST OF OUR HOME. I'VE KNOWN YOU SINCE I WAS 14 YEARS OLD...AND BEEN YOUR BRIDE (AS YOU CALLED ME) FOR OVER 40 YEARS. WE WERE GLUED AT THE HIP BUT NOW YOU ARE JUST GLUED TO MY HEART. YOU LEFT HERE, TRUSTING ME TO TAKE CARE OF THE FAMILY, AND YOU KNOW I GOT THIS. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR NEVER JUDGING ME AS YOU MOVED THROUGH MINISTRY AND THIS FAITH WALK FASTER THAN I DID. TO QUOTE YOU, "YOU STILL MY MAN 50 GRAND!"  
DANNEE

WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT TO SAY HERE, BUT WE MISS YOU. WE LOVE YOU. THERE WILL BE NO OTHER EARTHLY DAD LIKE YOU. YOU WERE THE BEST OPTION AND INSTANTLY BECAME THE ONLY OPTION. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO HONOR YOUR LEGACY BECAUSE YOU WERE THE ONE THAT KEPT US GROUNDED IN SO MANY THINGS THAT WE WILL NOT FORGET. AGAIN, WE LOVE SO MUCH.

- RAVEN (BABY GIRL), EVERETT & MAXIMILLION (MAXY)



A LIMB HAS FALLEN FROM OUR FAMILY TREE. WE HAVE COME TO A DAY THAT WE'D HOPE TO NEVER SEE. BUT WE CHOOSE TO REMEMBER THE BEST TIMES, WHEN YOU WERE STRONG & FULL OF LAUGHTER IS WHAT COMES TO MIND. YOU MAY NOT HAVE HAD MUCH BUT YOU WERE GENEROUS WITH IT ALL, YOUR LOVE, YOUR TIME, YOUR WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN. YOU HELPED BRING SOME TO GOD BY PRAYER CAUSE YOU KNEW THAT WAS MISSING. OUR MIND FEELS SOME EASE KNOWING YOU ARE AT REST. YOUR SOUL IS WITH THE LORD, YOU TRULY STOOD THE TEST. THRU ALL THINGS WE MUST GIVE GOD THANKS & IN TEARS WE'LL DO THAT. WE THANK GOD FOR YOUR LIFE & ALL THAT IT WAS. FROM WILDIN' IN YOUR YOUNGER DAYS BUT IN OLDER YOU DREW CLOSER TO GOD. THANK GOD FOR YOU SON, BROTHER, NEPHEW, COUSIN, UNCLE & FRIEND. WE NEVER IMAGINED AT 61 IT WOULD END. YOU FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT YEAR AFTER

YEAR, FOLKS DIDN'T KNOW ALL YOU HAD TO BARE. BUT YOU STILL KEPT ON SMILING, YOU STILL KEPT PUSHING THRU, NEVER ONCE FEELING SORRY ABOUT ALL THAT WAS PLACED ON YOU. YOU HAD DEEP LOVE FOR YOUR FAMILY, BOTH NATURAL & CHURCH. AND SOMEHOW HOW YOU EVEN REACHED STRANGERS WITH DEEP HIDDEN HURTS. THIS MAN..OUR RUN-DMC LOVING, BEST BBQ MAKING, CORNIEST JOKE TELLING MAN WILL SORELY BE MISSED. WE ARE ALL THE MORE BETTER BECAUSE FROM OUR FAMILY TREE YOU DID EXIST.

~MOMMY (EARTHA), SANDY, KIM, EDDIE, RAMEL & AUNT TINA

THIS IS A HARD ONE, KNOWING I WAS THE LAST PERSON TO PHYSICALLY LOOK YOU IN YOUR EYES AND HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOU MY FRIEND. BUT KNOWING THE PERSON YOU ARE AND THAT YOU ARE AT PEACE WITH THIS GIVES ME ASSURANCE KNOWING THE MAN OF GOD IS WITH HIS FATHER IN HEAVEN. LOVE YOU MY FRIEND UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.

BRO. KAMAN COOPER

*"These we love don't go away they walk beside us every day unseen, unheard but always near, still loved, still missed, and forever dear."*



# FOREVER IN OUR *Hearts* FOR MY UNKIE JOE



YOU WERE NEVER JUST MY UNCLE, YOU WERE MY STAND-IN FATHER, MY STEADY PLACE, MY SAFE ARMS, THE ONE WHO SHOWED UP WITHOUT QUESTION AND LOVED ME LIKE IT WAS YOUR JOB. YOU FILLED A ROLE YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TAKE, BUT YOU CARRIED IT WITH PRIDE. YOU GUIDED ME, PROTECTED ME, AND MADE SURE I NEVER FORGOT HOW IMPORTANT LAUGHTER WAS. "PULL MY FINGER," YOU'D SAY, THAT GRIN ALREADY GIVING YOU AWAY. I'D FALL FOR IT EVERY TIME A FART, A LAUGH, NO SHAME AT ALL, ME LAUGHING SO HARD I COULD BARELY BREATHE. THEN THERE WAS YOUR OTHER FAVORITE LINE: "I'M GONNA MAKE YOU FALL." AND SOMEHOW, YOU ALWAYS DID CATCHING ME OFF GUARD, SENDING ME DOWN IN A BURST OF LAUGHTER. UNTIL I FINALLY GOT HIP TO YOUR WAYS. BEFORE YOU COULD EVEN TRY, I'D LAY RIGHT DOWN ON THE FLOOR, WAITING YOU OUT, AND WE'D LAUGH EVEN HARDER TOGETHER. THOSE WEREN'T JUST JOKES THEY WERE LOVE IN ITS PUREST FORM, MOMENTS I'LL CARRY WITH ME FOREVER, PROOF THAT JOY CAN LIVE IN THE SIMPLEST MEMORIES. I'LL MISS YOU MORE THAN WORDS CAN HOLD. YOUR VOICE. YOUR PRESENCE. THE WAY YOU MADE EVERYTHING LIGHTER JUST BY BEING YOU. BUT MY HEART FINDS PEACE KNOWING YOU GOT TO MEET MY SON, KAIDENCE. YOU GOT TO HOLD HIM, TO LOOK INTO HIS TINY FACE, TO LEAVE YOUR LOVE WITH HIM TOO. THAT MEANS EVERYTHING TO ME. REST EASY, UNKIE JOE. YOUR LOVE LIVES ON IN MY HEART, IN MY LAUGHTER, AND IN THE STORIES I'LL TELL MY SON ABOUT THE MAN WHO WASN'T JUST MY UNCLE, BUT MY FATHER IN EVERY WAY THAT MATTERED.♥

"IF I HAD TO FIND ONE SENTENCE THAT EXPLAINED OUR RELATIONSHIP IT WOULD BE "SIS I GOT YOU!!". I FIRST HEARD THIS PHRASE AS A KID WHEN LIFE WAS SIMPLE AND ALL I WANTED WAS A PICKLE FROM THE CORNER STORE. LATER AS A TEENAGER WHEN I HAD MY FIRST REAL HEARTBREAK, YOU WERE THERE LETTING ME KNOW YOU GOT ME. AND I STARTED TO REALLY UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF THESE WORDS. YOU WALKED ME DOWN THE AISLE AT MY WEDDING AND YEARS LATER STOOD BY ME IN MY DIVORCE WITH THE SAME WORDS: SIS I GOT YOU!! YOU STOOD BY EACH OF MY CHILDREN: BRITTANY, JORDAN, MAXIMILLION AND NEPHEWS JERRAD AND DARNEL AS A STRONG FATHER FIGURE WITH THOSE SAME WORDS: SIS I GOT YOU!!! THERE WAS NEVER A TIME THAT I DID NOT KNOW YOU WERE THERE FOR ME AND MY FAMILY. EVEN NOW I KNOW YOU ARE IN HEAVEN TELLING ME : SIS I STILL GOT YOU!! AND I DON'T DOUBT THAT FOR A SECOND. I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR BEING MY BIG BROTHER, THANK YOU FOR BEING MAX'S DAD, THANK YOU FOR BEING UNKIE JOE!!! WE LOVE YOU MORE THAN WORDS CAN EVER EXPRESS!! LOVE YOU

~YOUR SIS PEACHES

BRITTANY, JORDAN, MAXIMILLION, JERRAD, DARNEL, JAVON, KEVIN AND KAIDENCE



"TO BE ABSENT FROM THE BODY IS TO BE PRESENT WITH THE LORD."

BROTHER SIMMONS WAS SUCH A GENTLE AND LOVING SOUL, A MAN OF TRUE INTEGRITY WHO ALWAYS TREATED MY FAMILY WITH SO MUCH KINDNESS AND RESPECT. I WILL ALWAYS CHERISH HEARING HIM READ THE WORD, DRESSED IN ALL BLACK, WITH THAT STRONG VOICE AND POWERFUL PRAYERS THAT COULD FILL THE ROOM. BUT MOST OF ALL, MY HEART IS WITH HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE AND PRECIOUS DAUGHTER. I KNOW NO WORDS CAN TAKE AWAY THIS PAIN, BUT PLEASE KNOW YOU ARE SURROUNDED BY SO MUCH LOVE. HIS NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE GAVE ME SUCH PEACE ABOUT HIS TRANSITION, AND I TRULY BELIEVE GOD WAS PREPARING OUR HEARTS, EVEN WHEN WE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

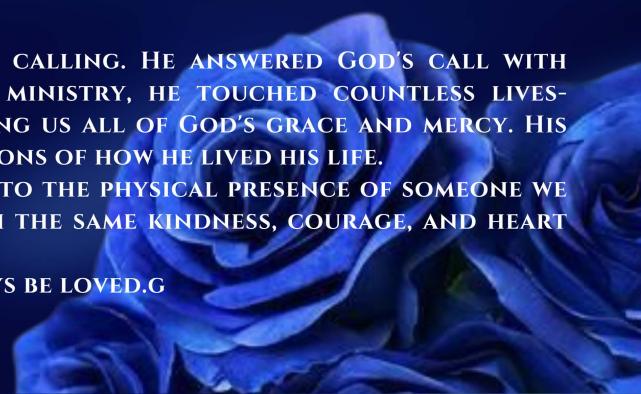
~ALEXIS WILLIAMS & THE CHAMPION FAMILY.

UNCLE JOE WAS NOT ONLY A PASTOR BY TITLE, BUT A SHEPHERD BY CALLING. HE ANSWERED GOD'S CALL WITH HUMILITY, OBEDIENCE, AND UNWAVERING DEVOTION. THROUGH HIS MINISTRY, HE TOUCHED COUNTLESS LIVES- COMFORTING THE BROKENHEARTED, GUIDING THE LOST, AND REMINDING US ALL OF GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY. HIS SERMONS WERE NOT JUST WORDS FROM THE PULPIT; THEY WERE REFLECTIONS OF HOW HE LIVED HIS LIFE.

TODAY, WE SAY GOODBYE-NOT TO THE LOVE, NOT TO THE IMPACT, BUT TO THE PHYSICAL PRESENCE OF SOMEONE WE WILL ALWAYS HOLD CLOSE. MAY WE HONOR UNCLE JOE BY LIVING WITH THE SAME KINDNESS, COURAGE, AND HEART THAT HE SHOWED US.

REST IN PEACE. YOU WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED, AND YOU WILL ALWAYS BE LOVED.G

~ CYNTHIA, SHANITA, DAVID, STEPHANIE, GRANDS & GREAT GRANDS



# Acknowledgement

THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH SIMMONS EXTENDS OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR THE OUTPOURING OF LOVE, SUPPORT, AND KINDNESS SHOWN TO US DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. YOUR PRAYERS, COMFORTING WORDS, AND THOUGHTFUL GESTURES HAVE BROUGHT US STRENGTH AND PEACE WHEN WE NEEDED IT MOST.

WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PASTORS, OVERSEER, MINISTERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH FAMILY, THE DOCTORS AND MEDICAL STAFF AT ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL, OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR YOUR CARE AND COMPASSION. WE ARE ESPECIALLY THANKFUL TO THOSE WHO TRAVELED, PREPARED MEALS, SENT FLOWERS, OR OFFERED HELPING HANDS IN SO MANY MEANINGFUL WAYS.

ALTHOUGH OUR HEARTS ARE HEAVY, WE FIND COMFORT IN KNOWING HOW DEEPLY JOSEPH WAS LOVED AND HOW FONDLY HE WILL BE REMEMBERED. MAY GOD BLESS EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY.

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION,  
THE SIMMONS FAMILY

*Repass*

T.E. HARMAN CENTER  
226 MATLAGE WAY, SUGAR LAND, TX 77478  
2 - 8 PM

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

