



**December 3, 2018**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

On Sunday, December 2, 2018, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, 1401 East Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona announced that Reverend Terry Eugene Mackey has accepted the call to become the 11<sup>th</sup> Pastor in the church's 96-year history. Reverend Mackey succeeds the late Bishop Alexis A. Thomas, who was preceded by Pastor Wesley Jones, Sr. Pastor Mackey will preach his initial sermon as Pastor of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Phoenix, Arizona on Sunday, December 16, 2018.

Pastor Terry E. Mackey was born in Memphis, Tennessee to his proud parents, Pastor Eugene and Dawn Mackey, in 1982. The golden text that serves as the impetus for his life is Matthew 6:33 which states: "But Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you."

He is a product of the Memphis City School System graduating from Whitehaven High School. After graduating with the highest honors from Whitehaven, he attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. While at Fisk, he was the president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for two years, President of his class and crowned Mr. Fisk University. He graduated Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa from Fisk University with a B.A. in Religious Studies.

In May of 2007, Pastor Mackey received the Master of Divinity Degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. Immediately following graduation, he became the Minister to Youth and Young Adults at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, one of the nation's largest predominantly African American churches, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Marcus D. Cosby. At Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Pastor Mackey became the primary teacher and preacher in the absence of the Rev. Dr. Cosby.

In September of 2010, Reverend Mackey became the Pastor of Riceville Mount Olive Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. At Riceville Mount Olive, he has doubled annual revenue and tripled church attendance. He has also received numerous awards in the field of oratory, including, among others, The Prudential Spirit of Community Award, The NAACP Act-So National Oratorical Winner, and The Alpha Phi Alpha National Oratorical Winner. Presently, he is a candidate for the Doctor of Ministry Degree at Memphis Theological Seminary, where his doctoral concentration is church growth and church planting. After arriving in Phoenix, Pastor Mackey plans to continue Pilgrim Rest's involvement in the community by actively participating and maintaining a visible presence.

Pastor Mackey is married to his sweetheart, Lynn F. Mackey, and they have three children, Micah, Timothy, and Barbara.

The community is invited to attend this historic event in the annals of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, as Pastor Terry Mackey succeeds the beloved, late Pastor, Bishop Alexis Thomas. The initial sermon service will begin at 7:30 am on Sunday, December 16, 2018. For more information, please call the Pilgrim Rest Administrative offices at (602) 258-0831.