

**BY:** Senator COMRIE

**COMMEMORATING** the 100th Anniversary of Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc., and honoring its enduring legacy of faith, leadership, and community service

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those religious institutions whose commitment to spiritual guidance, community outreach, and faithful service has strengthened the quality of life in the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS,** Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc. traces its origins to 1920, when Sister Maude Ford established a ministry in her home at 16 West 136th Street in New York City, faithfully answering her calling to serve the community through worship and evangelism; and

**WHEREAS,** The ministry later expanded to Jamaica, Queens, where open-air meetings began in July 1925, followed by worship services in the basement of Sister Ford's home at 157-01 110th Avenue; and

**WHEREAS,** On March 7, 1926, the garage adjacent to the residence was dedicated as Gospel Truth Tabernacle, and in April 1931, the church was formally incorporated as Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS,** Pastor Maude Ford, affectionately known as "Mother Ford," became widely respected for her faith, prayer ministry, and compassionate service, drawing many people to the church through her ministry of healing and encouragement; and

**WHEREAS,** As the congregation grew, Mother Ford led the effort to construct a larger sanctuary, overcoming significant financial challenges through prayer, sacrifice, and steadfast determination until the sanctuary was completed in 1950; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1969, Mother Ford passed the mantle of leadership to Elder Marion Lockett, affectionately known as "Pop Lockett," who expanded the church's outreach and oversaw the acquisition of neighboring properties, further establishing the church as a spiritual cornerstone in the Jamaica community; and

**WHEREAS,** Following Pastor Lockett's passing, Elder Derrick Farmer was ordained Pastor on August 10, 2004, and under his leadership the church completed major construction and sanctuary restoration projects without incurring borrowed debt; and

**WHEREAS,** Suffragan Bishop Derrick Farmer revitalized numerous ministries within the church and strengthened its commitment to

community outreach, including the establishment of HarvestFest, an evangelistic initiative which brought ministry and support directly into the surrounding Queens community; and

**WHEREAS**, For a century, Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc. has remained steadfast in its mission of worship, prayer, service, and outreach, impacting countless lives throughout Queens and beyond; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc., and to honor its extraordinary legacy of faith, perseverance, and community leadership; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Christ Pentecostal Temple, Inc.