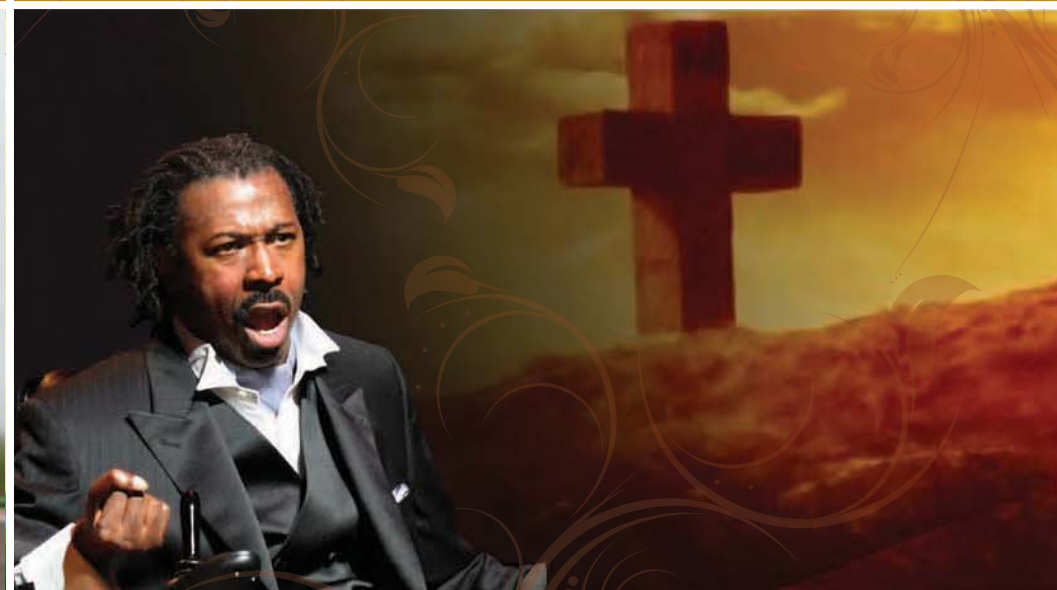


Theodore "Teddy" DeReese Pendergrass



The *L*ORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest  
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Interment:  
West Laurel Hill Cemetery  
225 Belmont Avenue  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Sunrise  
March 26, 1950

Sunset  
January 13, 2010

Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 9am

ENON TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
2800 Cheltenham Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19150

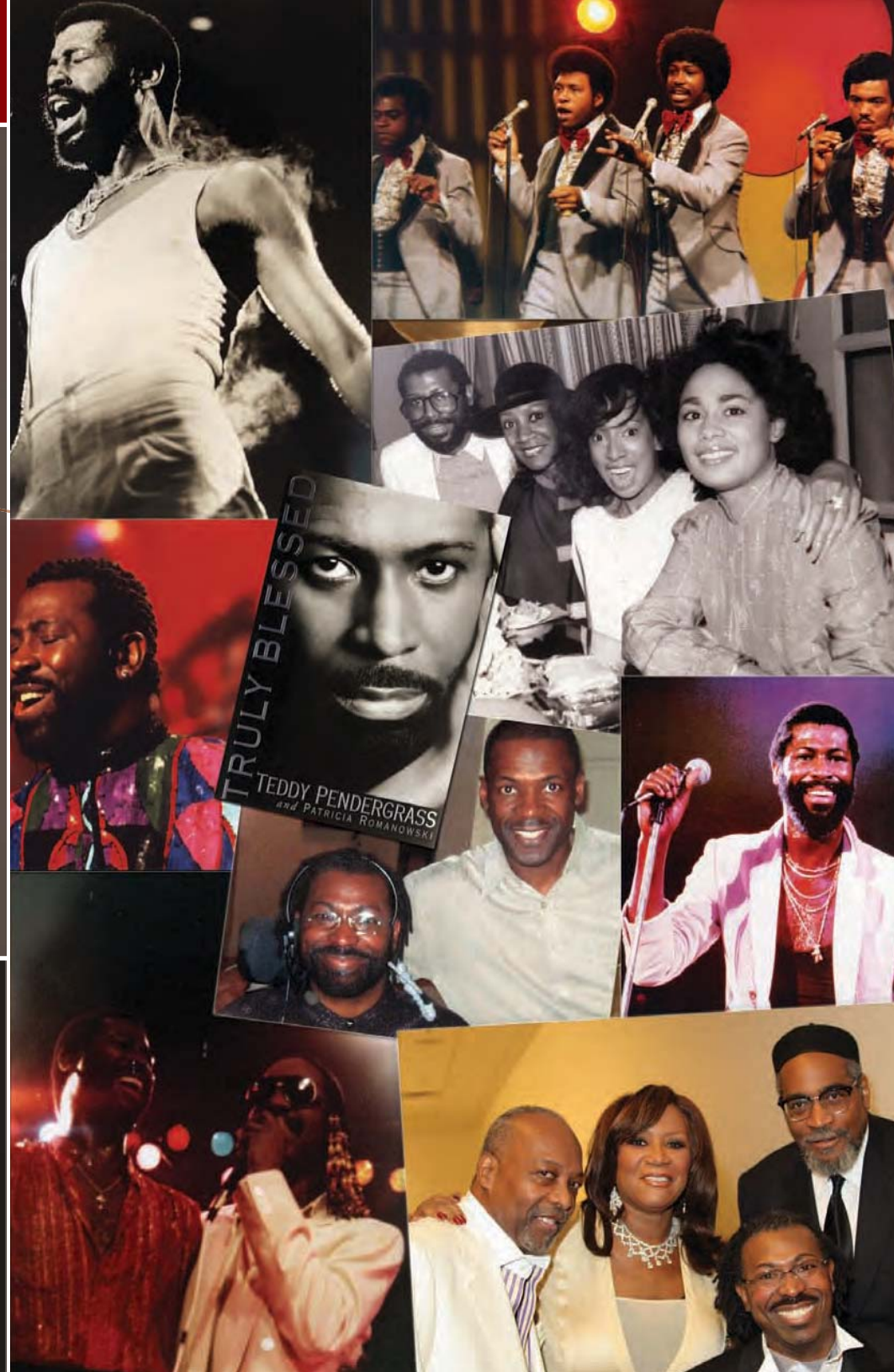
Reverend Dr. Alyn E. Waller,  
Senior Pastor  
Officiant

# Theodore "Teddy" DeReese Pendergrass



Theodore "Teddy" DeReese Pendergrass was born on March 26, 1950 to the late Jesse Pendergrass and Ida Burgess Pendergrass in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the only child born to this union and was loved dearly by his mother. He and his mother had a very special relationship, she supported his every endeavor.

Teddy was an extremely gifted child, blessed by God with the gift of music. Teddy's relationship with God truly began in his mother's womb. At the tender age of two his mother would stand him on a chair in church and he would sing praises to the Lord. At the age of ten he was licensed to the Gospel Ministry. He was educated in the Public Schools and attended Edison High. As a student he sang in the citywide McIntyre Elementary School Choir and in the All-City Stetson Junior High School Choir.





Teddy chose to exercise his musical gifts initially by playing the drums for various local groups including The Cadillačs. It was while drumming for Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes that his vocal giftedness was discovered. In 1972, he signed to Gamble & Huff's Philadelphia International Records label. Teddy was the first male singer to sell out "Ladies Only" concerts. He experienced great success in his musical career and traveled the world sharing his gift. Teddy was blessed to have multiple platinum and gold albums.

On March 18, 1982, a tragic accident rendered him paralyzed. This tragedy did not halt Teddy's musical journey. He was neither bitter nor consumed with self-pity, he made it clear that "there is life after paralysis". His determination to live an active life led him to establish The Teddy Pendergrass Alliance which is an organization formed to assist those affected by paralysis to live life to its fullest. He also partnered with the National Spinal Cord Association in Washington, DC. Throughout his life, Teddy was an inspiration to many young artists, he and Tyrese Gibson developed a very close bond. The "Teddy 25" event was a milestone in his life; he reached out to recognize and honor those who supported him over the years. He continued to share his gifts with the world until his retirement.

Teddy loved life and would light up any room with his million dollar smile. He loved his family and held them close to his heart. This love was evidenced in the way that he encouraged family and friends to share private moments with him. He and his wife Joan enjoyed spending every possible moment together; laughter was a tremendous part of their life. Their love for each other was ordained by God and they became one in marriage. Teddy returned to the Lord Jesus Christ and together they joined the Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church.

Teddy leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife, Joan Pendergrass, his devoted mother, Ida Pendergrass, his children, Teddy II (daughter-in-law, Felicia), Tishia (son-in-law, Cedric) and LaDonna; stepdaughters Sherilla Lestrade and Jessica Avila; grandchildren, Montaurius Drane, Desaray Drane, Teddy Pendergrass III, Alaynna Nida Sky Pendergrass, Jasmine Lestrade, Gabriel Gomes, Jeremiah Sanford and Aunt Elouise Jenkins of South Carolina. In addition to his immediate family, Teddy will be dearly missed by his godchildren, family and friends; especially, his cousins, Jerry and Francina Pendergrass, George Mouzon, Pee Wee Mosley and Neverland Dent; his special family; Joyce Canderlero, Edwin Dereese Canderlero, Antonio Canderlero, Keya Perinchief, Kylid Perinchief, Lori Edmonds, Paya Williams, "second Mom" Louise Hollerway, his manager's Danny Markus, Shep Gordon and Allan Strahi and longtime friend, Henry Evans, as well as a world of fans.

# Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;  
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;  
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.



# John 14:1-3

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.  
In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you.  
I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,  
I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.



# The Gift of Voice

THEODORE D. PENDERGRASS 1ST SONG HE LEARNED FROM RADIO AT 3 YEARS OLD. HE SANG THIS SONG IN CHURCH AT THE AGE OF 3½.



"Your Legacy Will Forever Live On." ~ Love Teddy, Jr.



## To My Son

My son, My Son, My one and only Son; I could say why did you leave me? Yet I know God's will has to be done. Son, it was at your early conception God told me who you would be; healthy, wealthy and wise He said. He even told me your name. So I looked for a miracle, I expected the impossible, felt the intangible and seen the invincible, and it was you my son, it was you. You see, after much prayer since having six mis-carriages, on March 26, 1950 I was able to really see the reality of God's miracle.

My son, we spent many inseparable, beautiful and joyful years together and I will cherish those memories all the days of my life; for you showed me all the love that God gave to you. Son, it was many days of tears together, but God brought us through it all. I have no regrets of the years we shared for I know God was always in control.

Teddy, it was truly a joy bringing you up for you were the joy of my life and know that I will see you again on the other side. As you always said, we are truly blessed; and as I always said to God be the Glory! I Love You!

Mom

## Dad,

It's hard to imagine a world without you in it, especially when you've meant so much to so many. As we move forward in our lives, we promise to remember always acknowledge you in all that we do. The world may know you as their legend but, we will always remember you as our Dad. You will live on in our hearts forever. We love you and will miss you dearly.

Your girls... LaDonna & Tishia

My dearest Teddy... How do I tell you how much you mean to me? You are an inspiration to me. You lighten my heart and my soul. When we first met I felt you tugging at my heart your spirit fell into place with mine and we both knew that this was the time for us. We had found each other and our love was an everlasting one.

You brought me to a place that I could not imagine. A place that would be unimaginable to others. My love and happiness grew without limits and my joy soar on the wings of a butterfly. You taught me a new meaning for the word life and we taught each other a new way to laugh. We surrendered ourselves to each other whole heartedly and we complete each other in a way that will never be known.

My love, what do I say to you that my eyes have not told you. What do I say to you that my soul have not spoken to you. What do I say to you that my heart has not express to you all I can say is that I love you.

I love you more today than yesterday. I love you more this minute than the few minutes before and I will love you more tomorrow with my every being. My love for you will be an everlasting love.

Joan Pendergrass



## *S*o Long My Friend...

It's hard to say goodbye to a great friend and boss. We've spent many good times together. You will truly be missed. I remember when you said to me, "Henry, you can't quit and I can't fire you". From that day on we grew as brothers and best friends. I can't put in words what our friendship meant to me. We've shared many, many memories over the years, traveled across the country, went on tour, had good times, and good laughs. Just in case you're wondering ....ALL your secrets are still safe with me. As promised, I will look after Mom and Joan as much as I can. Rests assure that they will be looked after. So long my friend. May the heavens shine upon your smile as you walk through the gates.....Gone but not forgotten.

Henry Evans

## *H*ave you ever met an angel?

Many of you may have been in the presence of one at some point in time but may have been too busy to notice their wings. I've met an angel before and many of you have felt his wings. Some of you know him as Teddy, Teddy P, TP, Grandpa, Pa, or something else. He was Pop to me and Dad to others and when you were in his presence you felt greatness, warmth, and love all around. The vibe transcended words. Pop was an angel to my mom. He was an angel and blessing to my family and me. He showered my mother with so much love. It was seen in his eyes, felt from his heart, seen in his touch; it was something so special to witness because I had never in my life seen this kind of love. I was fortunate to witness a kind of relationship I had never in my life seen, true sacrificial and real love. His love taught me a lot and their love taught me even more. His love made my heart grow and trust me I'm not easy to win over. But after being around Pop a few times, my heart was open and I was able to see the man my mother had fallen in love with and why. His heart was massive and strong. He had passion beyond belief and a desire that drove him endlessly. He was dedicated, funny humble, and oh so loving. And his smile, oh his smile, that beautiful smile and white teeth.

Words can never describe the love that was shared and the blessing it was to be a part of such a loving couple. They were one, their hearts were intertwined and their real love, screamed for miles. He impacted my life in so many ways, in a short amount of time. I've never seen a man love a woman the way Pop loved my mom. They were soul mates and it was their time, and I am sure he would not have wanted it any other way.

He will be deeply missed and there will never be a day that he isn't remembered. I can hear him say, "I love you", I can see his smile; I can hear his voice, his laugh, forever and always. I love you!

Jess



# Order of Services

ORGAN PRELUDE

Dwayne Dunham

PROCESSIONAL

CLOSING OF THE BIER

OPENING WORDS OF COMFORT

HYMN OF COMFORT

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament  
New Testament

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
John 14:1-3

PRAYER OF COMFORT

SELECTION

I Am Who I Am  
Rodney Harris

CITATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Congressman Chaka Fattah  
Church Clerk

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor  
The Honorable Chaka Fattah, US Congressman, 2nd District  
The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr., US Senator  
The Honorable Michael A. Nutter, Mayor  
The Honorable Christine M. Tartagilone, State Senator, 2nd District  
The Honorable Louise Williams Bishop, State Representative, 192nd District  
The Honorable Blondell Reynolds Brown, City Councilwoman-At-Large

REMARKS

Pastor Sharon Wilder  
On behalf of Ida Pendergrass

Erica Reynolds & Keavy Wells-Hills  
On behalf of Ladonna and Tishia

Danielle Evans  
On behalf of Henry Evans

Danny Markus

Micheline Carbon  
On behalf of Joan Pendergrass

MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Melba Moore  
Tyrese  
Bunny Sigler  
Gerald Austin  
Lyfe Jennings  
Musiq  
Stephanie Mills

OBITUARY

Dyana Williams

RECESSIONAL SELECTION

Stevie Wonder

EULOGY

Rev. Dr. Alyn E. Waller

SELECTION

Safe in His Arms  
Charlene Holloway