

**The Historic**

# **PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY CHURCH**



**"The Church That Love Built"**

**Prayer, Sunday, May 22, 2016**

**Dear Father God, we bow before You this morning with gratitude for Your undying Love that has allowed us yet again to arise in our right minds to see this, another beautiful Sunday in which to worship You in this Holy Sanctuary. We lift our hearts and souls to You and implore Your continued compassion upon us as we struggle to walk the straight and narrow path You carved out for us when You took on mortal form to save us from our sins and purchased our salvation through crucifixion and the miracle of resurrection.**

**We thank you for allowing us to come together again under this roof to praise Your Holy Name, to hear Your Word and absorb it into the depths of our consciousness so that when we leave this sacred place we will be changed and find it impossible to repeat those errors of behavior that have plagued us so often in the past. We thank you for the opportunity to clean the slate and begin anew our pursuit of atonement, or at-one-ment, unity with You.**

**Father, You know our thoughts and see the circumstances in which we as individuals and as a community exist in these days of challenge in our city and in our country. Strengthen us in our ability and determination to stem the backward flow, or regression of progress that increasingly threatens us as a people, both from within and from outside of our ranks.**

**With growing concern we see today the increasing presence of disciples of the Antichrist establishing themselves more prominently in positions of power and influence in our country**

**and in our world, confidently granting to the weak minded, fearful, and confused amongst us the permission to do evil to themselves and to others, and callously providing their bewitched victims with drugs and weapons, the unforgiving tools of self-destruction. In the face of this hellish threat, we implore You this morning, Father God, to energize this community of faith to carry out Your Will by maximizing our visibility outside of these walls and intensifying the light that radiates from this sanctuary so that it becomes known and respected as a beacon and safe harbor for those nearby and from afar who see Your Light shining from within this temple of worship, welcoming them to the salvation of Your Holy Spirit.**

**Help us to understand that it is incumbent upon each member of this congregation to become identified in this city, and beyond, as a member of the church on Woodward and Pingree, and that no one, from the shepherd of this flock to its newest member, is exempt from this mandate that demands our visibility outside these walls as individual witnesses to the Life of the Spirit at People's Community Church. Awaken in us the fact that we as individuals are not called to hide our light under a bushel, but to let it shine wherever we go, thus bringing light to those who live in darkness, and thereby enhancing the growth of the community of believers.**

**Help us, Father, to know that we cannot create or develop Your Kingdom here on earth or grow Your Church by attempting to lead from the rear; but, rather, that each of us from the pulpit to the pew must step out and be seen, recognized, and identified as Your disciples who make People's Community Church their vibrant spiritual base of operations.**

**Lord God, today and for all time, make us instruments of Thy Peace.**

**These entreaties and expressions of gratitude we lift to You this morning in Your Divine Names of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Let the children of God say, "Amen."**