THE HISTORIC
CALVARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
OF DOVER, DELAWARE

From the Office of the Senior Pastor
Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D. Min.

BISHOP'S MISSIVE #207
(Released November 4, 2026, A.D.)

Greetings CBC Family & Friends,

The 2026 midterm elections are over, and we receive this moment with hope—and with an equally serious sense of responsibility. For those of us who have longed for a different direction, there is room to breathe, to give thanks, and to imagine what may now become possible. But we must be clear about what has been won. An election creates an opportunity. What those entrusted with power do with that opportunity will determine its significance.

The families struggling to afford groceries need more than a victory speech. The seniors choosing between necessities need more than a celebration. The children attending underfunded schools, the workers whose wages cannot sustain their households, and the communities still confronting racial injustice deserve more than another promise. We deserve a government that recognizes our dignity and responds to our circumstances.

The prophet Micah asks what the Lord requires: "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8, ESV). That is the word for this moment. Justice demands that we examine who benefits from public decisions and who continues to bear our burdens. Those who have received the votes must now accept the accountability.

Those elected must demonstrate the capacity to govern, negotiate responsibly, protect democratic institutions, and pursue policies that improve people's lives. The people who helped secure victory must be vigilant when legislative priorities are established, and the Church must retain its freedom to speak.

Our gratitude for an electoral outcome cannot purchase our silence. Our proximity to political power cannot weaken our concern for people who lack it. We must be prepared to challenge those we supported when their decisions contradict the justice we profess.

The Black Church carries a history of praying, organizing, educating, marching, and insisting that this nation confront the distance between its promises and its practices. That history obligates us. Our participation does not end when the polls close. We must remain attentive, engaged, and protect the dignity of our neighbors. May our hope in God sustain our commitment to the people God calls us to serve.

✝*W. James Thomas, III*
Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D.Min., Senior Pastor

