

## **A Superlative 7th "Info-Text"**

**From the office of Bishop James Walker**

### **Preaching Without Amens:**

**This season of COVID-19 has forced preaching and worship to online platforms. Electronic worship and/or Drive-In Services are great, but they remove the feedback typical of our community. In the black experience, preaching is shared work, and when Amens fall silent, congregants are issued verbal citations for not helping the preacher.**

**In reality, perhaps congregants and preachers alike are being helped by not having to say and not being able to hear the Amen. We are on the eve of Pentecost, and we are reminded that the message of Peter preached did not receive any Amens and yet about 3,000 responded to the altar call. It may be that no hearing an Amen frees us up to be prophetic. It may also be true that listeners can be more discerning without the requirement to "amen" the preacher. Preaching without the Amen can be a truly growth-filled moment. Can I get an Amen?**

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**Wishing you God's best in all things,**

**Bishop James B. Walker**