

**The nation's first state-sanctioned Satanic Ceremony performed at the Michigan Capitol
Speech delivered by Jex Blackmore, Director of The Satanic Temple of Detroit
December 19, 2015**

Hail Comrades. Hail sisters and brothers. Hail Satan.

We are gathered here to celebrate the spirit of humanity and the dawn of a New American Era.

In a season when many commemorate the birth of Christ, we commemorate our own genesis - the enlightenment of all humanity, a revelation of our nature as written in the annals of history, a gift from Lucifer, the light bringer, the morning star, and the rebel.

We are Satanists. We engender moral, spiritual and sexual freedom, personal independence, and insist upon personal choice in all things.

We care for the significance of the individual spirit and personal moral responsibility.

If you stand here today and embrace your nature, freethinking, self-governed and godless you too are a Satanist in the eyes of many in your community, including those who represent you in your government.

We are Americans, a nation born of men and women seeking asylum from a majority religious group in control of political power who punished those who opposed them.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "Our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions any more than our opinions in physics or geometry."

On these very steps two weeks ago, hundreds of Christians gathered to demand exclusion of our fellow countrymen from the right to join in marriage under the guise of religious freedom. They slandered the name of this great country for embracing the diversity of its citizens. They cheered in praise when called upon to radicalize. For too many, religion has become an excuse to exclude, the hate, and to destroy one another.

It is time for us to put aside our differences and realize that we have a common problem. It matters not if you are a Baptist, a Methodist, a Muslim or the faithless.

To be clear, we are not anti-Christian, and we are not anti-religion.
We are anti-degradation. We are anti-oppression.

For too long, the Satanic characterization has been evoked to control the outsider. For too long, we have submitted on knees in servitude to the ministers of shame. Shall we surrender to the siren song of the religious right until she transforms us into beasts?

Those who desire and act not breeds pestilence and Satanism is a philosophy of action.

We do not seek followers. We are seeking collaborators. Individuals for a visionary Satanic alliance.
Leaders of the New American Era.

However, we have more to do to ensure a free America.

We have more to do when belief in the archaic illusions of an ancient religion is a mandatory requirement for our elected representatives.

We have more to do when our government determines our sexuality for us.

We have more to do when children are denied the home of loving parents because of the gender of their partner.

We have more to do when women are denied access to reproductive healthcare and vilified as murderers by those selected to represent them in the government.

The word of god has been evoked time and time again to justify opposition to the civil rights movement, to squash women's liberation, and stand in the way of same-sex marriage.

This is not "religious freedom." The inclusion of all is not oppression and the voices of the minority are not without value.

This cannot persist and we must awaken.

These so-called "godly" institutions call themselves a victim and call for radicalization - they are a snare upon our hooves. America is not an instrument of any one religious group.

Do you want to be part of a sleeping world?

Do you want to gorge on the drug of the commonplace?

Will you forever remain addicted to the oppressive traditions of a counterfeit morality?

As we stand on the crossroads on history let us confront the blind and self-righteous – the persecutors of thought and reason.

Let us rise up in celebration of our Satanic nature and cast our chains into the dust of hell.

To those who boldly propose that organizations of faith hold a leading role in guiding American policy and justice, I solemnly, and with great sincerity thank you.

Satanic America has heard your call to action.

If religion is to lead in areas which have traditionally been left to secular democracy, we will not fail to do our patriotic duty to bring the insights of our Satanic practices to the state house, courtrooms, schools, and of course homes and business of America, wherever and whenever religious guidance is needed.

All hail the new American era. An America that embraces our fellow neighbors by the integrity of the character rather than the god to whom they pray.

An America where we stand to defend justice and honor for our brothers and sisters regardless of whom they call husband or wife, and regardless of their personal bodily choices.

Comrades, we are just as powerful as those who work in this institution. Those who wish to uphold the traditions of old feel us breathing down their necks, and we will continue to be the voice of reason to ensure that our America remains free and equal.

All hail the eternal rebel within all of us. To liberty, humanity and justice. To the Satanic emancipator and end of repressive traditions.

HAIL SATAN.

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