

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
ELDER LEOLA PICKENS NORMAN



Sunrise

March 6, 1931

Sunset

December 14, 2017

Funeral Service Held

Saturday | December 23, 2017 | 11:00 a.m

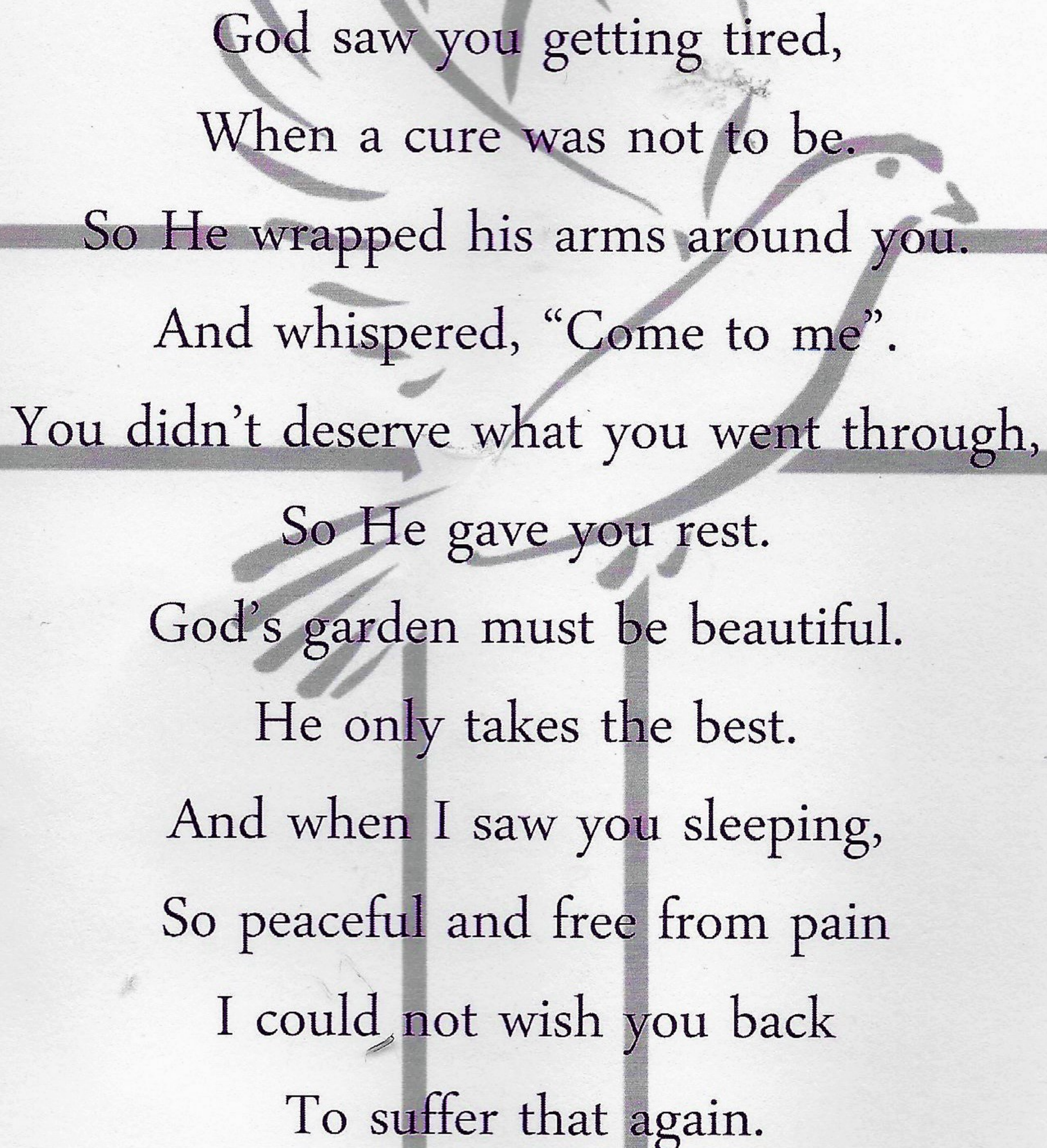
Cross Street Christian Church

1223 South Cross Street

Little Rock, Arkansas 72202

Reverend Robert L. Palmer: Officiating Pastor

## GOD SAW YOU



God saw you getting tired,  
When a cure was not to be.  
So He wrapped his arms around you.  
And whispered, "Come to me".  
You didn't deserve what you went through,  
So He gave you rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful.  
He only takes the best.  
And when I saw you sleeping,  
So peaceful and free from pain  
I could not wish you back  
To suffer that again.

-Frances and Kathleen Coelho-



# Leola's Life Journey

Elder Leola Pickens Norman, daughter of the late Remus and Leona Keyes Pickens was born March 6, 1931 in Greenwood, Mississippi. Leola was the devoted wife of John Walter Norman for 47 years who predeceased her in 2009. A compassionate loving mother of Johnita and John Norman III, she became her children's role model, exhibiting godly principles, exemplary character, and a strong faith in God. She had a special adoration for her one and only grandchild, Jade Alexis Norman.

Elder Leola Norman was a loyal, dedicated and supportive member of Cross Street Christian Church for over 50 years where she served in many capacities: Deacon, Elder, Christian Education Chair, VBS Director, Sunday School Teacher, and Christian Women Fellowship. While in Canton, Ohio, Leola was the Federated Women's Club Youth Director.

Leola received her early education in Greenwood, Mississippi. Upon receiving a National Science Foundation Scholarship, she attended Ohio State and pursued advanced studies in science at UALR, UAPB, and Boston University. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Alcorn A&M, Mississippi and her Master's degree from Washington University, St. Louis. Leola's teaching career covered a span of forty years. She taught in Mississippi, Ohio, Colorado, and in the Little Rock School District at Parkview Magnet and Hall High Schools. During her teaching career, Leola received numerous awards: Star Teacher Award-MS Industrial Council, Stephens Award, Pulaski Heights Lions Club Teacher Hall of Fame, and Science Teacher Extraordinaire presented by the CTA. She was a member of the NEA and the CTA, Arkansas Retired Teachers Association, and the Retired Educators of Little Rock. Leola retired in 1995. She has made a tremendous impact upon the lives of many students.

Not only was Leola a veteran educator, but she served in numerous capacities with various community organizations. She was a 67 year Diamond Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Her commitment to scholarship, service, and sisterhood was evident in the numerous committees upon which she served. Her greatest love was serving on Health Careers and the Educational Development Committee, (P.A.R.K. Outreach). She received the Delta of the Year Award and the Delta Dear Award. She also received the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Appreciation Award. Leola was a faithful and committed servant of God who extended her love to the many lives she touched. May her deeds and examples live on.

Leola Pickens Norman leaves her legacy to be cherished and celebrated by her devoted son, John W. Norman, III of Little Rock; loving daughter, Johnita K. Norman, M.D. and granddaughter, Jade Alexis Norman both of Memphis; nieces, Bessie (Wardell) Benford of Chicago; Lula (Thomas) Campbell; god-daughter, Tiffani Norman of Nashville, beloved cousins, and countless extended family members and friends who shared in her life.

## Elder Leola Norman's favorite scripture:

*"No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good. And this is what is right, to love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)*

# Order Of Service

Prelude

Processional

“Take Me To The King”

Soft Music

Prayer Of Comfort

Reverend Robert L. Palmer

Scripture

Old Testament

New Testament

Reverend Marion Humphrey

Reverend Joseph Bryant

Selection

“Falling In Love With Jesus”

Combined Choir

Resolutions

Ms. Paulette Bell

Acknowledgement

Reverend Carol Miles

Selection

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Combined Choir

## Tributes (2 Minutes)

Church: Elder John Brown

Church Women United: Mrs. Cynthia Horton

Professional: Dr. Ella Walker-Rolfe

Community/Neighbor: Mr. John Walker, Esq.

Friend: Mrs. Fredricka Sharkey

Obituary

“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”

Read Silently

Selection

“Order My Steps”

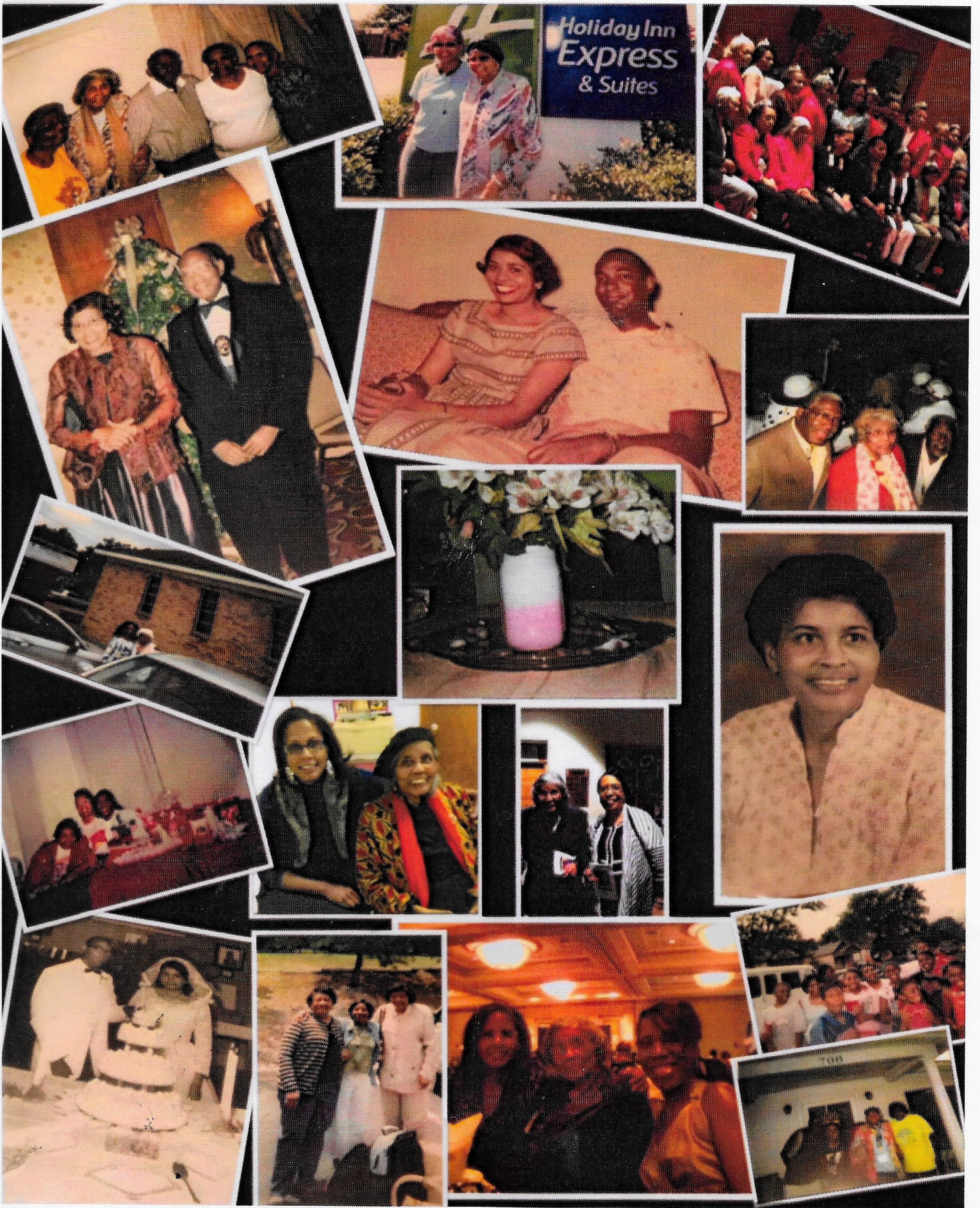
Combined Choir

Eulogy

Elder Clarence L. Johnson

Recessional

“Going Up Yonder”



## Active Pallbearers

MR. JESSE MAY - MR. MICHAEL MASON - MR. CARL CARPENTER  
MR. DEJUAN "DJ" CARTER, JR. - MR. LARRY FLETCHER - DR. BILLY THOMAS  
DEACON CORNELIUS BROWN - DEACON ALBERT MORGAN

## Honorary Pallbearers

REVEREND EARNEST NORMAN, SR. - MR. BILLY WATSON  
DEACON MICHAEL DUNLAP - MR. HENRY AKINS, II - MR. ZACHARY B. SCOTT  
REVEREND LEE BYNUM - MR. JAMES WILSON - MR. COLUMBUS JOHNSON  
MR. WILLIE VENSON - MR. JOHN TALLEY, JR.  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. - ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.  
LITTLE ROCK EDUCATORS & ARKANSAS RETIRED TEACHERS  
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED - CHRISTIAN WOMEN FELLOWSHIP  
CROSS STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH OFFICIAL BOARD

# *Expression of Thanks*

THE FAMILY OF ELDER LEOLA P. NORMAN ACKNOWLEDGES WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION THE MANY EXPRESSIONS OF KINDNESS SHOWN DURING HER ILLNESS AND OUR TIME OF BEREAVEMENT. YOUR PRAYERS, CALLS, VISITS, AND OTHER GIFTS ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED AND WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED. PLEASE KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS.

SPECIAL THANKS TO CROSS STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH, LE BONHEUR HOSPITAL/LE BONHEUR PEDIATRICS ASSOCIATES, DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC., BAPTIST HOSPITAL 7B, ICU SOUTH, CCU, THESSING GROUP, DR. TOMMY LOVE, DR. JARVIS REED, DR. BRAD BALTZ AND CARTI FAMILY, DR. CIDNEY HULETT, AND BRIARWOOD REHABILITATION CENTER.

REPAST: CROSS STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH



**RUFFIN & JARRETT**  
FUNERAL HOME