

*Reverently Celebrating the  
"Master's Call from "Earth to Glory"*

*The Longevity of  
Madeleine Pearcy Best*

*January 14, 1917 - May 19, 2015*



*Saturday, May 23, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.*

**Fountain Baptist Church**

116 Glenside Avenue  
Summit, New Jersey

*Pastor J. Michael Sanders, Officiating*

# *Obituary*

**Madeleine Percy Best** was called to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

She was the seventh of nine children born to the late William Percy and Sarah Hayes Percy on January 14, 1917 in Orange, New Jersey. She attended the South Orange-Maplewood Public School System. In 1936, she graduated from Columbia High School.

Four years later, Madeleine married Cornelius Bruce Best. Of this union, two loving sons were born: Bruce and Terrel. Madeleine's sons were her pride and joy. They were special to Madeleine in their own way. *Bruce was a great singer and Terrel a star athlete.*

While raising a family, Madeleine continued to further her education and work to help support her family. She attended Essex County College, Rutgers and Seton Hall Universities. Madeleine was employed with General Electric for twenty-five years and the East Orange Municipal Court for twenty-three years. Madeline served the City of East Orange with pride and honor. In 1982, Madeleine decided to retire from the East Orange Municipal Court as a Deputy Court Clerk. She stated, *that the most exciting experience in her life was her retirement celebration. There were well-wishers far and wide; from California, Boston, Florida, Virginia and even former work friends from General Electric. I was informed that it was the greatest party in the history of Court celebrations.*

Madeleine cherished being a member of Fountain Baptist Church and volunteering in the community. She wrote in her memoirs –

*My Sunday School Experience was at the top of my Pride and Joy List. Having the opportunity to teach and encourage early-age youngsters to follow our Lord and Savior at home and everywhere. I always reminded them to become law-abiding citizens by obeying the Laws of the Land and encouraging them to share their good fortune with the less fortunate.*

*I joined Literacy Volunteers of America as a tutor to help inadequate readers to improve their reading skills. This project has been another joy of commitment to serve others and has deeply enhanced my spiritual growth.*

*I am truly proud and privileged to have played a small part in my Community as a Helper and a Problem Solver whenever or wherever needed to make a difference. Needless to say for my small contribution, I received many awards of thanks and appreciation including Brook Haven Nursing Home that played an important role in coordinating my efforts to help others.*

Madeleine was a faithful servant, worldwide traveler, community activist and life-long educator and learner. Madeleine would often say, *I lived a good life and have no regrets. Now, I leave my memories for my family and friends to cherish and direct their paths. To God Be the Glory!*

Madeleine leaves to cherish her memories; five grandchildren; Terrel Arthur Best, Jr. (Ivy Hutchins-Best), Tracy Best, Cory Triplin Best, Kai Best Davis (Kimani Davis), Elliot Best; fourteen great grandchildren; two daughters-in-law, Gwendolyn Best, Yvonne Best Motaung; two great great grandchildren and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends whom she loved dearly. She was predeceased by her husband, Cornelius Bruce Best; two sons, Bruce Cornell Best and Terrel Arthur Best, Sr. and one grandson, Trent Cornell Best.

# The Order of Worship

The Musical Prelude

\*The Processional.....“Abide With Me”

\*The Call To Worship....Revelation 1:8, 10, 17, 18.....Rev. Dr. Frank Walters  
*I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.*

*I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*

\*The Opening Hymn.....“By And By” #288

\*The Prayer of Invocation.....Rev. Dr. Evans Spagner

\*The Choral Response.....“He’s Sweet I Know”

The Reading of Scripture.....Vernon Williams  
The Old Testament - Psalm 23  
The New Testament - Revelation 7:9-14

The Reading of The Obituary.....Kai Davis

The Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Gregory Davis

The Musical Selection.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”.....Tyrone Dunlap

The Words of Comfort.....Pastor Jerry Sanders

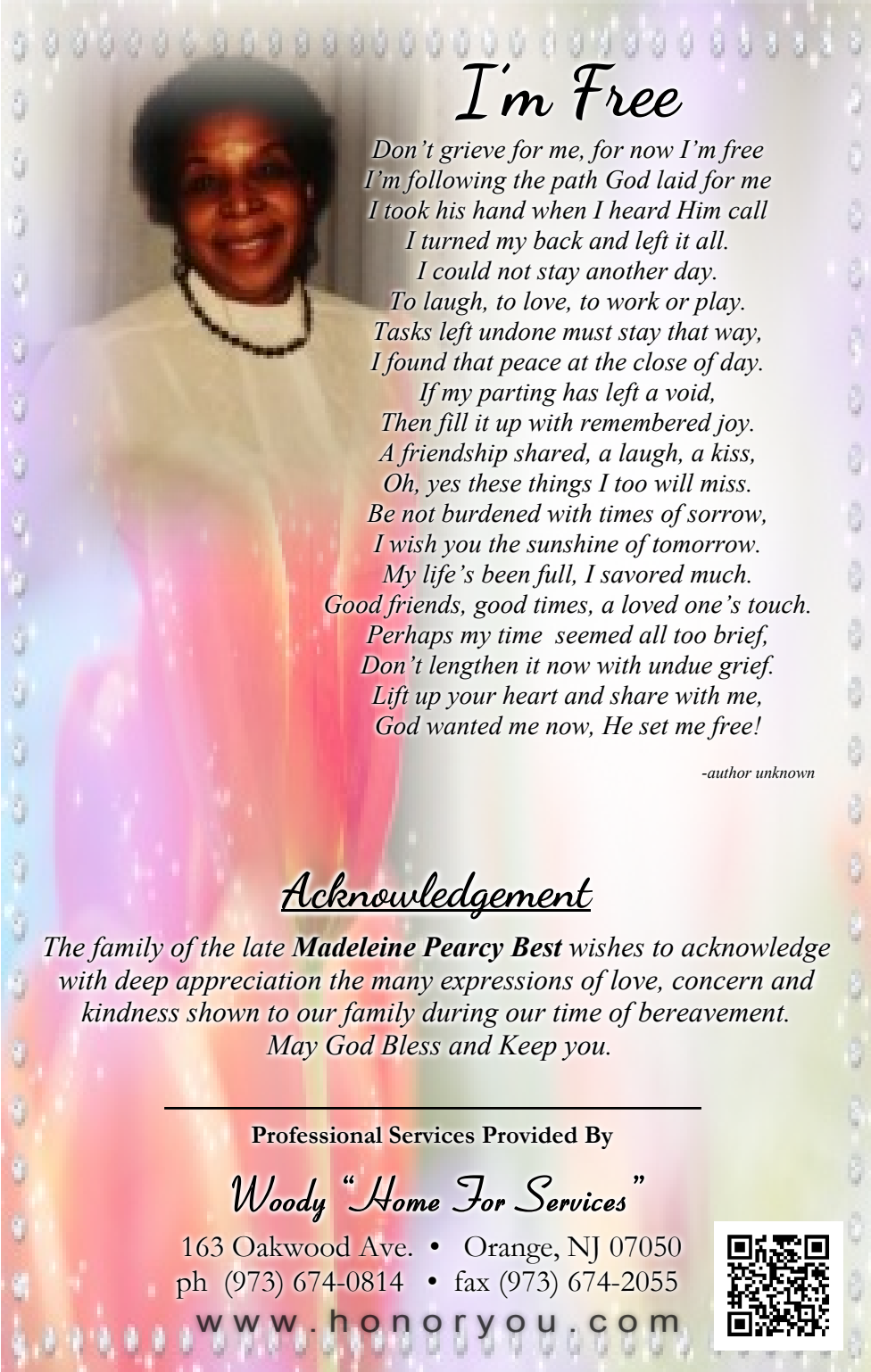
The Recessional

The Committal and Benediction At Graveside

**Interment**  
*Rosedale Cemetery*  
*Orange, New Jersey*

## **Repast**

*Immediately following the Interment family and friends are invited back for a Repast in the Church Fellowship Hall*



# *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day.  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much.  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

*-author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of the late **Madeleine Percy Best** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to our family during our time of bereavement.  
May God Bless and Keep you.*

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