

*Celebrating The Life of*

*Frances (Staton) Ladson*

**Sunrise**

November 10, 1915

**Sunset**

November 6, 2015



Sunday, November 15, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.

**GRACE GOSPEL CHURCH**

139 Montgomery Street • Paterson, New Jersey

*Rev. Yvoma Butler, Pastor*

## Reflections of Life

**Frances (Staton) Walls Ladson** born November 10, 1915 in Gibson, North Carolina to the late Frank and Jenny Stanley Staton, the youngest of their ten children. She was sent to live with an older brother in Hackensack, New Jersey at age twelve. She attended and graduated from Hackensack High School.



During the 1930's Frances joined Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ in Englewood, NJ under the leadership of the late Rev. Charles "Pop" Gilmore. After the death of Rev. Charles Gilmore she was under the leadership of the late Elder Clarence Gilmore in Paterson, NJ. After the passing of Bishop Clarence Gilmore, Faith Tabernacle was renamed Gilmore Memorial Tabernacle led by his wife the late Reverend Dr. Allene Gilmore. Frances was a dedicated member and faithfully served as a member of the Tabernacle Choir, Pastor's Aide Committee Group Leader and

Treasurer of the Golden Age Club. She was the oldest member. Frances favorite song was "This little light of mine". She later relocated to Paterson, NJ.

In 1942 Frances started working in the garment industry as a sewing machine operator. She then joined the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) and soon after became a shop steward for Local 158. A phone-banker in support of the political candidates endorsed by the ILGWU, she was often seen on picket lines and rallies. She was one of the Solidarity Singers of the New Jersey Industrial Union Council singing, "Look for the union label" and playing the tambourine throughout New York and New Jersey. You can hear her on their CD, "Solidarity It Can't Be Beat!" She was active with the ILGWU and the Solidarity Singers as a retiree until age ninety-two.

Twice widowed, Frances married Joseph Clyde Walls at age sixteen. They had two children, Josephine Frances and Joseph Clyde. God smiled on Frances again when she met and married her second husband, James "Jimmy" Ladson with whom she had four children, Austin, Robert, Ledina and Sandra.

She was predeceased by her siblings, John, Napoleon, Walter, Hayes and Hattie, Flossie, infant twins, Sam and her oldest children, Josephine Frances and Joseph Clyde Walls.

On the afternoon of November 6, 2015, four days prior to her one hundredth birthday, Frances passed away peacefully in her home with her daughter, nurse and caretaker, for the six years of her illness, Ledina Ladson and her granddaughter, Terricka Ladson Gardner at her side; son, Austin Ladson, granddaughter, Dillon Ladson, great grandchildren, Andre Jr. and Shamiah Gardner were also in attendance. As afternoon turned into evening the Ladson home in East Orange quickly filled with family and friends surrounding Frances with love as she laid peacefully on her bed after life had left her body and her soul was lifted into heaven.

Frances leaves to celebrate her life and cherish her memory: her sons, Austin and Robert; daughters, Ledina and Sandra; nine grandchildren, Patty Walls-Simmons, Joseph Walls, Rahkeem Ladson, Terricka Ladson-Gardner, Aisha Ladson, Niema Ladson, Nicole Walls, CJ Walls and Dillon Ladson; twelve great grandchildren including, Lanasha Walls, Andre Jr. and Shamiah Gardner; many nieces and nephews including, Hattie Degraffenreid, Gloria Person, Rosalie Coleman and Albert Staton; great and great great grandnieces and a host of cousins more than we can count or name including Thomas Bartlett. Devoted friend, Carrie Brisbon; godson, Henry Robinson.

# Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Hymn

Word of God Declared

Old Testament ..... Minister Tracy Beamon

New Testament ..... Elder Leonard Gant

Prayer of Comfort ..... Pastor Yvoma Butler

Solo ..... Brenda Bradley

Acknowledgements ..... Terricka Ladson-Gardner

Selection ..... Solidarity Singers

Presentation ..... Dillon Ladson

Remarks

Selection ..... Yolanda Kelley

Eulogy ..... Elder John H. Fairley Jr.

Gilmore Tabernacle Look & Live Ministries, Paterson, NJ

Recessional

## **Interment**

*Monday, November 16, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.*

Fair Lawn Cemetery  
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

## *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 **Frances Ladson** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and keep you! Special thanks to **Carnie P. Bragg, Jr. and Staff, David Robinson, Gladys Horton, Alice Baker, Michele Walker and Janeé Ballard.***

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