

*Homecoming Celebration*  
*for*  
*Mother Mary P. Washington*

**Sunrise**  
December 1, 1921

**Sunset**  
January 12, 2016



*Sunday, January 17, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.*

**Zion Hill Baptist Church**  
152 Osborne Terrace, Newark, NJ  
Rev. D.L. Williams, III, Pastor

# Order of Service

Processional ..... Clergy, Officers, and Family

Call to Worship

Hymn of Celebration..... “Blessed Assurance”

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament, Psalm 23 ..... Evangelist Eddy Tappins

New Testament, John 14:1-6 .....Rev. Clarence Smith

Prayer of Comfort ..... Rev. Dr. Irving Childress

Musical Selection ..... Mr. Charles Cornick

Acknowledgements & Resolution

Family Tributes

Hymn ..... “May The Work I've Done Speak For Me”

Message of Hope ..... Pastor Williams, III

Closing Hymn ..... “This Old Building”

Recessional

## **INTERMENT**

Heavenly Rest Memorial Park  
East Hanover, New Jersey

## Obituary

**Mary Lee (Palmore) Washington** was born to Alex and Pearl Palmore (both deceased) on December 1, 1921. She was the fourth child of seven brothers and sisters, Bessie Byrd, Alex Palmore, Elise Wells, Elec Palmore, Otis Palmore and Dorothy Palmore and Joan P. who were all very close through out their lives. Her family believed strongly in education. All of her siblings were college educated and made great sacrifice to obtain their degrees.

Her early education began at Bettis Academy. She attended Bettis from 1st grade thru high school. Upon graduation, she enrolled at Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. Mary worked nights and weekends to pay for college as a maid and a caretaker. If you were in her care you were in good hands. She never complained about the arduous work. She considered it a means to achieve her goals. She graduated from college with a Bachelors Degree in Education.

Mary met and married Emory Washington (deceased) in 1952. Out of this union they had two children, Emily (Khalea) Seeley and Marvin Leroy Washington (deceased). In search of a better life, she and her family became a part of the Great Migration and moved North to N.J. With two young children to care for she did what is now called Day Work, cleaning and caring for others to help support her family. In the early sixties, she went back to school (Montclair State) to get certified to teach in N.J. while working a full time job. Once she completed her certification she resumed teaching elementary education. First as a substitute teacher in almost all of Newark's Public Schools while working a part-time job as a housekeeper on weekends. Eventually, she became a full time teacher at Charlton St. School, Quitman and Hawthorne Ave School until she retired.

Mary was a devout Christian. She was baptized at an early age at Mount Canaan Baptist Church in Trenton, S.C. After moving to Newark she found a church home at Zion Hill Baptist Church in which she has been a member for over 50 years. She totally immersed herself in the church life as a life long servant of the Lord. She was a nurse, she sang in the choir, served as treasurer and president of the choir. She also assisted with preparing food for many functions at the church for years. She is recognized as "A Mother of The Church".

She loved children and was generous to a fault. You could not let her no that you needed something without her finding a way to help you. When she realized her daughter was about to repeat a grade because of shyness and would not speak as a result of being ridiculed for her heavy southern accent, she tutored her to speak publicly by reciting bible verses and poems. As a result her daughter Khalea has become a renowned public speaker on TV, radio and lectures in the states and abroad. The sun rose and set in her son Marvin who passed at the age of 26. It took her a long time to recover from that loss. But with the help of her family, church and her best friend Ophelia Pastely, her heart slowly healed. What helped most was her love for her grandchildren, Erinn (Naima) and Amin Washington. Her love, care and support for them was immeasurable. In their hearts and minds no one can ever replace Nana!!

Mary leaves behind to cherish her memory, a beloved daughter, Emily (Khalea) Seeley, grandchildren, Erinn (Naima), Amin Washington, Jennifer Maloney, Charles Cornick, Sheila Mcclary and great-grandson, Amin Washington Jr, sister, Joan P. Farver, brother-in-laws, Joe and John Washington and sister-in-law, Evelyn Douglas; and a host of family and friends who loved her dearly.

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# *Miss Me, But Let Me Go*

*When I come to the end of the  
road and the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little-but not too long,  
and not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we once shared,  
Miss me-but let me go.  
For this is a journey that we all must take,  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the Master's plan,  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart,  
Go to the friends we know.  
Laugh at the things we use to do  
Miss me-but let me go.*

*-author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.  
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

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