

# Service of Triumph



**Rev. Dr. Albert Prince Rowe**

September 22, 1934



May 13, 2016



# Life

*It must be borne in mind that the tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach. It isn't a calamity to die with dreams unfulfilled, but it is a calamity not to dream. It is not a disaster to be unable to capture your ideal, but it is a disaster to have no ideal to capture. It is not a disgrace not to reach the stars, but it is a disgrace to have no stars to reach for.*

*Not failure, but low aim is sin.*

— Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays

**Rev. Dr. Albert Prince Rowe**

*A Celebration of Life*

Saturday, May 21, 2016 - 10:00AM

**Calvary Baptist Church**

575 East 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Paterson, NJ  
Rev. Dr. Randall M. Lassiter, Pastor

*Order of Worship*

Rev. Dr. Randall M. Lassiter.....Officiant

Choral Praise.....Calvary Baptist Church Mass Choir

Processional

Call to Worship

Opening Statement

Hymn of Praise.....“Blessed Assurance” - Calvary Baptist Church Mass Choir

Prayer of Comfort.... Rev. Dr. John Spencer - President, NJ Progressive National Baptist Convention

Soloist.....Rev. Pamela Powell - Associate Minister, Calvary Baptist Church

Old Testament Reading.....Rev. Dr. Alexander McDonald - Pastor, Second Baptist Church

New Testament Reading.....Rev. Barry Graham - Pastor, Canaan Baptist Church

**Victorious Reflections**

Assemblyman Benji Wimberly

Rev. Kenneth D.R. Clayton

Congressman William “Bill” Pascrell

Mrs. Elease Evans

Rev. Dr. Tyrone Pitts

Mayor Jose “Joey” Torres

Deacon Leroy Coleman

Legislative District 35/Deputy Speaker  
Pastor, St. Luke Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ

Representing the 9<sup>th</sup> District of New Jersey

Former Assemblywoman Legislative District 35

Former Secretary Progressive National Baptist Convention

Mayor, Paterson, New Jersey

Chairman Deacon Board, Calvary Baptist Church

Deacon Roderick Johnson

Deacon William L. Murray

Nephew

Brother-in-Law

Acknowledgements and Resolutions..... Deaconess Sandra Urquhart

Soloist.....Mrs. Cora Quince - Supervisor of Fine & Performing Arts, Paterson School District

Eulogist.....Rev. Dr. James Perkins, President, Progressive National Baptist Convention

Closing Words to the Family.....Pastor Randall M. Lassiter - Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church

Prayer..... Pastor Randall M. Lassiter - Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church

Recessional.....“I’ll Always Love You” - Keith Evans, Calvary Baptist Church Saxophonist

**Entombment**

George Washington Memorial Park  
234 Paramus Road, Paramus, New Jersey

## **Rev. Dr. Albert Prince Rowe**

September 22, 1934 – May 13, 2016

### *Reflections On A Life Well Lived*



We may never know the total impact of our giving, respective ministries, benevolence and love. The life before us in tribute and memory, has touched the hearts of each of us because God bestowed upon this man the gift of giving and helping. He gave in friendship and acquaintance, in worship and praise, in stewardship and in leadership, in missions and evangelism, in study and teaching, in causes and movements, in laughter and pain, and in prayer and in proclamation. *Thanks Be To God!*

The distinguished career of the Reverend Dr. Albert Prince Rowe developed out of the strong religious upbringing bestowed upon him by his parents, grandparents and the church. They instilled in him the love of God and the desire to serve and help others. Pastor

Rowe was a remarkable man who sought to help transform communities and the lives of people. He had the ability to walk and talk with the learned and those who needed more; those who needed to embrace a closer walk with God. He was a preacher, teacher and counselor and leader. He was a consoler and a mentor. He was a Barnabas, encouraging others to try and try harder to do their best. He was a sincere man of God who cared for people. He was a blessing to all who knew him.

For 45 years, 1968 – 2013, the Rev. Dr. Albert P. Rowe was the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, a church that has existed for 137 years in Paterson, N.J. He was the first child born to the late John Henry and Esther Bowman Rowe in Columbia, South Carolina. He was nurtured in a religious home with parents and siblings who truly loved God and lived to be of service.

In 1947, the Rowe Family moved from Columbia S.C. and relocated to Syracuse, NY. There the young Al Rowe completed his high school education through the Syracuse Public School System attending Central High School where he excelled in printing, mathematics and sports, especially football. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in political science from Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD, where he was active in student affairs as well as his chosen field: political science (pre-law). He played football, was an outstanding wrestler and was a commissioned officer in the Army, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant. He was inducted into the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. He was licensed and ordained into the Gospel Ministry by the Rev. Leo R. Murphy, pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church, Syracuse, NY.

After completing his studies at Morgan State University, Pastor Rowe enrolled in the Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, PA and earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree. As a seminarian, he fell under the tutelage of Dr. J. Pius Barbour Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church of Chester, PA. As did many Crozer students. He embraced a work and study assignment at the White Rock Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA under the leadership of Dr. William Shaw, the past president of the National Baptist Convention USA Inc.

Knowing the value of education and preparation, Pastor Rowe enrolled in the Masters Program at Princeton Theological Seminary and received a Masters of Divinity Degree. A few years later he pursued studies at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary with a focus on empowering lay leadership and church administration. This earned him the Doctor of Ministry Degree.

In 1962, Rev. Dr. Albert P. Rowe accepted the call to pastor the Central Baptist Church in Wilmington, Delaware. There, he immediately became involved in efforts to help improve the lives of people. Affiliating with the Wilmington Branch NAACP, the Urban League and other local efforts, he was an ardent worker for voting rights, better housing, better education, political involvement, etc. He participated in marches and sit-in's for justice. He participated in the Selma Alabama March representing Wilmington, Del. It was in Wilmington that he met and married the "lady in the blue dress", Dorothy Collins Rowe - Dottie. They moved to Paterson, NJ in November 1968, after he was called to pastor Calvary Baptist Church. He served Calvary, and the community faithfully, creatively, and holistically for 45 fruitful years until his retirement in 2013. Upon his retirement, Pastor Rowe was elected Pastor *Emeritus* by the church.

Pastor Albert P. Rowe was an extraordinary preacher, teacher, servant, listener, and helper who accomplished much for the people. Throughout his life, he was devoted to "Glorifying God and Serving Humanity". The impact of his work and service was seen and felt far and near in the church, religious community, civic life, education arena - nationally and internationally. Currently he serves on the Board of Trustees of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

During his ministry, he licensed and ordained more than 15 ministers, men and women. He led Calvary Baptist Church in building a new sanctuary and later added a Family Life Center. Pastor Rowe believed in education and made Christian Education a central focus of his ministry. He established a Child Care Program, a Camping program, a Vocational Exploration Program, a substance Abuse Education and Prevention Program, Reading Program which reached out to the entire Paterson community. The Calvary Community Health Center was established as well as the building of affordable housing for low and moderate income families, an Adult Medical Day Care Center, and Preschool, Mentoring and GED Programs.

His Christian mission was not limited to Paterson and New Jersey or to the United States. His travels reflected his missionary zeal and took him to South Africa, Russia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Uganda, Haiti, and Cuba.

Churches and schools were planted and watered with Calvary visits and other resources. A life thrilling moment for this humble servant was his selection to be an observer in the first free and fair election in South Africa, resulting in the election of Nelson Mandela as president.



Under Pastor Albert P. Rowe's leadership, Calvary Baptist Church is known for her work and witness in Paterson, in New Jersey, nationally and internationally. Working with The Progressive National Baptist Convention and Global Missions Board, he helped and shared with many.

In 2013, he was honored to have East 18<sup>th</sup> Street named Rev. Dr. Albert P. Rowe Square.



On Friday, May 13, 2016, our beloved Barnabas, our Pastor, preacher, teacher - leader bid us fair well 'til we meet again.

He leaves to cherish his memory, and celebrate his life and legacy, his beloved wife, Dottie, two sisters, Helen Pierson, Houston, TX, and Martha Ballentine (Edward) St. Louis, MO; nephew, Roderick Johnson (Brenda) Dallas, TX; nieces, Linda Richardson Kansas City, MO, and Cynthia Brinkley (Thomas) Chicago, IL, Candice Hardiman (Travis) Boston, MA.



Sisters and Brothers-in-law: Vera and William Murray, A. Clyde Collins, John and Doris Collins, Drs. Elliott and Carol Collins, Trella and James Veal, David and Rosa Collins. Other nieces and nephews: Jeffery and Rochelle Collins, Jay and Jennifer Collins, Brian and Merridith Murray, Kimberly Collins, Kristal and Tai Olowolafe, Kory and Miriam Collins. Godchildren: Brian D. Murray (Merridith) of Pittsburgh PA., Jada Fulmore of Paterson, NJ, Dorothy Price, (Steve) Charlotte NC, an energetic and generous and helpful cousin, Delores Bowman, Fairlawn, NJ, and cousin Alice Banks Paterson, NJ, the Calvary Church Family, great nieces and nephews, other cousins, relatives and friends.





*"I will bless the Lord at all times..."*

Calvary Baptist Church

## Participants

### Pallbearers

#### *Members*

*Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.*

#### *Deacons*

*Calvary Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ*

#### *Honorary Pallbearers*

#### *Ministers*

*"... Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."*

*- Joshua 1:9*

*"Hence forth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."*

*2 Timothy 4:8*

*The Rowe Family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during their hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You.*

#### *The Rowe Family*

Professional Services Provided By

**CARNE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.**

*Caring for the Community Since 1937*

256 Rosa Parks Blvd. • Paterson, NJ 07501 • (973) 278-6330

143 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, NJ 07055 • (973) 779-1892

To send online condolences, visit [www.braggfuneralhome.com](http://www.braggfuneralhome.com)



[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)

