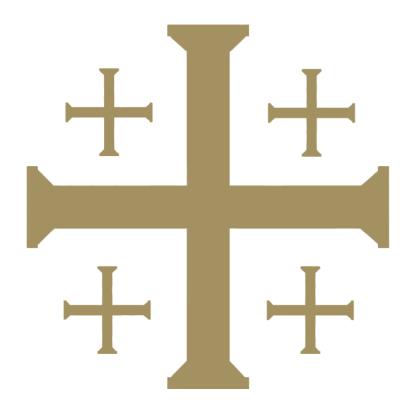
# Dr. Dorothy Irene Height

MARCH 24, 1912 - APRIL 20, 2010



THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2010
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL IN THE CITY & EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

#### CARILLON PRELUDE

### Dr. Edward M. Nassor Carillonneur, Washington National Cathedral

Swing low, sweet chariot Precious Lord, take my hand I come to the garden alone We shall overcome O beautiful, for spacious skies Mine eyes have seen the glory Lift every voice and sing Traditional Spiritual, arr. Milford Myhre
Take My Hand, Precious Lord, arr. Joanne Droppers
In the Garden, arr. Sally Slade Warner
Traditional Spiritual, arr. M. Myhre
Materna, arr. M. Myhre
Battle Hymn of the Republic, arr. Leen 't Hart
Lift Every Voice, arr. Edward M. Nassor

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

Jeremy Filsell Artist in Residence, Washington National Cathedral

Allegro Risoluto, from Deuxième Symphonie, Op. 20 Variations on a shape-note hymn (Wondrous Love), Op. 34 Prelude and Fugue in E flat, BWV 552 Vocalise, Op. 34, No. 14 (transcribed by Nigel Potts) Louis Vierne (1870–1937) Samuel Barber (1910–1981) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Sergei Rachmaninov (1873–1943)

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

#### CHORAL PRELUDE

The Howard University Choir Dr. J. Weldon Norris, Conductor

Mass in G
Kyrie
Agnus Dei
Glory
Listen to the Lambs
Precious Lord
Lord. I don' Done

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844–1908) R. Nathaniel Dett (1882–1943) Thomas A. Dorsey (1899–1993) J. Weldon Norris

The people stand, as they are able, at the tolling of the Bourdon Bell.

#### RESURRECTION ANTHEM IN PROCESSION

Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. Senior Pastor, Metropolitan Baptist Church

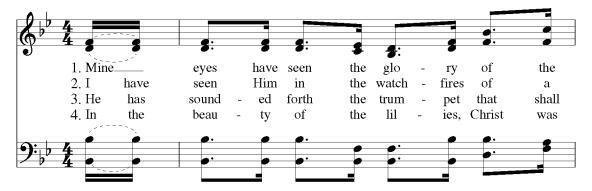
I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though she die. And everyone who has life, and has committed herself to me in faith, shall not die for ever. As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger. For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

#### **HYMN**

Mine eyes have seen the glory

Sung by all.

Battle Hymn of the Republic





The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III Dean, Washington National Cathedral

#### THE PRAYER FOR BURIAL

The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane Bishop of Washington

Bishop Chane The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Bishop Chane Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant Dorothy, and grant her an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

#### THE PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Dr. Hicks Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with Dorothy's

family and friends in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The people are seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58:6–12

Read by Ms. Holly Cowan Shulman Research Professor, University of Virginia Family Friend, "Wednesdays in Mississippi"

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Ms. Shulman The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION Dr. Bernard C. Randolph, Sr.

Nephew

BeBe Winans, soloist Quadrius Salters, pianist

We are climbing Jacob's ladder, soldiers of the cross. Ev'ry round goes higher, higher, soldiers of the cross. Sinner do you love your Jesus? Soldiers of the cross. If you love him why not serve him, soldiers of the cross.

Traditional

Tell me, what do you do
When you've done all you can?
Seems like it's never enough.
Tell me what do you say
When your friends turn away
And you're all alone, so alone.
Tell me, what do you give
When you've given your all and
Seems like you can't make it through

Well, you just stand when there's nothing left to do. You just stand. Watch the Lord see you through. After you've done all you can, you just stand.

Tell me, how do you handle
The guilt of your past?
Tell me, how do you deal with the shame?
Tell me, how can you smile
When your heart has been broken and filled with pain?
Tell me, what do you give
When you've given your all
And it seems like you can't make it through?

You just stand and be sure, Be not entangled in the bondage again. You just stand and endure. 'Cause God has a purpose, God has a plan.

Tell me, what do you do
When you've done all you can
And it seems like you can't make it through?
Well you just stand and don't you dare give up.
You go through the storm, you go through the rain,
You stand through the hurt, and through the pain.

After you've done all you can
After you've prayed and cried, cried and prayed,
All through the night,
You plant your feet, and square your shoulders.
Hold your head up, and wait on him.
He's gonna come through, yes he will.

After you've done all you can, You just stand.

D. McClurkin

Dr. Camille O. Cosby Educator and Producer

REFLECTION

MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Psalm 23 JeffMajors

JeffMajors, harpist Al Johnson, vocalist

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul;

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1–7

Read by Dr. Barbara L. Shaw Interim Chair, National Council of Negro Women

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who overcome will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Dr. Shaw The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

TRIBUTE The President of the United States

#### MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Great is thy faithfulness

William M. Runyan (1870–1957)

Denyce Graves, soloist Dr. Nolan Williams, pianist

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, There is no shadow of turning with thee; Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not, As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed thy hand hath provided, Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness, To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Thomas O. Chisholm (1866–1960)

The people stand as they are able.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1–16

Proclaimed by the Right Reverend Vashti McKenzie, DD Bishop, Eighteenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church National Chaplain, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Bishop McKenzie The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
- "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Bishop McKenzie The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY Dean Lloyd

# The people stand as they are able.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

All

Led by Dr. Hicks.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who tresspass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The people are seated.

REFLECTION

The Honorable Alexis M. Herman Twenty-third United States Secretary of Labor Read by Dr. Maya Angelou Reynolds Professor of American Studies, Wake Forest University

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways. Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether. You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it. Where can I go then from your Spirit? where can I flee from your presence? If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well. My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them. How deep I find your thoughts, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours. Search me out, O God, and know my heart; and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

#### THE BLESSING

Bishop Chane May the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

AllAmen.

HYMN

Sung by all.

Lift every voice and sing

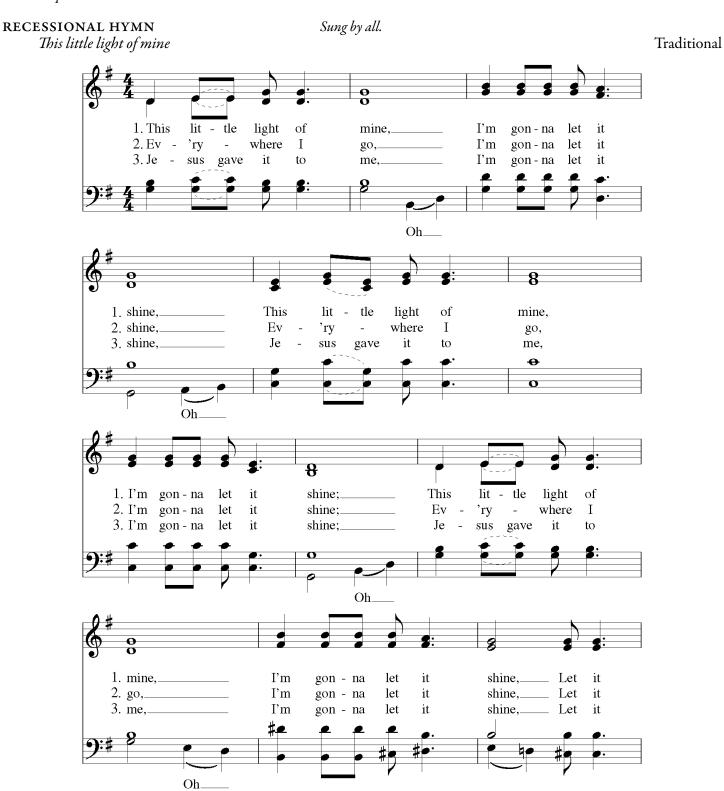
Lift Every Voice





#### THE DISMISSAL

Bishop Chane Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!





ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Scott Dettra Organist, Washington National Cathedral

Finale, from Symphonie VI, Op. 42

Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

Please be seated until after the family departs.

The people are encouraged to exit using the side aisles and arcades, in addition to using the center aisle.

#### **OFFICIANTS**

Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. Senior Pastor, Metropolitan Baptist Church

The Rt. Reverend John Bryson Chane Bishop of Washington

#### **READERS**

Ms. Holly Cowan Shulman Research Professor, University of Virginia Family Friend, "Wednesdays in Mississippi"

Dr. Barbara L. Shaw Interim Chair, National Council of Negro Women

Dr. Maya Angelou Reynolds Professor of American Studies, Wake Forest University

#### **GOSPELLER**

The Rt. Reverend Vashti McKenzie
Bishop, Eighteenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
National Chaplain, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

#### REFLECTIONS

Dr. Bernard C. Randolph, Sr. *Nephew* 

Dr. Camille O. Cosby *Educator and Producer* 

The Honorable Alexis M. Herman Twenty-third United States Secretary of Labor

#### **TRIBUTE**

The President of the United States

#### **HOMILIST**

The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III Dean, Washington National Cathedral

#### MINISTER OF CEREMONIES

The Reverend Canon Carol L. Wade Precentor, Washington National Cathedral

#### MUSICAL TRIBUTES

The Howard University Choir Dr. J. Weldon Norris, *Conductor* 

BeBe Winans Quadrius Salters, *Pianist* 

JeffMajors Harpist, Writer, Arranger, Composer Al Johnson, Vocalist

> Denyce Graves Dr. Nolan Williams, *Pianist*

#### **CATHEDRAL MUSICIANS**

Dr. Edward M. Nassor Carillonneur

Jeremy Filsell

Artist in Residence

Scott Dettra
Organist

Michael McCarthy Director of Music

#### **OFFICIAL ESCORTS**

Kent Amos

Jeffrey Thompson

#### **PALLBEARERS**

Eric Briggs, Sr.

William Briggs, Jr., Esq.

Christopher Owen Jackson

Cameron T. Linzey, Jr.

Bernard C. Randolph, Jr., MD

Jeffrey Randolph

Paul A. Randolph, Esq.

Charles Sessoms

#### HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Pamela Alexander Alexine Jackson Daniel W. Aldridge Benjamin Jealous Carmen Amos Ronald Jessamy Maya Angelou Marilyn Johnson Cora Masters Barry **Ingrid Saunders Jones** Willie Barrow Vernon A. Jordan **Julian Bond** Bernice King Margo Briggs Dexter King Bernard Broadus Martin L. King III Madeline Lawson Roslyn Brock Henry Brown John Lewis Mary Brown Paulette Lewis Robert Brown Joseph Lowery William Butler Bill Lucy Gilbert F. Casellas William Lynch Theodore (Ted) Childs Julienne Malveaux Kelvin Lynn Cothren Brenda Miller Bill Cosby Minyon Moore Camille O. Cosby Marc Morial Janet Murguia Thelma T. Daley Phyllis Davenport Constance Newman Eleanor Holmes Norton Willie Delanev David Dinkins Sidney Poitier Vivian Lowery-Derrick Howard Randolph, Jr. Ofield Dukes Charles Rangel Lola Early William (Bill) Ross Blair Ecton **Eleanor Smeal** Harriet Ecton Al Sharpton Barbara Shaw Virgil Ecton Marian Wright Edelman Barbara Williams Skinner Toni Fay Rodney Slater W. Frank Fountain Robert Stanton Charles L. Franklin, Jr. Susan L. Taylor Johnny Furr, Jr. Christine Toney Roderick G. Gillum William Tucker Earl Graves Cecily Tyson Ernie Green Victor Watson Donald Hall Vanessa Weaver Ronald Harrison Debra Williams Eddie Williams Wade Henderson H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. Robert Williams Willie Wilson Eleanor Hinton Hoyt Cathy Hughes Robert Wright Derrick Humphries Andrew Young Jesse Jackson

# A Letter from the Family

Our Heartfelt Thanks....

On Tuesday, April 20, 2010, the world as we know it, changed forever. Our dear Dorothy was called home to be with The Lord. Although she was 98 years old, we were not ready to let her go...not just yet. It will be difficult to adjust to life without her help leading us along the path of life. Yet, we know Dorothy is in the land of milk and honey, laughing and dancing with the angels.

For 98 years God put Dorothy in our lives, and each of us is the better for it. Her love of NCNW and her many accomplishments are legendary. However, it is her commitment to family and friendship that is most compelling. Dorothy remembered birthdays, was there for our marriages, the births of our children, and the transitions of our loved ones. It was important to her to share in the celebration of our accomplishments. She would make time for our graduations, help write our speeches, admonish us when we needed to be better and stand with us when necessary. She mentored many and was always there to accept our calls. She loved her family and reveled in her status as "the matriarch". Dr. Height valued family connections and insured that her own family had their annual celebrations and stayed strong. To her DC extended family, Dorothy was fun and had an incredible sense of humor. We couldn't get enough of her stories, her love of singing and dancing.

We are comforted by our memories. We are also comforted by the wonderful expressions of love many of you have extended to us in this time of need. We cannot adequately express how deeply touched we are by your kindnesses. Dorothy would appreciate all that has been done to make her transition dignified as well as celebratory and representative of her own unique style and grace. It is with the deepest sense of appreciation and great love that we simply say, thank you.

# **DOROTHY IRENE HEIGHT**

Dorothy Irene Height, the celebrated civil rights leader and Chair *Emerita* of the National Council of Negro Women, transitioned to eternal life on April 20, 2010 in Washington, DC. Dr. Height dedicated her life to service and leadership, working tirelessly to the very end. A recipient of The Congressional Gold Medal awarded in 2004 and The Presidential Medal of Freedom among hundreds of other honors, Dr. Height has worked on every major advancement in civil rights and justice for women and people of color dating back to the 1930s. She gave counsel to every American president from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Barack Obama.

Born on March 24, 1912, Dr. Height awakened early to the social injustice of segregation and became active with organizations as a teenager. As a young social worker in her 20s, she helped New York City resolve the Harlem Riots of 1935 and helped organize protests against lynching. She soon went on to work for the desegregation of the armed forces and for access for all people to public accommodations.

As the only woman leader among the civil rights leadership known as the "Big Six" Leadership (which included Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Phillip Randolph, John Lewis, and James Farmer), Dr. Height played a critical role in helping her colleagues put aside their factional differences and forge a united front. At her urging during the March on Washington in 1963, Dr. King was given no time limit compared to the other leaders and was scheduled to be the last speaker that day to deliver what would become known as the "I Have a Dream" speech. As she wrote in her memoir, *Open Wide the Freedom Gates*, "I do not think there was anyone who really would have wanted to follow him!...It was a riveting sermon that struck the conscience of America....A moment of grace, of transcendence, touched the thousands who were there and the millions more who watched from afar on television."

Dr. Height headed her beloved National Council of Negro Women for more than four decades, but began her association with the organization as a volunteer under her mentor Mary McLeod Bethune in 1937. With NCNW, Dr. Height devoted her energies to advancing quality of life issues for African American women and their families, impacting health, education and economic empowerment. Many African American women who have achieved high positions of leadership are quick to acknowledge a profound debt to her efforts. Under her leadership, NCNW organized the Black Family Reunion Celebration to underscore the traditional values and strength of the African American families (to be held for the twenty-fifth consecutive year on the National Mall this September). The organization's headquarters, the Dorothy I. Height Building at 633 Pennsylvania Avenue, is the only property on the nation's corridor of power owned by people of color and women. Dr. Height also worked for over ten years to erect the statue of Mary McLeod Bethune in Lincoln Park on July 10, 1974, in Washington, DC, the first such commemoration for a woman and person of color on federal land in the Nation's Capital.

On the international front, Dr. Height worked on an array of human rights and humanitarian issues, including training and research, economic empowerment, and leadership development projects for women and organizations in Africa, the Caribbean, and India, among other countries.

For more than three decades beginning in the mid-1940s, Dr. Height served on the staff of the National Board of the YWCA spearheading their racial justice initiatives. She was also elected the tenth National President of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority (1947–1956) and helped that organization expand its social activism in the US and abroad.

In a soon-to-be published book *Living With Purpose*, Dr. Height left the following advice to meet today's challenges: "To move forward, we have to look at the world as it is becoming rather than how it has been. We have to see how we have to stretch ourselves to become related to this ever-changing scenery. We have to gain a recognition not only that no one stands alone, but on a positive side, that we also need each other....In the long run, it is how we relate to each other and how well we work together that will make the deciding difference."

Dorothy Height is survived by her sister, Anthanette Aldridge; three nephews, Phillip Aldridge, Bernard Randolph (Billie Jean) of St. Louis, Missouri, and Daniel Aldridge, Jr. (Dorothy) of Detroit, Michigan; two nieces, Jean Randolph Linzey (Camerson, Sr.), and Leutta Henderson of Brooklyn, New York; great and great-great nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends, including one devoted friend/daughter, Alexis Herman Franklin (Charles) of McLean, Virginia. She also leaves to mourn her passing, her beloved National Council of Negro Women family, including staff members who served for over thirty years, Lola Early and Christine Toney, and her devoted caregiver of ten years, nurse Mary Brown.

#### **PERMISSIONS**

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This little light of mine. Words: Traditional. Music: Traditional Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arr. © 1992 Horace Clarence Boyer. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709283.

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