

FLOWER BEARERS

Mount Zion Baptist Church Deaconesses and Missionaries

PALL BEARERS

Mount Zion Baptist Church Deacons and Laymen

"THE GIFT OF LETTING GO"

The angels gathered near your bed, so very close to you,
For they knew the pain and suffering you were going through,
We thought about so many things, so we held tightly to your hand,
Oh, how we wished that you were strong and happy once again.
But your eyes were looking homeward, to that place beyond the sky,
Where Jesus held his outstretched arms, it was time to say good-bye.
We struggled with our selfish thoughts, for we wanted you to stay,
So we could walk and talk again, like we did just yesterday.
But Jesus knew the answer and we knew He loved you so,
So we gave to you life's greatest gift,
The gift of letting go.

-Johnson and Morse



Acknowledgment

*"What we once enjoyed and deeply loved
we can never lose. For all that we love deeply
becomes a part of us." Helen Keller*

Dear Church Family, During her absence from the worship experience, your uplifting prayers gave us peace and your kind deeds gave us comfort. And now, your Christian farewell gives us hope. We are eternally grateful to you for the beautiful medley of love as we bid farewell to our beloved.

The Family of Mrs. Octavia Lawson Acker

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CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN VICTORY FOR *Mrs. Octavia Lawson Acker*



**Wednesday, September 18, 2019
1:30 PM**

**MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
950 FILE STREET
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA**

DR. SERENUS T. CHURN, SR., PASTOR/EULOGIST

Cares All Past, Home at Last!

*"Oh I want to see Him, look upon his face, there to sing forever of His saving grace;
On the streets of Glory let me life my voice, cares all past, home at last, ever to rejoice."*

Mrs. Octavia Lawson Acker was born to the late Charlie and Louise Manigault Lawson in Winston-Salem, North Carolina on December 6, 1933.

She attended the local public schools of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County and graduated from Atkins High School. She worked as a clerk in retail at Thalhimers Department Store in Winston-Salem for 33 years, prior to her retirement.

Octavia began her early Christian Education at Mount Zion Baptist Church where she joined and was baptized under the pastorate of the late Reverend Dr. R. L. File. She was a life member of the church. During her Christian walk, which spanned more than eighty years, she found joy and purpose as a featured soloist of the Chancel Choir and she gave faithful service as a member of the Sarah Missionary Group, until declining health prohibited her active participation.

Octavia Lawson Acker passed away at The Oaks at Forsyth in Winston-Salem, North Carolina on Wednesday, September 11, 2019, following a period of illness. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sisters, Oberta Lawson, Lois Lawson, Tecolia Lawson Moore and Lillian Lawson Fulp.

The unspeakable joy that awaits her in heaven is the hope and promise of those who look forward to a reunion with her in eternity. Included in that number are her sons, Darnell Lawson and Lawrence (Cynthia) Reid; a daughter, Belinda Lowery Byrd; her grandchildren, Sherian Lowery and Lawrence J. (Erica) Reid; twin great granddaughters, McKensie and McKenna Reid; a dear friend, Gertrude Jackson; her "play daughter," Minister Frances Williams; and a host of nieces, nephews and several extended family members and friends.

The Pre-Worship Moments

Prelude Ms. Jeanne "Billie" Williams, Organist
"In the Garden" - "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" - "Because He Lives"
Pre-Seating of Family and Friends Ushers and Funeral Directors

Family Visitation Period 1:00 p.m.—1:30 p.m.

THE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Procession w/ Affirmation of Faith Clergy and Worship Leaders

Hymn of Worship Choir-Congregation
#255 — "It Is Well with My Soul"

The Holy Scripture Reading
Old Testament: **Psalms 121** Deaconess Kaye Henighan
New Testament: **II Thessalonians 4:13-18** Deacon Louis Henighan

Prayer of Comfort Minister Frances Williams

Solo Request Ms. Dyna McGriff
Director, Chancel Choir of Mount Zion Baptist Church
"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"

The Message of Hope Dr. Serenus T. Churn, Sr.
Pastor, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC

Recessional w/ Choral Affirmation
#472 — "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"

The Interment Evergreen Cemetery
Winston-Salem, NC

Family Fellowship Moments File-Goodwin Life Enrichment Center
Mount Zion Baptist Church