

*Home Going Service*  
*Celebrating the Life of*



*Lillian B. Thomas*

*Sunrise*  
*January 17, 1932*

*Sunset*  
*December 6, 2011*

Service

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

**ALLEN MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**

132 Allen Memorial Church Plaza  
Mount Vernon, New York 10550

**Pastor Carlton C. Spruill, Officiating**

## Obituary

*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away.*

*Revelation 21:4 (King James Version)*

**Lillian Beatrice Thomas** was born on January 17, 1932 in Philomath, Georgia to the late Billie Hull, Sr. and Emily Pearl Hull; she was the fourth of ten children.

During her early formative years, she attended the public school system in her county, however, at the tender age of fifteen, she left school to care for and help raise her younger brothers and sisters after her mother's death. Lillian migrated to the North in the early 1950's and later married John H. Thomas, Sr.; three children were born from this union, Gwendolyn, John and Chantelle.

Later on, Lillian was able to further her education by graduating from Monroe Business Institute and also attended the City College of New York's Adult Education Program. For many years, she worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in various positions and retired from their employ in 1994. After retirement, she became an active volunteer helping inner-city children and served as a reading tutor and mentor for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.). Lillian continued to volunteer for RSVP for a number of years but gave it up because she was blessed with the arrival of twin granddaughters Zoe and Atira! Since their birth, she served as their care-giver, nurturer, and teacher and was affectionately known as "Grand-Ma," and she referred to them as "the little ones."

Lillian accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at ten years old and has been a disciple ever since. She loved God and cherished His Word tenaciously and "lived the Word out" with much devotion. She was a woman of prayer, faith, and discipline; she touched so many lives with her wisdom, kindness, love and selflessness.

She is currently a member of the Allen Memorial Church of God in Christ but has served under the pastor-ship of many great spiritual leaders. Lillian has also served in many capacities in and outside of the church, just to name a few: Sunday School teacher and superintendent, prayer warrior, choir member, soloist, seamstress, foster mother, community activist, tenant organizer, friend, confidante and a mother to many.

Lillian departed this life suddenly and very unexpectedly on December 6, 2011. She left this life doing one of her favorite things and that was spending time with her family. She leaves behind: her loving daughters, Gwendolyn Taylor and Chantelle Thomas-Peterson; (her son John preceded her in death); her precious "little ones," Zoe and Atira Peterson; one son-in-law, Andre Peterson; her god daughter, Lillian Whitfield; two brothers, Billie Hull, Jr. and Willie Roy Hull; two sisters, Ruby Benson and Sarah Hull; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other family members and beloved friends.

# *Celebration Liturgy*

*Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have love His appearing.*

2 Timothy 4:8

The Processional

Music Prelude ..... Elder Damon Mack

Invocation/Prayer of Comfort ..... Elder Jay Austin

The Holy Scripture

Old Testament

New Testament

AMCOGIC Music Ministry

Remarks and Family Expressions..... Reverend James Clemons,  
Sister Margaret Roe, Elder Lamar Williams and Deacon Lenny Lee

Ministry of Music .....Sis. Freida Jones

Family Tribute ..... Gwendolyn Taylor, Chantelle Peterson, Zoe and  
Atira Peterson, Priscilla Carr, Deacon Andre Peterson

Poem ..... by Catherine Gomes-Alston

Reading of the Obituary ..... Missionary Theresa Sullivan

Eulogist Preparation ..... Missionary Dorothy Jones

Eulogist ..... Pastor Carlton C. Spruill Sr.  
Allen Memorial Church of God in Christ

Benediction

Recessional

Interment ..... Maple Grove Cemetery • Hackensack, NJ  
*Thursday, December 15, 2011*

# *To My Loved Ones*

*No reason for sorrow, no reason to cry. Look toward tomorrow and I'll tell you why my memories of you and yours of me are filled with love and laughter forever. You'll see no reason to worry, nor question God as to why you have lost me. No reason to say goodbye.*

*It's time for my journey home, a beautiful and peaceful trip that I must make alone. So just be strong and keep a smile, we'll only be apart for a little while. The love I've known is a very special part, the love I've shown came straight from the heart.*

*I leave you now to go on my way to a wonderful place where we'll be together someday. No reason at all as you can see. I'm with my Lord. He'll take care of me.*

## *Acknowledgement*

The family wishes to thank everyone for their telephone calls, cards, and expressions of condolence, your offers of assistance, your thoughts and prayers. May God's hands ever guide and keep you is our prayer.



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*Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.*

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