

## *Pallbearers*

Elders and Deacons of the Church

## *Flower Bearers*

Missionary Society of the Church

## *Acknowledgment*

The family of Mrs. Gertrude Sykes Napper sincerely appreciates all of the loving support and expressions of kindness during our time of bereavement. A heartfelt thank you to Pastor Michael Jones and St. James Church Family, your thoughtfulness and concern over the past nine years lifted our spirits. May God continue to bless each of you.

## *Interment*

Sterrs Cemetery  
Decatur, Alabama



Final Arrangements Entrusted To:  
Reynolds Funeral Home

"Serving the Community with a Spirit of Excellence since 1929"  
[www.reynoldsfh.com](http://www.reynoldsfh.com)

## THE HOMEGOING CELEBRATION FOR

*Mrs. Gertrude Sykes Pride Napper*

**JUNE 14, 1924 – NOVEMBER 25, 2013**



**Friday, November 29, 2013  
Twelve O'clock Noon**

**St. James C. P. Church in America  
920 W Moulton Street • Decatur, Alabama**

Officiating  
**The Reverend Michael Jones, Pastor**

## *"I'm Free"*

Don't grieve for me for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard him call.  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow:  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full I've savored much,  
Good times, good friends, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, he set me free.

Author: Unknown

## *Order of Service*

Processional

Selection St. James CPCA Choir

Scripture Readings The Rev. Carol C. Franklin

*Old Testament Scripture*

*New Testament Scripture*

Song/Prayer Elder Tommy Lee Rainey

Selection St. James CPCA Choir

Acknowledgement Mrs. Peggy Allen Towns

Resolution Elder Steven B. Thomas  
*Church Clerk*

Selection St. James CPCA Choir

Eulogy The Rev. Michael Jones  
Pastor, St. James CPCA Church  
Decatur, Alabama

Solo Mrs. Linda F. Raybon

Closing Prayer Pastor Jones  
*"The Lord's Prayer" in Unison"*

Recessional



## *Obituary*

### *"Ushering is a calling"*

Mrs. Gertrude Sykes Pride Napper was ushered into God's eternal presence on Monday, November 25, 2013, when she answered the call to rest from her labor. Gertrude was the second daughter born to the union of Tom and Maggie Lee Pride Sykes in Mooresville, Alabama, on June 14, 1924. She found joy and pleasure in life and was devoted to her family and friends. Her home was a home of love where many happy times were shared. She was employed by Decatur General Hospital, in Decatur, Alabama and after 20 years of service, retired in 1988.

Sister Napper confessed Christ as her personal redeemer and was a faithful member of the Saint James Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America in Decatur, Alabama. Ushering was her calling and she faithfully and dutifully served God by serving others for approximately 45 years. She was considered by many as an "usher extraordinaire," meeting people with a smile as she stood at her post.

Mrs. Napper was preceded in transition by her husband, Mr. Howard Napper, her parents, siblings, and five children, Dorothy Gamble, James Sykes, Margaret Ann Bonner, Angela Pride, and Baby Sykes.

She leaves to cherish her memory and rejoice in her "homegoing," eight children, a devoted daughter, Rose

Mary (The Reverend George Allen, Jr), Annie Delois Wherry, Larry Pride, Michael Pride, Marvin Bonner, Jr., and Diana Pride Wherry, of Decatur, Alabama; Rose Marie (Anthony) Wilkerson, of Nashville, Tennessee; Bobby Joe Pride (Burdean), Athens, Alabama; one brother-in-law, Bobby Moseley; son-in-law, Charles Gamble; nineteen grandchildren, twenty-eight great grandchildren, and nine great great grandchildren; nephews, nieces, cousins, friends and her beloved St James Church Family.

### *The Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
The power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever.**

**Amen.**





*Good Bye Mother... Until we meet again!*  
*Rose Mary Allen*



"For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." *Psalms 84:10*

"Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice and your joy no one will take from you." *John 16:22 NKJV*