

Home Going & Celebration Service  
for the life of a Proverb 31 Woman

*Victoria Eugenie McPherson*

18th June 1927 - 11th February 2023



Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 11.00 am  
At The High Town Methodist Church  
45-47 High Town Road, Luton, LU2 0BW

Officiating Minister: Pastor Vincent Cox NTCG/Luton

**Interment:** 14.15 pm at The Vale,  
Butterfield Green Rd, Luton LU2 8DD



*Mum and Dad arrival to the UK.*



*Order of Service*

Prelude and Praise Worship	NTCG Choir and P&W Team
Processional	'Your Grace And Mercy'
Opening Remarks & Welcome	The Reverend Vincent Cox
Prayer of Invocation	The Reverend Earl L. Sterling
Congregational Song 1	'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'
Scripture Reading	1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - 18
	Mrs H. McPherson-Hussain
Family Tributes	Grandchildren Great-grandchildren
Solo	Mrs. Paula Clarke-Little
Tribute	NTCG Luton/Reverend B. Brooks
Eulogy	Mrs. McPherson's children
Choral Tribute	NTCG District Choir The Rt. Reverend Dr N. Gooden
Sermon	The Rt. Reverend Headley Gayle
Prayer of Comfort	The Rt. Reverend D Mason
Congregational Song 2	'Precious Memories'
Vote of Thanks	The Reverend N. J Sterling
Choral Medley	Family Members / Congregants
Recessional	'Take Me To The King'

## Your Grace And Mercy

Your grace and mercy brought me through  
I'm living this moment because of You  
I want to thank You and praise You too  
Your grace and mercy brought me through.

Thank You for saving a sinner like me  
To tell the world salvation is free  
There were times when I just didn't do right  
But You watched over me all day and night  
Your grace and mercy brought me through  
I'm living this moment because of You  
I want to thank You and praise You too

Your grace and mercy brought me through  
Justice demanded that I should die  
But grace and mercy said  
Oh no, oh no, oh no  
We've already paid the price  
I once was blind  
But thank God I can see  
It was because grace and mercy  
Came along and rescued me

Your grace and mercy brought me through  
I'm living this moment because of You  
I want to thank You and praise You too  
Your grace and mercy, your grace and mercy  
Your grace and mercy brought me through.

*Franklin Williams*

## Congregational Song No 1

### Great Is Thy Faithfulness

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 will 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!

## Congregational Song No 2

### Precious Memories, Unseen Angels

Precious memories, unseen angels sent from somewhere to my soul  
How they linger, ever near me and the sacred past unfolds.

Precious memories, how they linger how they ever flood my soul  
In the stillness, of the midnight precious sacred scenes unfold

Precious father, loving mother fly across the lonely years  
And old home scenes, of my childhood in fond memory appears.

Precious memories, how they linger how they ever flood my soul  
In the stillness, of the midnight precious sacred scenes unfold.

I remember, mother praying father too, on bended knee  
The sun is sinking, shadows falling but their prayers still follow me.

Precious memories, how they linger how they ever flood my soul  
In the stillness, of the midnight precious sacred scenes unfold  
Precious memories fill my soul.

*Lonnie B. Combs/Jimmy Reeves*

### Take Me To The King

Take me to the King, I don't have much to bring  
My heart's torn to pieces, it's my offering  
Lay me at the throne, leave me there alone  
To gaze upon Your glory and to sing to You this song.

Take me to the King... Lord we're in the way  
We keep making mistakes  
Glory is not for us it's all for You.

Take me to the King, I don't have much to bring  
My heart's torn to pieces, it's my offering.

Lay me at the throne  
Leave me there alone  
To gaze upon Your glory, and sing to You this song.

*Tamela Mann*

# Tributes

## Victoria's children

Where do I start? What can I say? What a woman! My beloved mother was born with a mindset to serve her generation. She dedicated her life in service to Christ, her large family, the community and whoever visited our home.

Mother, you knew how much I adored and respected your steadfast determination to live, and your UNCOMPROMISING FAITH in Christ. You demonstrated courage, strength and tenacity when faced with life's toughest challenges. I thought I was well-prepared for your going home to be with the Lord but how wrong I was. I am missing our time together chatting as you told the same stories over and over and over again. Thank you for guiding me to the Cross. **RIEP** with the love of your life Jehovah God and your beloved husband Othniel who went on before you. "Well done, good and faithful servant..."

*Stephanie Sulaimon (daughter)*

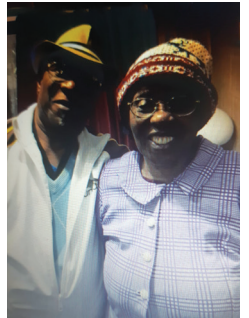
There is so much to say about our mother. Her memories will live in my heart forever!! I will pass on what she has instilled in me to my children and grandchildren. I will love you forever Mum.

*Yvonne Penny (daughter)*

Mother, you were the wind beneath my wings, and my inspiration. You were always there for those who came to you with their issues and troubles. Your home was open to everyone and your hospitality would make them feel important. You were the most loving, humble, compassionate, understanding, family-oriented woman with one of the most beautiful souls one could ever encounter.

I am going to miss you so much Mum.

*Linton McPherson (son and tenderly known as Maas Artnel)*







My dear mother who I've shared not just with my siblings, but with so many others who were part of her life. Rest in Peace.

*Buxton McPherson (son)*

My mother was a mother in every sense of the word. She was a ONE IN A MILLION. She very often took in disadvantaged children and supported them in every way that she could. I often said to her "Mum let other women look after their own children, you don't have to do it for them". She would graciously reply "SONIA I'M A MOTHER!" That's who she was to the WORLD. MOTHER, we love you and will miss you. **RIP**

*Sonia McPherson (daughter)*

Thank you for going beyond the call of duty. You've been more than a mother. You've been a counsellor, a friend, a beacon within the community for others to call on in their times of need. Whether it be looking after their children whilst they go to work or just being a listening ear. You were held in high esteem by all including myself. My dear mother, you will be greatly missed.

*Desmond McPherson (son)*

"She has run her race; she has finished her course...".  
To my extraordinary - caring mother who devoted all her life to her children. What can I say but thank you! Your 'baby Joy'.

*Hyacinth McPherson (daughter)*

## From Family Members and Friends

Grandma traded sunshine for snow in 1961 and she could tell you the date and day that each of her children were reunited with her in England. Nothing in her life was fleeting, everything she did served a higher purpose and a greater good.

Grandma had the ability to hold you close even when distance prevented the feeling of her embrace. No circle is too large for our grandma to enquire about.

It was never summarised in the sense of how is your family? It was how is your mum, your dad, your brother and your sisters and their children. Each person was referred to BY NAME! Each person was valued. Her heart knew no boundaries. When grandma said "I'll keep you in prayer" she meant just that.

Her days began and ended with devotion to her Saviour,  
which was her daily priority.

Grandma never needed to clarify or outwardly express the words "I'm a Christian" because her actions every minute of every day demonstrated nothing but her love for the Lord.

I'm grateful and I am one of the luckiest little girls on the planet to have been loved like I was the only one although surrounded by so many. Proud to be her granddaughter, proud to say she is ours.

*Malinda Cousins (granddaughter)*

Sis Lou, since you passed, life hasn't been the same. We would move Heaven and Earth to have you here with us again. We are so grateful for the years we had together and the closeness we shared. Your heart was so kind and thoughtful so we always knew you truly cared. You were a wonderful sister. We miss you world without end.

You were more than just our sister; we have lost a special friend.

*Mavis Sterling-Smallwood 'Lunette' (sister-Jamaica)*

A light is gone,  
A light from the family is gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place in our hearts is vacant, which can never be filled. We mourn the  
loss of our beloved sister Victoria Eugenie McPherson (Sis. Lue).

We truly missed her. It's like a dream;  
but we will meet on that Heavenly shore someday.

*Ethel Sterling-Douglas 'Babalyn' (sister- Florida), Dawn Bryant  
(niece- New Jersey) and Reverend Robert Sterling 'Trevor' (brother- Miami)*

Mrs Eugenie McPherson, affectionately known as Sis Lue, was  
the matriarch of our family. She held the family together with her  
abundance of wisdom. Today we celebrate the life of our great surrogate  
mother and sister whose legacy is immeasurable. She made herself  
available to us at all times and groomed us as she did her own children.

Sis supported, guided and prayed for us whenever we had major life  
decisions to make. We will dearly miss her, but will tenaciously hold to  
the precious memories we hold of her. She was indeed an historian and  
we would often resort to her library of knowledge and unfailing memory  
for information which were always accurate.

Propelled and influenced by her great faith in God, she fearlessly utilised  
every opportunity to be a Christian witness. Her commitment and service  
attest to her spiritual integrity, love for God and humanity. Many are the  
stars in the crown which she will wear around the throne of God.

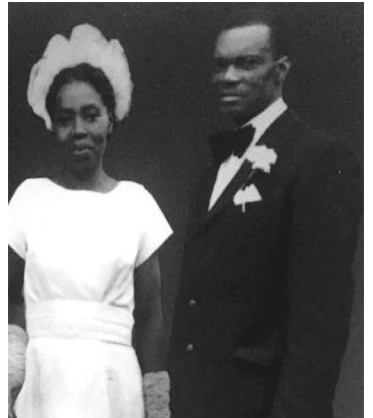
Mother McPherson you have done well!

*DEA. B L Sterling (brother), Reverend E L Sterling (brother)  
Mr C Sterling (brother) (and their wives)*

A light from my life is gone, a voice I loved is stilled  
A vacant place exists within my heart that never can be filled!  
My sister was a mother and friend, she was compassionate and an oracle of  
God. We enjoyed her presence and thank God for her life.  
We miss you sister, but we will see you again.

*Mr and Mrs Horace Sterling - The Bahamas (brother) and wife*

*When I come to the end of the road, and the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room, why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little-but not too long, and not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that we once shared, miss me-but let me go  
For this is a journey that we all must take, and each must go alone.  
It's all part of the Master's plan, A step on the road to home  
When you are lonely and sick of heart, go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds, miss me but let me go.*





## Acknowledgements

### Pallbearers

Buxton McPherson (son)	Johnathan McPherson (grandson)
Linton McPherson (son)	Desmond McPherson (son)
Tony Malabre (grandson)	Dorian Wilson (great-grandson)
Ibrahim Sulaimon (grandson)	Steven Little (grandson-in-law)

### Ushers

Michael McPherson	Chloe McPherson
Marion Cushnie	Tony McPherson
Harris Gowdie	

### Thank You

The family of Mrs Eugenie McPherson extend their gratitude for the many kind words, prayers, donations and visits in this time of difficulty. We have drawn immense strength from the community and gained a unique perspective on mum's life and the lives she touched.

Thanks to Neville Funeral Services - Luton



## **Surviving Family Members**

Mrs Victoria Eugenie McPherson leaves a legacy of:

7 children – Stephanie (Bev), Yvonne, Sonia, Buxton, Linton,  
Desmond and Hyacinth (Joy).

24 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, 5 great- great grandchildren.

5 brothers:

Bradley Sterling, Earl Sterling, Robert Sterling, Trevor Sterling, Calvin Sterling  
and their wives.

2 sisters:

Ethel Sterling-Douglas and Mavis Sterling-Smallwood

Eugenie also leaves behind many nieces and nephews,  
countless cousins and other family members.

## Interment Hymns

### Soon And Very Soon

Soon and very soon we are going to see the king  
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king  
Soon and very soon we are going to see the king  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are going to see the king.  
No more crying there ...  
No more dying there...

*Andrae Crouch*

### We Shall Have A Grand Time

We shall have a grand time up in Heaven  
We shall have a grand time up in heaven, have a grand time  
Walking with the angels, singing glory, alleluia!  
We shall have a grand time Up in Heaven  
Have a grand time.

### Sing The Wondrous Love Of Jesus

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, sing His mercy and His grace;  
In the mansions bright and blessed He'll prepare for us a place.

#### *Chorus*

*When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory!*

While we walk the pilgrim pathway, clouds will overspread the sky;  
But when travelling days are over, not a shadow, not a sigh.  
Let us then be true and faithful, trusting, serving every day;  
Just one glimpse of Him in glory will the toils of life repay.  
Onward to the prize before us! Soon His beauty we'll behold;  
Soon the pearly gates will open; we shall tread the streets of gold.

*Eliza Hewitt*

## **Mrs Victoria Eugenie McPherson**

*You will never change; your faithfulness will last forever!*



“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

*2 Timothy 4: 7 - 8 NIV*

The family of Mrs Eugenie McPherson extend an invitation to  
The Tributes and Celebration of Life from 4.00 pm at  
360 Venue, Gipsy Lane, Luton LU1 3JH.

Donations received will be given to the local sickle cell support group  
NatWest Bank  
Account name: Sickle Cell & Thalassaemia Care Forum  
Account No 50691775  
Sort Code 60-13-28  
Cheque payable to account name.



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