

# Order of Service

Prelude	
Processional	Clergy & Family
Receiving of Family & Friends	1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Call to Worship	Elder Sylvia Lowery
Selection	Community Choir
Old Testament Scripture	Minister
New Testament Scripture	Minister
Prayer of Comfort	Minister
Selection	“I Shall Wear A Crown” Mr. Lewis McLean
Remarks (Please respect a 2 minute time frame)	Sister Janice Moore Lewis McLean
Selection	Sanders Family
Eulogy	Elder Sylvia Lowery
Recessional Selection	Choir

Committal/Interment  
Rock Hill/Gold Hill Cemetery  
Stanley, North Carolina

Floral Bearers  
Nieces

Pall Bearers  
Nephews

I am home in Heaven dear ones;  
Oh, so *happy and bright!*  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.  
All pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at  
*peace forever.*  
Safely home in Heaven at last.  
There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand,  
Do it now, while life remaineth -  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.  
When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you Home;  
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,  
*Oh the joy to see you come!*

## In Gratitude

In everything both great and small, we see the hand of God through various expressions of sympathy you have extended to us. It is with deepest gratitude that we thank each of you during this most difficult time.

The Family of Mary Elizabeth Sanders Pless

*Service of Comfort Provided by:*  
Ebony & White's Funeral Service, Inc.  
1139 E. Pine Street | Lincolnton, NC 28093  
Phone: 704-732-1041  
“Dedicated To Those We Serve”  
[www.ebonyandwhitesfuneral serviceinc.com](http://www.ebonyandwhitesfuneral serviceinc.com)







*“The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants! Satisfy us in the <sup>s</sup>morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. Let your <sup>v</sup>work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the <sup>x</sup>favor<sup>d</sup> of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish <sup>v</sup>the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!”*  
Psalm 90:10-17

Mary Elizabeth Sanders Pless was born in Gaston County, North Carolina on April 1, 1924, to the late John Sanders and Bertha Johnson Sanders. She made a peaceful transition on Wednesday, September 2, 2025, at Atrium Health-Lincoln, Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Mrs. Mary attended public school in Gaston County, North Carolina. Mrs. Mary was employed and retired from Talon Zipper plant. After her retirement she took care of many children. She was an excellent cook. She made the best biscuits. She loved reading especially her Bible. She had enough books to make a library. She loved gospel singing and flowers. She liked to be the center of attention. She was the matriarch of the family. She was the “Boss”.

She accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at a very young age. She accepted the call to minister. She was a faithful servant to many churches in the Lincoln and Gaston County area. Her most recent fellowship was with Gold Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Minister Mary loved attending church and worshipping.

She was a past member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She was a fascinator, always wearing those beautiful outfits and her stylish hats. She was truly blessed and drove her little black car until two years ago.

In addition to her parents, he was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence Pless and eight siblings, Cash Sanders, Albert Sanders, Sr., Eli Sanders, John H. Sanders, Helen Sanders Tate, Pauline Sanders, Willie Mae Sanders and Agnes Anderson.

Those left to cherish fond and loving memories are her son, Ralph Mack Pless of Stanley, North Carolina; great niece/daughter, Catora (Warren) Wingate of Lincolnton, North Carolina; four grandsons, Jason Calland, Darrel Pearson both of Charlotte, North Carolina; Trysian (Aoife) Wingate of Shelby, North Carolina; Tristan Wingate of Lincolnton, North Carolina; two granddaughters, BreeKell Wingate of High Shoals, North Carolina; London Wingate of Lincolnton, North Carolina; her favorite girl and road partner, Arretha Derr; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

