



BURIAL, MEMORIAL &  
THANKSGIVING SERVICE  
FOR THE LATE



*Madam*  
† **MERCY ESHUN**   
(aka Omo Asuah Arizie)



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**MERCY  
ESHUN**

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(aka Omo Asuah Arizie)

AGED: 95

On Saturday, November 26th, 2022  
@the Bethel Methodist Church, Takoradi.  
at 7:00 a.m.

# PROGRAMME

## OFFICIATING MINISTERS

- |                                 |   |                                    |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Rt. Rev. Emmanuel K. Ansah   | - | Diocesan Bishop – Sekondi Diocese  |
| 2. Very Rev. John Kweku Ackom   | - | Superintendent Minister – Takoradi |
| 3. Very Rev. Alex Ackom Forson  | - | Circuit Minister – Bethel          |
| 4. Rev. Samuel Akor-Teye        | - | Circuit Minister – Bethel          |
| 5. Rev. Ellen Eliza Masopeh     | - | Circuit Minister – Bethel          |
| 6. Rt. Rev. John Harvey-Ewusi   | - | Supernumerary – Takoradi           |
| 7. Rt. Rev. Justice K.A. Dadson | - | Supernumerary – Takoradi           |

**BETHEL CHOIR**  
**BETHEL SINGING BAND**  
**BETHEL BAND**

**ORGANISTS:** John Mensah

### ORDER OF SERVICE

- |                              |  |                          |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>PART 1</b>                | <b>PRE-BURIAL SERVICE:</b>             | <b>7:00 AM</b>           |
| 1. Opening Hymn              | -                                      | MHB                      |
| 2. Prayer                    |  |                          |
| 3. Hymn                      | -                                      | MHB                      |
| 4. Selected Hymn/Filing Past |  |                          |
| 5. Reading of Tributes       | -                                      |                          |
| <b>PART 2</b>                | <b>BURIAL SERVICE:</b>                 | <b>8:30 AM</b>           |
| 1. Procession                | -                                      | MHB Choir / Singing Band |
| 2. Sentences                 |  |                          |
| 3. Announcement of Purpose   |  |                          |
| 4. Hymn                      | -                                      | MHB / CANF 50            |
| 5. Prayer                    |  |                          |
| 6. Hymn                      | -                                      | MHB / CANF 110           |
| 7. Biography & Tributes      |  |                          |
| 8. Hymn                      | -                                      | MHB / CANF 437           |
| 9. Bible Reading -           | 1. Psalm 90:1-12<br>2. 1 Thess 4:13-18 |                          |
| 10. Hymn                     | -                                      | MHB / CANF 468           |
| 11. Sermon                   |  |                          |
| 12. Affirmation of Faith     |  |                          |
| 13. Offering / Announcement  |  |                          |
| 14. Hymn                     | -                                      | MHB / CANF 679           |

BURIAL, MEMORIAL & THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR THE LATE MADAM MERCY ESHUN



15. Commendation

16. Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

17. Hymn

18. Benediction

19. Dead March in Saul

20. Recession

- MHB / CANF 612

- MHB Choir / Singing Band

**PART 3**

**AT THE GRAVESIDE**

1. Hymn

2. Prayer

3. Committal / Prayer

4. Vote of Thanks

5. Hymn

6. Prayer

7. Benediction

- MHB / CANF 615

- MHB / CANF 324



BURIAL, MEMORIAL & THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR THE LATE MADAM MERCY ESHUN



# BIOGRAPHY

## OF MADAM MERCY ESHUN

*The golden evening brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!! (William Walsham How, MHB 832:6)*

**M**adam Mercy Eshun, also known as Maame Asua Arizi, was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1927 at Adjoa, near Apowa, in the Western Region to Opanyin Ewusi Eshun and Obaapanyin Ebela, both of blessed memory. In her early years, Mercy lived with her auntie Maame Adwuma in Kumasi in the Ashanti Region.

Young Mercy started her formal education at the Bompata Methodist Primary school in Kumasi in the year 1933 and passed the Middle School Certificate Examination in 1943. In early 1944, due to the pre-independence political upheavals in Kumasi, Mercy had to go back to her mother Omo Ebela, who was then staying at Esiamia in the Ellembenle District of the Western Region.

Mercy was so smart, industrious and ambitious that not long after coming to Esiamia, she started petty trading in provisions and other household items to support her mother. Due to her smart and courteous disposition she attracted many customers to her side.

In 1946, the smart and beautiful Mercy caught the eyes of Mr. Amos Quacoe, who was then the Branch Manager of the defunct United Africa Company (UAC) Axim. The two courted for some time and later got married. Maame Asua therefore, joined her husband and lived with him for many years in Axim. Maame Asua's marriage with the late Mr. Amos Quacoe was blessed with eight children.

In 1964, her husband Mr. Amos Quacoe got a new job as the branch Manager of the newly established Ghana National Trading Company (GNTC) at Anyinase. The whole family therefore, relocated to Anyinase. At Anyinase, her industrious nature could not be extinguished as she quickly started selling porridge and doughnuts (popularly known as Koko and









Bofrot). As usual, this enterprise attracted almost all school children in the area every morning. School children would not sacrifice Maame Asua's Koko and Bofrot for anything else.

Maame Asua served the Lord through the Methodist Church Ghana. At Anyinase Maame Asua initiated the formation of the Singing Band in the Methodist Church. She was also talented in the singing of the local Lyrics known as Ebibi Ndwom.

After the passing away of her husband in October 1998 Maame Asua returned to Esiama, her hometown. She continued her kingdom work at Esiama Methodist Society where she again established the Singing Band in the church.

In order for Maame Asua to enjoy a better life and curtail the burden of travelling to Esiama very often she relocated to live with her children at Takoradi. She continued her service to the Lord at the Bethel Society of the Methodist Church Ghana. She was a member of the Monday Bible Class with Madam Sophia Daniels as her Class Leader.

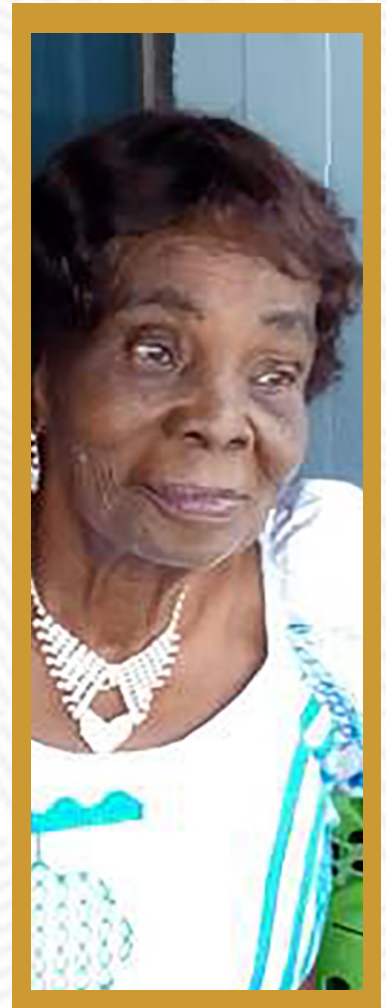
A few years back auntie Mercy became weak and sick and was unable to participate in regular church activities until she quietly responded to her Maker's call on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022.

Alas! A great tree in the family has fallen. Who will advise us and who will encourage us? Who will calm the storms in the family? Who will bring peace into our hearts when difficult situations come our way? You were a peacemaker and always faced difficult times with the belief that no condition is permanent. Maame Asua even at a ripe age of ninety plus five years we shall still miss your wise counsel, your sweet and beautiful voice and warm disposition.

Maame Asua you have fought the good fight, you have finished the race, and you have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for you the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to you on that day of reckoning.

May the good Lord, you diligently served, grant you a safe journey home into eternal rest.

Maame Asua Arizi, tia boe. Awulae Nyamele eva ekela ezie boe.





# TRIBUTE TO THE LOVING MEMORY OF MAAME ASUA ARIZI BY CHILDREN

*They who tread the path of Labour follow where my feet have trod;  
They who work without complaining do the holy will of God;  
Nevermore thou needest seek Me; I am with thee everywhere;  
Raise the stone, and thou shalt find Me, Cleave the wood and I am there.  
(MLB 60:1)*

**T**he event of death constantly reminds us that everything in this life is fragile and will soon come to an appointed end. It is often clouded with sorrow, grief and pain, but when the dead has lived a life so fulfilling and blessed with many years, the ceremony is organised to celebrate a life well lived.

Yes, we are deeply saddened that death has taken our mother away from us at this time, but the word of God encourages us to give thanks to Him in all things and so we are thankful to God! Even though our hearts are filled with so much grief and pain, at this point we wipe our tears and celebrate our mother.

We are, indeed truly blessed to have encountered and experienced a woman of your calibre. While pain and anguish fill our hearts today, her wisdom will continue to guide our actions, and her legacy will linger on, in our hearts, for many years to come. Today we are gathered here not just to bid our mother farewell but to express our deepest gratitude to her for all the sacrifices she made for our sake.

Maame Asua, as we affectionately called her, will remain in our memories as a God-fearing, strong, noble, intelligent, smart, and honest woman. She devoted everything she had to taking care of her family, and never expected or asked for anything in return. For her, our well-being and our success in life were enough satisfaction.

She made her children her greatest assets and mission, supporting us, counseling and guiding us every step on our way towards adulthood. Maame Asua set an example not just for us but for all who came to know her, in her loyalty and integrity. For all the years we spent together, we never heard or saw Maame Asua offend anyone. In our home there were several distant relatives staying with us but she took no one for a stranger and was always ready to help all of us in whichever way she could. Her love for us was simply unquestionable and she was always willing to provide a solution whenever we needed help or when something went wrong. Our mother never quarreled with anyone as much as we can remember.







Maame Asua, our mother instilled in us the fear of God and the spirit of hard work and determination, that have made us grow into responsible adults. We can never repay her for her genuine love and kindness towards us. Our mother was an industrious woman. She traded in all kinds of pastries such as doughnuts (bofrot), meat pie, koose, bread, rock buns and cakes together with porridge (kooko). This she did according to the season. For instance, during the Ramadan fasting period for our Muslim friends, she prepared and sold Hausa kooko and koose in the evening. During vacation periods the females among us, individually prepared and sold kooko and pasties so that they could make money for school.

We were always woken up at dawn by her singing of choruses, hymns and local lyrics (also known as Ebibi Ndwom) while going about her household chores and preparing kooko and bofrot for the market.

Mother! we appreciate all your love and affection towards not only us but to all others who lived with you. It was therefore a tussle as to which of us will host you when we decided that you relocate to Takoradi from Esiam, Maame Asua, we could not ask for more. We thank the Lord for blessing you with many years of life – ninety and five years. We celebrate you and thank you sincerely.

As you depart this life for eternity may the good Lord you served, graciously welcome you home. Join the heavenly angels to sing an endless Alleluia!

Rest well, Maame Asua.

Maame Asua Tia boe oo! Nyamenle eva wo ekela esie boe.

# CHILDREN













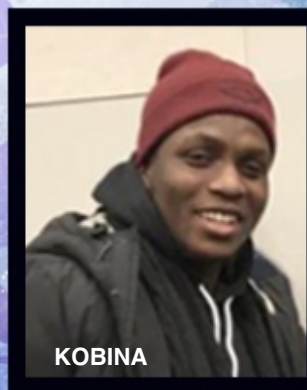
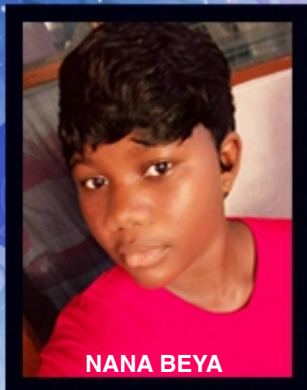
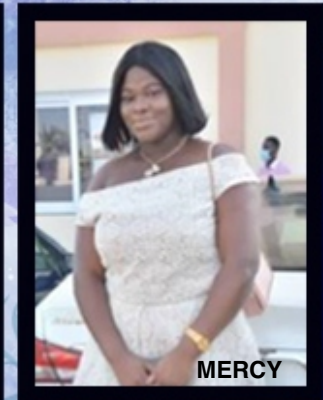
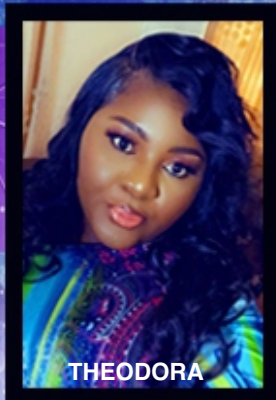
# TRIBUTE BY GRAND CHILDREN

**M**ama, your death has brought us to the understanding of what Paul said in Philippians chapter 1:21 which reads “FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST BUT AND TO DIE IS GAIN”.

You taught us a lot about doing right and working for the kingdom of God. You also taught us to hold family dear to our heart and you taught us lots of hymns, memorable of them is the Methodist hymn 338 which sings “RESCUE THE PERISHING, CARE FOR THE DYING, JESUS IS MERCIFUL, JESUS WILL SAVE”.

Mama we wish you were here to continue teaching us, but death will not allow. We promise to continue holding the pillar of Christ till Christ comes.

We will miss you mama, till we meet again Rest in the bosom of the lord.



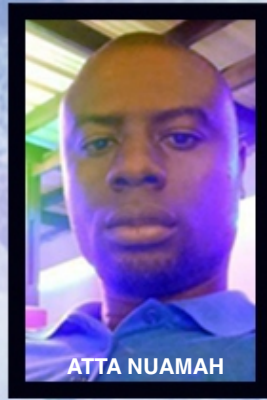




NANA DANSUA



RASHEED



ATTA NUAMAH



ISHA



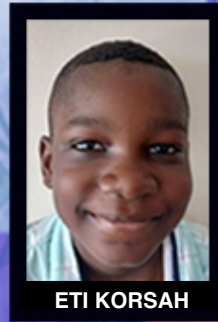
PAPA AKOCHIE



EGYA AYEM



MAAME ASSUAH

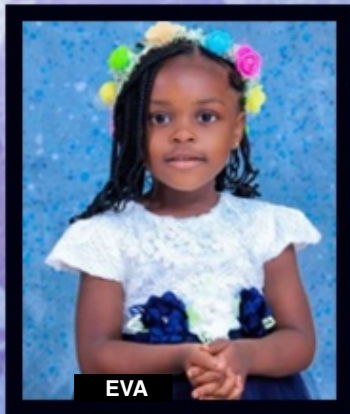


ETI KORSAH

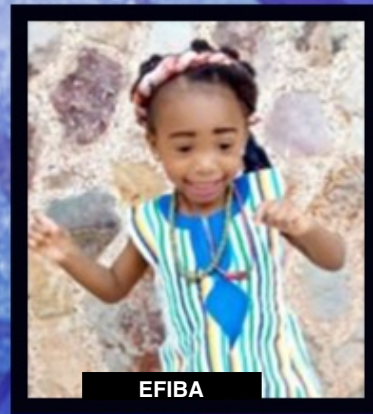


EGYA ARIZIE

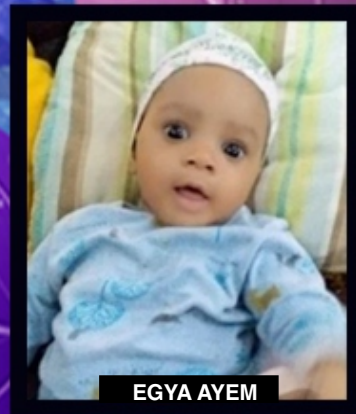
## GREAT GRAND CHILDREN



EVA



EFIBA



EGYA AYEM





# TRIBUTE BY IN-LAWS

**M**ama, as we affectionately call you, though you were our mother in-law, you were like a mother to us all. You gave us special treatment like your children. You were always happy whenever we visited you.

You have always encouraged us to pay more visits with your grandchildren, so they get familiar with you. Even though to a point you could not talk, you still insisted we bring your grandchildren to you. Even as you lost your speech, you starched your arms with the attempt to say a word to us.

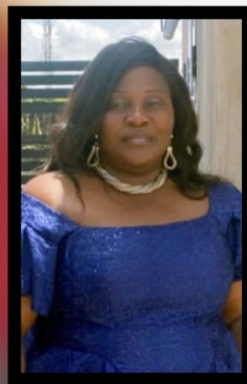
You were much concerned about how your grandchildren are faring and advised us to bring them up in the fear of God.

We will never forget the advice you gave us to take good care of your grandchildren and family in general.

May the good lord keep you till we meet again in the heavenly kingdom. Rest in the bosom of the lord.



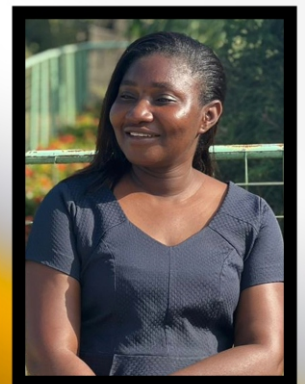
SAMUEL



MAVIS



ALEX



REBECCA

# TRIBUTE BY BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH – TAKORADI SOCIETY “A GLORIOUS BODY”



“It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory, it is sown in weakness, and it is raised in power. It is sown in a natural body, it is raised in spiritual body. There is natural body and there is also a spiritual body”. 1 Cor. 13:43-44

The late Sister Mercy Eshun's membership and association with The Takoradi Society of the Methodist Church Ghana dates back in the year 2000 when she joined her children in Takoradi.

Though an elderly woman, she was neither hidden in Sunday Church Services nor Monday Bible Class Meeting, or any prayer or revival activities going on in the church premises, as her house is just across the street near police quarters.

Her attendance to Bible Class Meetings and other social events of the class was very encouraging. Paying of Tithe and other financial obligations to the church was also regular until she fell ill and was placed on the church's infirm list.

Mama Mercy, your class members are so much grateful to you for the numerous motherly love and support you offered them.

Since death is inevitable but a means to return to our original eternal home, we console ourselves of the fact that we shall meet again in eternity to enjoy our good labour in the Lord.

Obaapanyin Mercy, Da Yie.

May the Lord give you peaceful rest in perfect peace. Amen







# HYMNAL

## MHB 50

1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.

He makes me down to lie in pastures  
green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet  
waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again and me to  
walk doth make within the paths of  
righteousness, e'en for his own name's  
sake; within the paths of righteousness,  
e'en for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me,  
and thy rod and staff me comfort still; for  
thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me  
comfort still.

4 My table thou hast furnished in presence  
of my foes; my head thou dost with oil  
anoint, and my cup over flows. My head  
thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup  
overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall  
surely follow me, and in God's house  
forever more my dwelling place shall be;  
and in God's house forever more my  
dwelling place shall be.

## MHB 110

1. Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to Thy  
bosom fly, While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high: Hide me, O  
my Savior, hide, Till the storm of life is  
past; Safe into the haven guide; O receive  
my soul at last.

2 Other refuge have I none, Hangs my  
helpless soul on Thee; Leave, oh, leave me  
not alone, Still support and comfort me. All  
my trust on Thee is stayed, All my help  
from Thee I bring; Cover my defenseless  
head With the shadow of Thy wing.

3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; More than  
all in Thee I find; Raise the fallen, cheer the  
faint, Heal the sick and lead the blind. Just  
and holy is Thy name, I am all  
unrighteousness; Vile and full of sin I am,  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

4 Plenteous grace with Thee is found, Grace  
to cover all my sin; Let the healing streams  
abound; Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art, Freely let me  
take of Thee; Spring Thou up within my  
heart, Rise to all eternity.



# HYMNAL

## MHB 468

1. Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!  
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me.  
Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!
2. Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,  
Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!
3. There let the way appear, Steps unto heav'n;  
All that thou sendest me, In mercy giv'n;  
Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!
4. Then with my waking thoughts  
Bright with thy praise, Out of my stony griefs  
Bethel I'll raise; So by my woes to be  
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer to thee!
5. Or if, on joyful wing Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,  
Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to thee,  
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!

## MHB 679

1. PLEASANT are Thy courts above, in the land of light and love;  
Pleasant are Thy courts below, in this land of sin and woe.  
O my spirit longs and faints For the converse of Thy saints,  
For the brightness of Thy face, For Thy fullness, God of grace
2. Happy birds that sing and fly Bound Thy altars,  
O Most High! Happier souls that find a rest  
In a heavenly Father's breast Like the wandering dove that found  
No repose on earth around, They can to their ark repair,  
And enjoy It ever there.
3. Happy souls I Their praises flow In this vale of sin and woe;  
Waters in the desert rise, Manna feeds them from the skies.  
On they go from strength to strength, Till they reach Thy throne at length;  
At Thy feet adoring fall, Who hast led them safe through all.
4. Lord, be mine this prize to win: Guide me through a world of sin;  
Keep me by Thy saving grace; Give me at Thy side a place.  
Sun and shield alike Thou art; Guide and guard my erring heart:  
Grace and glory flow from Thee; Shower, O shower them.  
Lord, on me Amen.

# HYMNAL

## MHB 612

*Refrain:* Lead, kindly Light, amid the gloom of evening. Lord, lead me on! Lord, lead me on! On through the night! On to your radiance! Lead, kindly Light! Lead, kindly Light, kindly Light!

1 The night is dark, and I am far from home, Direct my feet; I do not ask to see The distant scene; one step enough for me. So lead me onward, Lord, and hear my plea. [Refrain]

2 Not always thus, I seldom looked for you, I loved to choose and seek my path alone. In spite of fear, my pride controlled my will, Remember not my past, but lead me still. [Refrain]

3 So long your pow'r has blest me on the way, And still it leads, past hill and storm and night! And with the morn, those angel faces smile, Which I have loved long since, and lost a while. [Refrain]

## MHB 615

1. GUIDE me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy powerful hand: Bread of heaven! Feed me now and evermore.

2. Open Thou the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream shall flow; Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through; Strong Deliverer! Be Thou still my held and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death, and hell's destruction. Lead me safe on Canaan's side; Songs of praises I will ever give to Thee.





# HYMNAL

## MHB 324

1. Jesus, thou know'st my sinfulness, My faults are not concealed from thee; A sinner in my last distress, To thy dear wounds I fain would flee, And never, never thence depart, Close sheltered in thy loving heart.

2. How shall I find the living way, Lost, and confused, and dark, and blind? Ah, Lord, my soul is gone astray! Ah, Shepherd, seek my soul, and find, And in thy arms of mercy take, And bring the weary wanderer back.

3. Weary and sick of sin I am I hate it, Lord, and yet I love; When wilt thou rid me of my shame? When wilt thou all my load remove? Destroy the fiend that lurks within, And speak the word of power, "Be clean!"

4. O Lord, if I at last discern That I am sin, and thou art love, If now o'er me thy bowels yearn, Give me a token from above; And conquer my rebellious will, And bid my murmuring heart be still.

5. Sin only let me not commit, (Sin never can advance thy praise) And lo! I lay me at thy feet, And wait unwearied all my days, Till my appointed time shall come, And thou shalt call thine exile home.

# *Appreciation*

The Children and the Entire Family of

MADAM

**MERCY ESHUN**

would like to express their  
heartfelt and deepest gratitude  
for your kind support and  
generosity

God bless you

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