



APRIL 9TH, 1898 — JANUARY 23RD, 1976

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR PAUL ROBESON

Tuesday, January 27th, 1976 - 8 p.m.

MOTHER A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

New York, New York

MESSAGE TO

“SALUTE TO PAUL ROBESON”

(Carnegie Hall, New York City - April 9th, 1973)

Warmest thanks to all the many friends here and throughout the world who have sent me greetings on my 75th birthday. Though I have not been able to be active for several years, I want you to know that I am the same Paul, dedicated as ever to the worldwide cause of humanity for freedom, peace and brotherhood.

Here at home, my heart is with the continuing struggles of my own people to achieve complete liberation from racist domination, and to gain for all black Americans and the other minority groups not only equal rights but an equal share.

In the same spirit, I salute the colonial liberation movements of Africa, Latin America and Asia, which have gained new inspiration and understanding from the heroic example of the Vietnamese people, who have once again turned back an imperialist aggressor.

Together with the partisans of peace — the peoples of the socialist countries and the progressive elements of all other countries — I rejoice that the movement for peaceful coexistence has made important gains, and that the advocates of “cold war” and “containment” have had to retreat.

On this occasion, too, I want to say a warm hello to the many dear friends who have sent me encouraging messages during my long illness. I am deeply grateful to you all — classmates from high school and college days; fellow actors, singers, musicians, and others from the arts, sciences and professions; church people and trade unionists, and friends from all the other areas of my life here and abroad.

Though ill health has compelled my retirement, you can be sure that in my heart I go on singing:

“But I keeps laughing
Instead of crying,
I must keep fighting
Until I’m dying,
And Ol’ Man River
He just keeps rolling along!”

PAUL ROBESON

Order of Service

Dr. George W. McMurray, *Officiating*

HYMN No. 628 — "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder"

SCRIPTURE — Isaiah 2: 1-4 Rev. William Howard Melish

PRAYER Bishop J. Clinton Hoggard

CHORAL RESPONSE — "I Will Arise"

SELECTION The Cathedral Choir of Mother A.M.E. Zion Church
"Every Time I Feel The Spirit"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONDOLENCES AND TELEGRAMS

SOLO Delores Ivory Davis
"Oh, When I Come To The End Of My Journey"

TRIBUTES — Lloyd L. Brown

Dr. Samuel Rosen

Bishop J. Clinton Hoggard

Paul Robeson, Jr.

CONSIGNMENT OF THE BODY TO THE ELEMENTS

"DEEP RIVER" Paul Robeson

WE ARE CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER

*We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder
Soldier of the Cross.*

*Every round goes higher and higher,
Every round goes higher and higher,
Every round goes higher and higher
Soldier of the Cross.*

*Sinner, do you love my Jesus?
Sinner, do you love my Jesus?
Sinner, do you love my Jesus
Soldier of the Cross.*

*If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
Soldier of the Cross.*

*We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder
Soldier of the Cross*

PALLBEARERS

HARRY BELAFONTE

VAUGHN LOVE

DR. JOHN ROSEN

REVELS CAYTON

DAVID T. LYNN, JR.

ALBERT RUBEN

GIL GREEN

STEVE NELSON
(National Commander,
Veterans of the Abraham
Lincoln Brigade)

HOPE STEVENS

JOHN KILLENS

DOUGLAS TURNER WARD

JOSHUA LAWRENCE

The family of the late Paul Robeson acknowledges with deep appreciation the many kindnesses extended to them.