



*Reverend Gloria Lyde Smith*

## THE REVEREND GLORIA LYDE SMITH

**Rev. Gloria Lyde Smith** the fifth child of the Reverend Nelson and Mrs. Marion Geneva Lyde, is an acclaimed contralto and a people person, gifted with the gift of Ministry. Rev. Smith attended Brown College in Atlanta Georgia where she pursued a degree in Music Education. She ultimately earned a Bachelor of Religious Education from the Eastern Theological Consortium in Yonkers, New York. She has earned post graduate credits from Princeton Theological Seminary, in Princeton, New Jersey and Evergreen College in Tacoma, Washington. She is an Associate Pastor at St John's Baptist Church, Scotch Plains New Jersey. Gloria is a former elected Committee member for the City of Plainfield. She has been cited with numerous honors from churches, schools and communities world-wide for her many contributions. She is affiliated with the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Order of the Eastern Stars, and the Order of the Golden Circle.

**Rev. Smith** is a gifted musician. She is a prolific composer and pianist, who conducts, trains, accompanies, orchestrates, and sings with the Solid Rock Ensemble which consists of musicians from New York, New Jersey, Georgia, and North Carolina. The Ensemble made its debut at the McDonald's Gospel Fest, advancing as finalists in 1989 and 1990. Since its inception, the Ensemble has traveled throughout the United States lifting the name of Jesus in song and ministering through music at various venues. In 1998, the Ensemble had the distinction and honor of singing at the National Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, and in May of 2001 and 2005, the Ensemble was presented in concert at the historic Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York. In 2010, Rev. Smith and the Solid Rock Ensemble released their latest CD entitled "I've Been Redeemed". In 2012 one of her compositions, "Peace," was featured as the benediction song in The Annual Charles H. Flax Memorial Concert at the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Hampton University Ministers' Conference 2012.

**Rev. Smith** is married to Bro. Isiarh Smith, Trustee at St. John's Baptist Church, Scotch Plains and is the proud mother of Marion, Tracy, Nelson, Leslie, John Andrew, Karen and Jason. Some of her best work was inspired by her pride and joy, her grandsons, Ahmad, Hilton II, Tariq, Sadiq, and Saahmad; and her granddaughters, Kayla, Ahmya, Noslen, and Alisra.

**Gloria** realizes that without God's Holy Ordinance, she would not have realized her call, would not have pursued her goals nor would she have achieved any of her aims or dared to even dream. Her motto remains *"touch somebody's life as you pass them...you may never pass that close again"*.