

This Light of Ours
Image 23 (00:55)

Matt Herron: Valley View was a rural black town of sharecroppers. And the big event of the week for these people, in many ways, was Sunday church service. It was a day when they could dress in their best clothes, when they could address each other as Mr. and Mrs., rather than James and Mary as white overseers always called them. It was a day in which they received respect and dignity. One thing I learned was that people in those days used to walk the dusty roads to church barefoot, carrying their shoes so that when they put them on for service, they would be spotless. And that was the way in which they cared for themselves and the way in which they chose to present themselves to each other.