

ORDER OF WORSHIP

INTROIT: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee (vs. 1) – Grateful Hill Circuit Choir*

CALL TO WORSHIP (*led by Rev'd Claudette Campbell*)

L: God has blessed each and every one of us.

P: **We want to serve God.**

L: Each talent, each skill can be used for peace and justice

P: **Lord, help us be part of ministries that promote hope and peace.**

L: Come, let us praise God for the diversity present here.

P: **Enable us, O God, to discern what you would have us do.**

L: Sovereign God with the gift of your grace we are nourished.

P: **So, as we worship today, may the promise of your presence strengthen us to be your faithful disciples. Amen.**

HYMN: *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* [# 13 VIP, vs. 1—3]

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.	2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
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3. To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but nought changeth Thee.

Walter C. Smith (1824-1908)

PRAYERS OF ADORATION (*written & led by Rev'd Racquel Clemming*)

L: Let us pray
Let us celebrate our God who existed even before the foundations of the world.

P: **What a mighty God we serve!**

L: Let us celebrate our God who transcends time and space, whose glory fills the earth; whose presence fills this temple and whose name is high above all other names.

P: **We ascribe all praise and glory, blessing and honour which belong to our God.**

L: Let us celebrate Jesus Christ who came to earth in human form; the one whose life teaches us; whose death transforms us; whose resurrection enables us; whose ascension beckons us.

P: **We praise the name of Jesus who identifies with us in our daily lives.**

L: All praise to you O Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, through whom we are born into the family of God and have become members of the Body of Christ. All praise to you gracious Spirit who empowers us to pursue your mission with joyous anticipation.

P: **We praise you O Holy Spirit; your witness confirms us; your wisdom teaches us; your power enables us to do far more exceedingly than we can fathom or imagine.**

ALL: **BLESSED BE GOD OUR FATHER, OUR CREATOR; JESUS CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT OUR COMFORTER WHO IS WITH US AND IN ALL PLACES NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

L: As we prepare to make our humble confessions to our loving God, let us prayerfully sing the chorus: **“Search Me O God And Know My Heart Today.”**

*Search me, O God, and know my heart today
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray
See if there be some wicked way in me
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.*

L: Holy God, ashamed and sorry we appear before the throne of grace. We have grieved your Spirit with our uncharitable words, our acts of unkindness and our thoughts of selfishness.

P: **Have mercy on us and forgive us O Lord.**

L: Our failure to give willingly of our time, our resources and our abilities has caused our witness to be inadequate and often times, ineffective.

P: **Forgive us we pray for the selfishness in our response.**

L: Loving God, we often fail to claim the opportunities for mission as we postpone, avoid and evade our responsibilities. We are painfully aware that persons continue to languish in distress as we fail to respond to their pleas.

P: **Have mercy upon us and forgive us O Lord.**

L: Merciful God, forgive us of the many times we confess our sins yet failing to live in rightful relationship with you and with our neighbours.

P: **We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.**

(Silence)

L: In Christ there is new life for all who truly repent and confess their sins. Let us therefore hear the Good News: “Our sins are forgiven for Christ’s sake!”

P: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Chorus: **“Thanks! Thanks! We Give You Thanks!”**

*Thanks, thanks, we give you thanks.
For all you 've do-oo-oo-ne.
I am so blessed My soul is at rest.
Oh Lord i give you thanks.*

(Silent prayer of thanksgiving)

L: Eternal God, we give you our humble and hearty thanks for all the gifts which you have so richly bestowed on our lives. We thank you for the resources of this earth which adequately provide for our every need.

We thank you for health and security of home and family; opportunities for worship and witness. We thank you for our congregation our spiritual home; for the talents and resources made available for building up the Body of Christ.

Accept our glad thanksgiving for Jamaica land we love, for our people who act with love and good will toward our neighbour. Especially we thank you for the privilege in participating in your mission. We thank you for the opportunities for bringing messages of hope, peace and love to your people. We thank you for most of all for your salvation which was completed in Jesus Christ. Accept our glad thanksgiving as we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN MINISTRY: - Rev'd Tene Joseph

MINISTRY ITEM: SOLO *“He Hideth My Soul”*- Sis Lilieth Deacon

ROLE AND WORK OF DEACONS - Rev'd June James

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live a life of holiness and make us eager to do your will. Enable us to share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 33:12-23 - Dr. the Rev'd Alison Iton

GOSPEL. St. Matthew 22: 15-22

Rev'd Yachelle Watson

HYMN: "O Safe To The Rock That Is Higher Than I" [# 273 VIP]
(vs. 1 and chorus)

1. Safe to the Rock that is
higher than I,
My soul in its conflicts and
sorrows would fly,
So sinful, so weary, thine,
thine would I be,
Thou blest Rock of Ages,
I'm hiding in thee!

Refrain:
**Hiding in Thee! Hiding in
thee!**
**Thou blest Rock of Ages,
I'm hiding in thee!**

William O. Cushing
(1823—1903)

MESSAGE:

Dr. the Rev'd Alison Iton

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP – HYMN: "I AM THINE O LORD" [# 223 VIP, vs. 1 & 2]

1. I am thine, O Lord;
I have heard thy voice,
And it told thy love to me,
But I long to rise in the
arms of faith,
And be closer drawn to
thee.

**Draw me nearer, nearer,
nearer, blessed Lord,
To thy precious, bleeding
side.**

2. Consecrate me now to thy
service, Lord,
By the power of grace
divine;
Let my soul look up with a
steadfast hope,
And my will be lost in thine.

Refrain:
**Draw me nearer, nearer,
blessèd Lord,
To the Cross where thou
hast died:**

Frances J. van Alstyne
(1820-1915)

ANNOUNCEMENT/ TITHES/ OFFERING AND BLESSINGS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: (written by: Rev Dr. Karen Durant McSweeney)

Led by Rev'd Claudette Campbell

L: Calling God, as we observe ministries' month, we thank you for all persons who have responded to your call to ministry. We know that we are called to exercise ministry in changing times, especially as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. We pray, O God, that you may strengthen us to be faithful and to seek your guidance for the ability to identify new ways of doing ministry as we seek to move your kingdom forward in the midst of this pandemic. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: **And help us to be faithful.**

L: Empowering God, we pray for persons who are confident that You have called them into ministry, but are struggling to respond for various reasons. Give them the confidence that You who have called them will equip them for the ministry. Remind them, O God, that You will always be with them because You will never leave them nor forsake them. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: **And help us to trust You.**

L: Healing God, we pray for all persons who are sick and suffering at this time, especially those who are infected and affected by the coronavirus. May Your healing hand be upon them and may they trust You during this time. We pray for strength and wisdom for doctors and nurses who care for the sick, and for patience and love for family members who are caregivers. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: **And help us to trust You.**

L: Guiding God, we pray for our nation, Jamaica. Guide our leaders as they seek to make policies to move this nation forward, especially in the midst of the pandemic. We pray that leaders will place the concerns of citizens ahead of their own concerns and will lead with justice, honesty and compassion. God, our protector, protect our frontline workers and their families as they continue to put their lives at risk in the fight against COVID-19. We pray that you will enable each person in this nation to do his/her part in observing the prevention protocols so that we can control the spread of the virus. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: **And help us to be faithful.**

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: 'Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing' [# 381 VIP]

1. LORD, dismiss us with your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace;
O refresh us,
Travelling through this wilderness.

2. Thanks we give, and adoration,
For your gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound;
May your presence
With us evermore be found.
Amen.

John Fawcett (1740-1817)

BENEDICTION: (based on Philippians 1)

L: Stand firm in the spirit; strive side by side; and live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

R: **Let us live as faithful disciples, telling all what God has done.**

L: And remember that Jesus is always with us, to the end of the age. Go in peace and the God of peace go with you. Amen.



The Methodist Church in the Caribbean
and the Americas (MCCA)

JAMAICA DISTRICT

METHODIST VOICES IN WORD AND SONG
TELEVISION MINISTRY



Deacon's, Lord's, Day

20th Lord's Day after Pentecost

Sunday, October 18, 2020

DIVINE WORSHIP

OFFICIATING CLERGY:

Preacher: Dr. the Rev'd Alison Iton
Liturgist: Rev'd Claudette Campbell

Organist: Bro. Audley Davidson

Choristers: Sis. Cassie-Ann King
Sis. Kerry-Ann Saddler
Sis. Nadine Ivey

District Bishop: Rev'd Christine Gooden- Benguche

District Secretary: Rev'd Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

A warm welcome to all worshippers!