

# Order of Worship

## INTROIT HYMN: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus...” [# 133 VIP, v 1 and 4]

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| 1. Come, Thou long-expected<br>Jesus,<br>Born to set Thy people free;<br>From our fears and sins release<br>us,<br>Let us find our rest in Thee. | 4. By Thine own eternal Spirit<br>Rule in all our hearts alone;<br>By Thine all sufficient merit,<br>Raise us to Thy glorious<br>throne. |
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*Charles Wesley 1707-1788*

## CALL TO WORSHIP: – Rev’d Eva Cocks-Williams

L: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God.

**ALL: By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.**

## READING: Jeremiah 23:5-6 - Bro. Micah James

L: For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world but that the world through Him might be saved.

**ALL: Glory to God in the highest!**

## HYMN “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory. . .” [# 136 VIP]

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| 1. Mine eyes have seen the glory<br>of the coming of the Lord;<br>He is tamplng out the vintage<br>where the grapes of wrath are<br>stored;<br>He has loosed the fateful<br>lightning<br>of His terrible swift sword:<br>His truth is marching on: | He is sifting out the hearts of<br>all<br>before the judgement-seat:<br>O be swift my soul to answer<br>Him;<br>Be jubilant, my feet!<br>Our God is marching on: |
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**Refrain:**  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.*

2. He has sounded forth the  
trumpet  
that shall never call retreat;

*Julia W. Howe (1819—1910)*

**PRAYER: - Rev’d Eva Cocks-Williams**

## TIME WITH OUR YOUTH:

- SELECTION:**
- Keeli Smith (*pianist*)
  - Micah James (*guitarist*)

## LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

### MINISTRY ITEM: “Mary Did You Know”

- Soloists: Sis. Sharon Millwood Moore, Sis. Sayna Moore and Sis. Savanna Moore
- Organist: Bro. Ivor (Hopeton) Gordon
- Chimes: Sis. Helen Bromley
- Violinists: Sis. Samantha Stines  
Sis. Sabrina Stines

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### THE COLLECT

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 7:10-15 - Wendy Harrison-Smith**

**GOSPEL: St. Matthew 1:18-25 - Rev’d Eva Cocks-Williams**

## HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem. . .” [# 68 VIP]

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| 1. O little town of Bethlehem,<br>How still we see thee lie!<br>Above thy deep and dreamless<br>sleep<br>The silent stars go by.<br>Yet in thy dark street shineth<br>The everlasting light;<br>The hopes and fears of all the<br>years<br>Are met in thee tonight. | 3. How silently, how silently,<br>The wondrous gift is given!<br>So God imparts to human<br>hearts<br>The blessings of his heaven.<br>No ear may hear his coming;<br>But in this world of sin,<br>Where meek souls will receive<br>him still<br>The dear Christ enters in. |
| 2. Morning stars together<br>proclaim the holy birth,<br>And praises sing to God the<br>King<br>And peace to all the earth.<br>For Christ is born of Mary; And,<br>gathered all above,<br>While mortals sleep, the angels<br>keep<br>Their watch of wondering love. | 4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,<br>Descend to us, we pray;<br>Cast out our sin, and enter in;<br>Be born in us today.<br>We hear the Christmas angels<br>The great glad tidings tell;<br>O come to us, abide with us,<br>Our Lord Immanuel. Amen.                            |

*Phillips Brooks (1835—1893)*

**SERMON: “Speech is Silver and Silence is Golden” (Matthew 1:19;24)  
– Rev’d Athlone Harrison**

**SELECTION: Hymn - “Silent Night, Holy Night” - Choristers**

## CALL TO COMMITMENT

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Rev’d Athlone Harrison**

L: Let us pray for the church and country. . .

L: Grant, O God, that all who confess Your name may be united in Your truth, live together in Your love and reveal Your glory in the world. Lord in Your mercy;

**R: Hear our prayer**

L: Guide the people of this land, Jamaica land we love, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honour one another and serve the common good of helping to build a better nation. Lord in Your mercy;

**R: Hear our prayer**

L: Give us all a reverence for the earth as Your creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to Your honour and glory. Lord in Your mercy;

**R: Hear our prayer**

L: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of Your salvation. Lord in Your mercy

**R: Hear our prayer**

## LORD’S PRAYER

**CLOSING HYMN "There's a Light Upon the Mountains. . ." [# 144 VIP]**

1. There's a light upon the mountains,  
and the day is at the spring, When  
our eyes shall see the beauty  
and the glory of the King; Weary  
was our heart with waiting,  
and the night-watch seemed so  
long;  
But his triumph-day is breaking,  
and we hail it with a song.
  2. In the fading of the starlight  
we can see the coming morn;  
And all human lights are paling  
in the splendours of the dawn;  
For the eastern skies are glowing  
as with light of hidden fire  
And the hearts of all are stirring  
with the throbs of deep desire.
  3. There's a hush of expectation,  
and a quiet in the air;  
And the breath of God is moving  
in the fervent breath of prayer:
- Henry Burton (1840—1930)*

For the suffering, dying Jesus  
Is the Christ upon the throne,  
And the travail of our spirit is the  
travail of his own.

4. He is breaking down the barriers,  
he is casting up the way;  
He is calling for his angels  
to build up the gates of day:  
But his angels here are human,  
not the shining hosts above;  
For the drum-beats of his army  
are the heart-beats of our love.

5. Hark! We hear a distant music,  
and it comes with fuller swell;  
Tis the triumph-song of Jesus, of  
our King, Immanuel:  
Zion, go you forth to meet him;  
and, my soul, be swift to bring  
All your sweetest and your  
dearest  
for the triumph of our King!

**BENEDICTION**



**Announcements**

- **District Conference 2021:** The District Theme for Connexional Year 2020 - 2021: "Spreading Scriptural Holiness to Reform the Nation: Beginning with Me" **Sub-Theme** - "Caring for the Body, Mind, and Soul as We Serve the Present Age.
- **"The Theme Hymn/Songs:** "A Charge to keep I have" [VIP 315], "Make God Your Choice" [VIP 224]; a copy of the sound file for the latter is attached and may be found as well on the Caribbean Praise, CD for sale at the JMD Bookstore.
- **District Conference Dates and Activities**
  - a. Ministerial Sessions-  
[Blended Session, that is both physical and virtual] –  
Thursday January 21, Friday, January 22 and Thursday,  
January 28, 2020.
  - b. Representative Session-  
Monday, January 25 to Wednesday, January 27 [Meetings  
to be entirely virtual by Zoom]

- c. **Conference Lord's Day- Sunday, January 24**  
A Common Order of Service for morning worship will be sent for use in Congregations/Circuit services where possible and with adherence to the relevant government protocols. Be guided by your Superintendents
- d. **Official Conference Service- Sunday, January 24**  
To be hosted at Saxthorpe Methodist commencing at 4:00 p.m. with Superintendent Ministers, one Circuit Steward, invited guests from civic and religious bodies, and laity, as allowed by government protocols for the management of the COVID -19 Pandemic.

**District Conference 2021  
Summary of Meeting Dates and Activities**

| Day/Date             | Event  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Thurs. Jan. 21, 2021 | Ministerial Session (Blended, Saxthorpe)                                   |  |
| Fri. Jan. 22, 2021   | Ministerial Session (Blended, Saxthorpe)                                   |  |
| Sun. Jan. 24, 2021   | Official Conference Service & Conference Lord's Day (Saxthorpe, 4:00 p.m.) |  |
| Mon. Jan. 25, 2021   | Representative Session (Virtual – Zoom)                                    |  |
| Tues. Jan. 26, 2021  | Representative Session (Virtual – Zoom)                                    |  |
| Wed. Jan. 27, 2021   | Representative Session (Virtual – Zoom)                                    |  |
| Thurs. Jan. 28, 2021 | Ministerial Session (Blended, Saxthorpe)                                   |  |

**Prayer Meetings Leading up to  
District Conference 2021**

| Zone                    | Day/Date  | Time        |                |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| 3                       | Friday    | December 4  | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| 1                       | Friday    | December 11 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| 5                       | Friday    | December 18 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| 2                       | Tuesday   | December 29 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| 4                       | Tuesday   | January 5   | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| 6                       | Tuesday   | January 12  | 6:00 – 8:00 pm |
| District Prayer Meeting | Wednesday | January 20  | 6:00 – 9:00 pm |

- Open Forums:**
- **January 16<sup>th</sup>** – The target group will be Youth and Young Adults. Theme: *'Covid or no Covid, Hooray Fi Jesus.'*  
Chorus: Hooray fa Jesus...
  - **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Target group will be adults.  
Theme: *'Cope and Hope in these Covid times.'*  
**The Zoom Link for prayer meetings and Fora will be sent subsequently**

Kindly ensure that the two registration forms attached are completed by the laity and clergy attending and returned before December 21, 2020. Online registration will be possible as of December 28 from the Jamaica Methodist District website at [www.jamaicamethodist.org](http://www.jamaicamethodist.org).

**The Methodist Church in the Caribbean  
and the Americas (MCCA)  
JAMAICA DISTRICT**

**District Theme:**  
*Spreading scriptural holiness to reform the nation...  
beginning with me*

**METHODIST VOICES IN WORD AND SONG  
TELEVISION MINISTRY**



**CAROL SERVICE**  
Lord's Day Before the Nativity  
Sunday, December 20, 2020



**PARTICIPATING CLERGY:**  
**Preacher:** Rev'd Athlone Harrison  
**Liturgist:** Rev'd Eva Cocks-Williams

**Organist:** Bro. Donovan Rookwood  
**Choristers:**

- Sis. Marcia Cohen
- Sis. Patricia Beecher
- Sis. Barbara Hylton
- Sis Colleen Nembhard
- Sis. Nesta Palmer
- Sis. Chenee Riley
- Bro. Orville Manning
- Bro. Paul Thorbourne

**Praise Team:**

- Sis. Marcia Cohen
- Sis. Patricia Beecher
- Sis. Barbara Hylton

**District Bishop:** Rev'd Christine Gooden- Benguche  
**District Secretary:** Rev'd Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

*A warm welcome to all worshippers!*