**THE METHODIST CHURCH IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THE AMERICAS**



Connexional Theme:
**FACING THE TASK UNFINISHED:
Pressing Forward with Christ (Matthew 28:18-20)**

An Order of Service for the Observance of



MCCA WOMEN LORD’S DAY

Sunday, June 27, 2021

MCCA Women Motto: **In Service for Christ**

THEME: **Chosen People Called to Proclaim**

Sub-Theme: **Nurturing Our Faith**

 *Liturgist:*

*Preacher:*

*Organist/Pianist:*

**Order of Worship**

**Organ Prelude**

**Choral Introit: *Welcome Holy Spirit* (**[**https://youtu.be/c8M1SvGuSjo**](https://youtu.be/c8M1SvGuSjo)**)**

Welcome Holy Spirit
We are in your presence
Fill us with your power
Live inside of me

You’re the living water
The never drying fountain
Comforter and Counselor
Take complete control

**Call to Worship: *Proverbs 8: 1-5***

L. Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?
**C. On the heights, beside the way,at the crossroads she takes her stand;**L. Beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
**C. To you, O people, I call,and my cry is to all that live.**

**ALL: O simple ones, learnprudence;acquire intelligence, you who lack it.**

**Opening Hymn:** ***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You, #5 (Voices In Praise)***

**1.** Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,

God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,

Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;

Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,

Fill us with the light of day!

**2.** All Thy works with joy surround thee,

Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,

Centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,

Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain,

Call us to rejoice in Thee.

**3.** Thou art giving and forgiving,

Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,

Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,

All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,

Lift us to the joy divine.

**4.** Mortals, join the mighty chorus,

Which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o’er us,

Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,

Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward

In the triumph song of life.

 ***Henry Van Dyke, 1852-1933.***

**Prayer of Invocation:***(Author: Erina Kim-Eubanks, adapted)*{You may wish to have young women do this prayer as a way to further engage them in the Worship Service.}

*God who created us very good,every day is a day to celebratethe splendor, the wonderof all of us-women.For all that we carry-water on our heads,babies in our wombs,the legacy of our ancestors,dreams for future generations,we ask for strength in our bonesand love for our own frames.*

*For all that we raise-the children of our villages,communities of resilience,resistant hands,
defiant voices-we ask for the courage to keep assertingand a world that honors our being.*

*For all that we bear-violence both physical and emotional,injustices both known andunknown,the inescapable weight of misogynythe trauma of generations-we ask for an end to the forces that tear,and the force of love to repair.*

*For all that we break-stubborn glass ceilings,sexist expectations, long held silences,systems that dehumanize-we ask for an unwavering sense of worthand new structures that can house all of who we are.*

*For all that we are-resilient, powerful,loving, hospitable,creative, daringbeautiful, valuable, generous-we ask for fullness of joy,and gladness in our existence.*

*Grant women around the Connexion reminders this dayof our immeasurable worth,the divine image within us.And amidst the forces that make us forget,help us remember thatour bodies are for thriving,our stories are for telling,and our presence is resistance,in a world that tries to erase us every day.****Amen.***

**Time of Confession**:

Let us now examine ourselves before God, humbly confessing our sins and watching our hearts lest by self-deceit we shut ourselves out from his presence.

**Prayer Chorus:**

 *Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary*

 *Pure and holy, tried, and true*

 *With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living*

 *Sanctuary for you*

*Silence is observed*

**Litany of Confession:**

**Leader:** Let us confess our negligence in caring for our planetLord, it seems we donot understand how our daily thoughtlessness and laziness impacts on the whole of creation

**All: Lord, we ask you to forgive us**

**Leader:** Lord God, Creator of the World and God of all humanity, we ask forgiveness for the harm and destruction we have done to your creation

**All: Lord, we ask you to forgive us**

**Leader:** Sometimes we lose our way. We listen to the myriad voices that claim to speak your word and truth. We tend to confuse our ways with your ways, causing our sisters and brothers to stumble.

**All: Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.**

**Leader:** Give us hands to reach out in service, not to reach out and grasp what we can get. Give us a heart to discern your truth and your voice

**All: Have mercy and forgive us, O Lord**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:***(Author: Ebony Johanna)*{You may wish to have young women do this prayer as a way to further engage them in the Worship Service.}

To God
Both our Father and our Mother
Who created the heavens and the earth
Who separated the waters from the land
Who brought forth vegetables and fruit trees of every kind
Who spoke light into existence
Who created creatures of the land, earth, and sea
Who formed both men and women in your very own image
Endowing both with gifts and wisdom, strength and beauty to be used for the perfecting of your kingdom

Our God, we thank you
We thank you for the gifts and skills that you have freely given to each of us
While we pay particular attention to the varied and abundant gifts of women among us
Whose work, talent, sacrifice, and wisdom
Often goes unnoticed and taken advantage of

On this day, we not only take notice
But we affirm, lift up, and loudly proclaim the gifts of our women
the strength of our teenaged daughters
the inquisitiveness of our little girls
the wisdom of our grandmothers
and the necessity of each in order to live more fully into our humanity. ***Amen.***

**Greetings and Welcome**

**Time of Praise - Choruses:** ([**https://youtu.be/BtMRoM2LNEw**](https://youtu.be/BtMRoM2LNEw))

***Sweet Jesus Medley* – *Compilation by Barbara Jones***

**1.** Sweet Jesus, Sweet Jesus

What a wonder you are,

You are brighter than the morning star.

You are fairer much fairer

Than the lily that grows by the way

You are precious, more precious than gold (Repeat)

**2.** He never failed me yet

He never failed me yet

Jesus Christ never failed me yet

Anywhere I go

I want the world to know

Jesus Christ never failed me yet (Repeat)

**3.** Daniel’s God surely will deliver

Daniel’s God surely will deliver

If you only trust in Him by faith

Daniel’s God surely will deliver (Repeat)

**4.** Todos deben de saber

Todos deben de saber

Todos deben de saber

¿Quién es Jesús? (2x)

Es el Lirio de los Valles

Es la Rosa del Sarón

Es el Astro Esplendoroso

Todos deben de saber (Repetir)

**5.** Aleluya, Aleluya

Voy a proclamar

Aleluya, Aleluya

Mi alma está muy bien

*Alelu, Alelu, Alelu, Aleluya*

*Gloria a Dios,*

*Alelu, Alelu, Alelu, Aleluya*

*Gloria a Dios,*

*Gloria a Dios, ¡Aleluya!*

*Gloria a Dios, ¡Aleluya!*

*Gloria a Dios, ¡Aleluya!*

*Gloria a Dios (Repetir)*

**6.** Why worry when you can pray?

Trust Jesus, He will lead the way

Don’t be like doubting Thomas

Put your faith and trust in Jesus

Why worry, worry, worry?

When you can pray.

(Repeat 4 times, 5th time slow and fading)

**Children’s Story Time.***(A Dramatic representation of the Call of Samuel or other suitable biblically based story that illustrates the Theme or Sub-Theme)*

**Children’s Hymn: *I’m On Fire for Jesus, #476 (Voices In Praise)***

*Chorus*

*I’m on fire for Jesus, I’m aflame for Jesus.*

*There’s a fire burning in my heart;*

*Every thought and action fuelled by his passion,*

*I’m ablaze and burning in my heart.*

**1.**Jesus Christ lived upon the earth with us Immanuel!

Doing such good throughout the earth, there is so much to tell.

Oh! How he bled upon the cross and died because of us!

God raise him up Jesus today lives and is here to stay.

**2.** Once I was lost, now I am found, once blind but now I see;

The things of old no longer hold, Jesus has set me free.

Anger and hate, envy and pride play no part in my life.

God’s Spirit burns all sin away and makes me pure within.

**3.** I’m on the move, on the right track with none to hold me back.

Forward I go, fearing no foe, there’s nothing that I lack.

This kindled flame within my heart has spread and won’t go out;

I’m all aflame I’ll never tire blessed with this sacred fire.

**4.**Come Jesus, Lord, turn on the heat for all those cold in feet;

For whom a chill froze mind and will and are just standing still

Cause them to move, cause them to dance make their hearts strangely warmed;

That they may too burn with your love and serve our God above.

 ***George Mulrain, 1946-***

**Message from the President - MCCA Women:*Sis. Jennifer Smith***

**Hymn—*MCCA Women Acceptance Hymn (All women stand)***

1. Help us accept each other As Christ accepted us;

Teach us as sister, brother Each person to embrace.

Be present, Lord among us And bring us to believe

We are ourselves accepted And meant to love and live.

1. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, As in our daily life

We struggle to be human And search for hope and faith.

Teach us to care for people, For all not just for some,

To love them as we find them Or as they may become

1. Let your acceptance change us,So that we may be moved

In living situations To do the truth in love;

To practice your acceptance Until we know by heart

The table of forgiveness And laughter’s healing art.

1. Lord, for today’s encounters With all who are in need,

Who hunger for acceptance, For righteousness and bread,

We need new eyes for seeing, New hands for holding on;

Renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

***Fred Kaan 1975-***

 **Youth & Young Adult Focus** *(Liturgical expression -dance, poetry, choral speech, song; by teenage and/or young adult women is encouraged in whatever format that contributes to the Theme or Sub-Theme)*

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**The Collect for MCCA Women Lord’s Day:**

**Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  Amen.**

The Old Testament:  ***Judges 4: 1-10, 14-16***

Responsive Reading: ***Psalm 139:1-6, 14-16***

**1**O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**2You know when I sit down and when I rise up;you discern my thoughts from far away.**
**3**You search out my path and my lying down,and are acquainted with all my ways.
**4Even before a word is on my tongue,O Lord, you know it completely.
5**You hem me in, behind and before,and lay your hand upon me.
**6Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

**14**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.Wonderful are your works;that I know very well.
**15My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
16Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.**

***Glory be to the Father, …***

The Epistle: ***Acts 9:36-42***

The Gospel: ***John 4: 1-30, 42***

***MESSAGE***

**Hymn of Response: *Give Me Joy in My Heart, #239 (Voices In Praise)***

**1.** Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the break of day:

***Refrain:
Sing hosanna!Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna!Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!***

**2**. Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Give me peace in my heart, I pray;

Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Keep me loving till the break of day:

**3**.Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray;
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day:

**Renewal of Fellowship**

**Offertory Hymn: *Onward Christian Women***

**1.**Onward Christian Women God has chosen you

Much of Christian service only you can do

Loyal to your mission through a hundred years;

Giving life and comfort drying human tears.

***Refrain:***

***Onward Christian Women, hear his call today;***

***Yours in love to follow, Christ will lead the way.***

**2.** In this age of turmoil serve the world distressed,

Through your dedication nations will be blessed.

Awesome needs are pressing, cries from every land,

Christ empowers workers lend the helping hand.

**3.** In God’s will and purpose working all as one;

Women joined together, thus the task is done.

Now in fervent witness truth in deed relates,

By your faith undying God’s new world create.

**Prayer of Intercession**

**Leader:** We remember in prayer all the peoples of the world who seek liberty, equality, and human dignity. We lift up the needs of the hungry, the homeless, and the disadvantaged. Lord hear our prayer.

**People: And let our cry come unto you**

**Leader**: Lord,in this time of COVID-19**,** we pray for all the front-line workers, first responders and persons affected by the Coronavirus. Keep them, good Lord,under the shadow of your mercyin this time of uncertainty and distress.Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, lift up all who are brought low;that we may rejoice in your comfortknowing that nothing can separate us from your lovein Christ Jesus our Lord.Lord, hear our prayer

**People: And let our cry come unto you**

**Leader:** We pray for those who are guiding our nation at this timeand shaping national policies. Continue to give them wisdom to made decisions that meets with your will. That they may maintain values which we hold dear. Lord, hear our prayer

**People: And let our cry come unto you**

**Leader:** We pray for the church universal, which encompasses different lands, cultures, and languages, but exist under one lordship in Jesus Christ. We pray for the World Methodist Council, MCCA Connexional Officers, our District Bishops, our District Officers and Congregations. Lord, hear our prayer

**People: And let our cry come unto you**

**Leader:** We pray for our children and young people. May they find you in all they do using your childhood example to live from day to day. Lord, hear our prayer.

**People: And let our cry come unto you**

**Leader:** We ask a special blessing on MCCA Women. We give thanks for them as they continue to work diligently throughout the Connexion. Help them to continue to be committed members working for the betterment of their church and their community. Lord hear our prayer.

**The Lord’s Prayer #26 (Voices in Praise)**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  *Hallowed be thy name*

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, *Hallowed be thy name*

On the earth as it is in heaven, *Hallowed be thy name*

Give us this day our daily bread. *Hallowed be thy name*

And forgive us all our trespasses, *Hallowed be thy name*

Only as we forgive those who trespass against us.  *Hallowed be thy name*

And lead us not into temptation,  *Hallowed be thy name*

But deliver us from all that is evil.  *Hallowed be thy name*

For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,  *Hallowed be thy name*

Forever and ever, for ever and ever.  *Hallowed be thy name*

Amen!Amen!It shall be so! *Hallowed be thy name*

Amen!Amen!It shall be so!  *Hallowed be thy name*

**Recessional Hymn: *Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessings, #381 (Voices In Praise)***

**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 lies abound;

May your presence

With us evermore be found.

***John Fawcett, 1740-1817***

**The Sending:**

Go in faith, share God’s grace, Tell the world all He’s done for you

Go in faith, don’t you fearHe is God, He will see you through

Go in faith Jesus lives,He’s our Savior today, tomorrow,

Go in faith, go in prayerIf you ask, He will carry you.

Sisters rise up and go,Help the sick, preach the word,

Share in God’s healing graceIn a changing world

Sisters rise up and bringFamilies to the King,

Share God’s healing graceIn a changing World.

Go in faith, share God’s grace,Tell the world all He’s done for you

Go in faith don’t your fearHe is God, He will see you through

**Benediction:***(Author: Maren - adapted)*

May you drink the cup of hope,feel your pulse … not to speak of God’s beat

hear the words that will be silentuntil you stand up to speak them yourself.

May all your women tell youto write on and preach on and just go on …

May you treasure your days with mothersand other precious people,

be handed the corkscrew for Canaat just the right time,dry your tears from the Last Supper buffet,and turn your face tothe splinter of Easter dawn.

Know inside,that you are the beloved of God,and understand that where there is poetry
there is God,and where there is God there is love.***Amen.***