**Order of Worship**

**Welcome:**

L: We welcome you to the Methodist Voices in Word and Song Television Ministry, being brought to you by the Jamaica Methodist District! We are delighted to have you tune in once more, as we share in worship together via the internet, cable television or otherwise. We invite you to take out your Bibles, Voices in Praise Hymnals and get ready to praise our forever Trustworthy God! May your hearts be richly blessed!

**Hymn:** **‘‘Lift Every Voice and Sing…” [ # 382 VIP]**

We have come, treading our
path through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past,
till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

1. God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us
thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by thy might,
led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path,
we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget thee.
Shadowed beneath thy hand,
may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our
native land.

**James W. Johnson (1871-1938)**

1. LIFT every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise,
high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as
the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet,
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way
that with tears has been watered,

**Prayer of Confession:**

L: Father of all mercies we confess that we are prone to stray from the path of holiness and our pursuit of righteousness is often lack lustre. Forgive us for the times when we closed our hearts to the transforming power of your Holy Spirit. You showed us what it meant to be your disciples yet we chose to be driven by our selfish ambitions.

Loving God, we rest in the assurance that you love us unconditionally. Forgive us of our sins and help us to love you with all our being so that others will see you in us, this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon:**

L: The Lord is gracious and merciful! God shows great and steadfast love to us through Jesus Christ, our bread of life. By his flesh and blood our sins are forgiven and we have eternal life. Alleluia! **Amen.**

**Prayers of Adoration and Thanksgiving**

L: Mighty God, our hearts are full of joy and gratitude for your immeasurable love towards us. You are a faithful God, who keeps his promises. You provide all we need for life and godliness. The universe you created assures us that even in the midst of a pandemic you are in control.

Magnificent God, you sustain us in the journey of life with your goodness and mercy. We bless your holy name for the varied experiences which have fashioned us, transforming us gradually into your likeness - the pleasures, the pain, the successes, the failures, the good times and the bad times. We give thanks for the events in our lives that moved us to appreciate the light of your presence.

Creator God, we give you thanks for those who have enriched our lives, those who yielded themselves to be your instruments of comfort, wisdom and strength, whose life and work drew us closer to you. In your wisdom you created us to be united in your body despite our individual differences.

**Children’s Ministry:**

**Time of Praise:**

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**Collect:**

**ALL: God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Old Testament: 1 Kings 2:10—12; 3:3—14 – Sis. Marie Miller**

**Responsive reading: Psalm: 111 (VIP 630) - Rev’d Charlene Burton**

L **1**Praise the Lord!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
    in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**R** **2Great are the works of the Lord,
    studied by all who delight in them.**

L **3**Full of honor and majesty is his work,
    and his righteousness endures forever.

**R** **4He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
    the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

L **5**He provides food for those who fear him;
    he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**R** **6He has shown his people the power of his works,
    in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

L **7**The works of his hands are faithful and just;
    all his precepts are trustworthy.

**R** **8They are established forever and ever,
    to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

L **9**He sent redemption to his people;
    he has commanded his covenant forever.
    Holy and awesome is his name.

**ALL** **10The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
    all those who practice it[**[**a**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%20111&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-15804a)**] have a good understanding.
    His praise endures forever.**

**Gloria Patri:**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.** **As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Epistle: Ephesians 5:15—20 – Sis. Lucette Cargill**

**Hymn: “Redeemed, By the Precious …Lamb” [# 92 VIP]**

1. Redeemed, by the precious blood of the Lamb,
Redeemed, by the touch of a Saviour’s hand,
Redeemed, we were saved and sanctified,
Redeemed, Alleluia, Redeemed!
2. Redeemed, when in sin and condemned to die,
Redeemed, an ol’ Satan was standin’ by,
Redeemed, we were saved and sanctified,
Redeemed, Alleluia, Redeemed!
3. Redeemed, when in sorrow and nearly drown’,
Redeemed, on a broad road darkness-bound, Redeemed, we were saved and sanctified,
Redeemed, Alleluia, Redeemed!
4. Redeemed, by the precious blood of the Lamb,
Redeemed, by the touch of a Saviour’s hand,
Redeemed, we were saved and sanctified,
Redeemed, Alleluia, Redeemed!

##### ***Adap. by Barry Chevannes (1940—2010)***

**Gospel: St. John 6:51—58 - Sis. Melrose Davies**

**SERMON: — Dr. the Rev’d Alison Iton**

 (*Minister, Providence Circuit)*

Hymn of Commitment: “Nothing Can Trouble” [ # 203c VIP]

Nothing can trouble,
Nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God
shall never go wanting,
God alone fills us.

***Community of Taizé (1991)***

Announcements /Offertory & Blessing of Tithes & Offering

**Prayers of Intercession:** **--**

L In response to the prompt “Holy and Mighty Redeemer”, please respond “**Heal us and rescue us, we pray**”

L Let us pray…Holy and Mighty Redeemer

**C: Heal us and rescue us, we pray.**

L Covenant keeping God, you invite us to receive from the storehouse your goodness. Trusting in your steadfast love, we present our requests for the well-being of your world, your church and your people.

Lord your world groans with anguish as it is ravaged by diseases, natural disasters and social injustices. Give those who govern wise and discerning minds that your way of justice and compassion may prevail among the nations in the midst of this global pandemic. Remind us that you appointed us as stewards of your creation. Cause us, O Lord, to walk in wisdom concerning your creation all its provisions. Holy and Mighty Redeemer

**C: Heal us and rescue us, we pray.**

L Omnipotent God, you call the body of Christ to participate in the work of reconciling the world to yourself. It is your will that the Gospel be preached to all people in word and deed. Grant the Church throughout the world the understanding and discernment to faithfully carry out your mission in the world. Move us to look beyond our denominational labels and realize your plan for our diversities restoring people to a right relationship with you. Holy and Mighty Redeemer

**C: Heal us and rescue us, we pray.**

L Eternal Father, you looked beyond the brokenness of humanity and attested to our worth, when Christ died on the cross for us. Open our eyes so that we might value every member of the human race. We give you thanks for our ancestors, those throughout the ages who responded to your call to serve their generation and now rest with you. Comfort those who mourn the loss of their loved ones even as we name them in our hearts (*period of silence*). Move us to serve our present generation by using our time wisely and walking in your ways. May we always seek to provide food for the hungry, hope for the despairing and guidance for the wandering. Holy and Mighty Redeemer

**C: Heal us and rescue us, we pray.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**CLOSING HYMN: “Make God Your Choice…” [# 224 VIP]**

1. In a world of freedom as such
opportunities, there are much,
and increasingly it’s becoming
hard to decide.
When the wrong things seem to be right,
and confusion is our plight,
there is only one rule by which
we all should abide.

***Refrain****:*

***Choose, with your mind on the Master;
make him your constant Adviser;
strive, to be his in thought word and deed.
Live, everyday with the Master,
and you’ll be sure to discover
life, lived with God is bound to succeed.***

1. In the Bible, we have been warned,

wolves in sheep’s clothing would be found,

and we know that the Word of God
is far from void;
when we don’t know what course to take,
and we’re afraid to make a mistake,
that’s the time we must surely seek
direction from God.

1. Old King Solomon, we are told,
asked for knowledge instead of gold;
as a consequence, he got wisdom
and wealth complete;
we must first, the things of God heed,
and all other things that we need
will be added, to make our lives
abundant and sweet.

**Pearl Y. Mulrain (1943-)**

**Benediction**





The Methodist Church in the Caribbean

and the Americas (MCCA)

Jamaica District

**DISTRICT THEME:**

***“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”***

**METHODIST VOICES IN WORD AND SONG**

**TELEVISION MINISTRY**



**12th Lord’s Day After Pentecost**

**Sunday, August 15, 2021**

**DIVINE WORSHIP**

 **Preacher:** Dr. theRev’d Alison Iton

 *(Minister, Providence Circuit)*

**Liturgist:** Rev’d Charlene Burton
*(Minister, Providence Circuit)*

**Organist: Sis. Melrose Davies**

**Choristers:**

* **Sis. Yvonne Brown**
* **Sis. Lucette Cargill**
* **Sis. Marie Miller**
* **Bro. Nigel Haye**

**District President**: Bishop Christine Gooden-Benguche

**District Secretary**: Rev’d Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

 *A blessed welcome to all worshippers on
 this beautiful Lord’s Day!*