

Order of Worship

INTROIT: "I Will Bless Thee O Lord..."

I will bless Thee, O Lord
I will bless Thee, O Lord
With a heart of
thanksgiving
I will bless Thee, O Lord

With my hands lifted up
And my mouth filled with
praise
With a heart of
thanksgiving
I will bless Thee, O Lord

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted)

L: Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

P: **Love comes to us with joy!**

L: The world is filled with beauty.

P: **Flowers appear on the earth; birdsong brightens the day.**

L: Crops yield their produce in abundance; the air is filled with sweetness.

P: **The summer of God's love is with us.**

L: Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls.

P: **Arise and sing for joy!**

OPENING HYMN: "In Christ There Is No East or West..." [# 398 VIP]

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| 1. In Christ there is no east or west,
In him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth. | 3. Join hands, then, family of the faith
Whate'er your race may be;
Who serves my Father as a child
Is surely kin to me. |
| 2. In him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find,
His service is the golden cord
Close-binding humankind. | 4. In Christ now meet both east and west,
In Him meet south and north,
All Christlike souls are one in Him,
Throughout the whole wide earth. |

John Ozenham (1852—1941)

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

L: Let us all pray:

P: **Creator God, you are the source and sustainer of all life. You have shaped all creation with the palm of your hands and breathe life into us. The rain, the gentle breeze, flowering plants and animals of all sorts are evidence that you are still creating and still active in our lives. On this Lord's Day, we come with delight and thankful hearts for your goodness towards us. Help us to be steadfast in our living and unbiased in our love. May we ever sow seeds of hope, peace and joy. Amen.**

CHORUS: "Change My Heart O. God..."

Change my heart , Oh God
Make it ever true
Change my heart, Oh God
May I be like you [Repeat]

**You are the potter
I am the clay**

**Mold me and make me
this is what I pray. . .**

Change my heart , Oh God
Make it ever true
Change my heart, Oh God
May I be like you.

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

L: We have failed to live the Christian life that Jesus has demonstrated for us. We have harboured evil intentions in our hearts: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride and folly. We have been partial and shown favoritism at the expense of our Christian virtue. We have not demonstrated our faith by our works. We have been enslaved by traditions that suffocate change and religious rites that strangle our worship of God. Good God, we have sinned (*pause*). We know that sin only separate us from God. God has provided a way of redemption through Jesus Christ. Let us now then in silence admit that we have sinned and humbly beg for pardon. [*Silence for personal confession*]

P: **Dear Lord and Father of humankind, Forgive our foolish ways; Reclothe us in our rightful mind, In purer lives Thy service find, In deeper reverence, praise. Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm; Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm. (Adapted)**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Sisters and brothers in Christ, having confessed your sins be assured of this: God's love knows no boundary. Sins confessed are sins forgiven.

P: **Amen. Thank God we are free.**

THANKSGIVING

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ let us now in our own words offer thanks to our God. Remember to give God thanks for every gift even the smallest. [*Pause for thanksgiving*]

THE GLORIA (pg. 70 MPB)

ALL: **GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH, and on earth peace, goodwill to all. We praise you; we bless you: we worship you; we glorify you; we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You who take away the sin of the world receive our prayer. You, who sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For you only are holy; you only are the Lord; you only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit are Most High in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

HYMN: "In Times Like these..."

1. In times like these you need a Savior
In times like these you need an anchor
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

2. In times like these you need the Bible
In times like these, O be not idle
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

Refrain:

This Rock is Jesus, Yes He's the One

This Rock is Jesus, the only One

**Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!**

3. In times like these I have a Savior
In times like these I have an anchor
I'm very sure, I'm very sure
My anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!

Ruth C. Jones

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

COLLECT:

ALL: **Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT: Proverbs 22: 1—2, 8— 9, 22—23, — Sis. Yvonne Brown

RESPONSIVE READING" Psalm 125

Led by Rev'd Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

L: ¹Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

R: ²As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time on and forevermore.

L: ³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, so that the righteous might not stretch out their hands to do wrong.

R: ⁴Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

ALL: ⁵But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel! GLORIA PATRI

EPISTLE: James 2: 1 – 17 — Sis. Lucette Cargill

GOSPEL: Mark 7:24 – 37 — Bishop Christine Gooden Benguche

SERMON: — Bishop Christine Gooden Benguche

RESPONSE: (*Silent Reflection & Contemplation*)

PASTORAL PRAYER & CALL TO COMMITMENT

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS, OFFERTORY/ BLESSING OF TITHES & OFFERING**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: The Lord be with you

R: **And also with you**

L: Compassionate God, we pray this day for those who are underprivileged and being compelled to make choices that are not in their best interest. Move your Church to be living embodiments of your word. We beseech you good Lord:

R: **Hear our prayer**

L: Loving God, restore lives shattered by despair, exhausted by life's efforts, confused by life's problems and wounded by life's failures. Remember in your mercy children in state care, individuals in rehabilitation, single parents households, families traumatized and grief stricken and persons struggling with health and related issues. Lead them to complete trust in you. We beseech you good Lord:

R: **Hear our prayer**

L: God our guardian, continue to bear up the leaders of this nation. As another academic year unfolds we commend to you all institutions of learning and their stakeholders. We remember in a special way students setting out for the first time, those starting new schools and teachers beginning their career. Equip them for the changes ahead and keep them safe always. We beseech you good Lord:

R: **Hear our prayer**

L: Bless the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas and the leadership at every level as we embark upon another Connexional year and as presbyters and deacons move across the Connexion into new stations. We pray too for ministers in training, especially those commencing training. Keep them discerning and steadfast. We beseech you good Lord:

R: **Hear our prayer**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (James Seddon)

Father God in Heaven
 —Lord most high
 Hear your children's prayer
 —Lord most high
 Hallowed be your name—Lord most high
 O Lord, hear our prayer!

May your kingdom come
 —Here on earth;
 May your will be done— Here on earth
 As it is in heaven—so on earth
 O, Lord, hear our prayer!

Give us daily bread—Day by day,
 And forgive our sins
 —Day by day,
 As we, too forgive—Day by day,
 O Lord, hear our prayer!
 Lead us in your way—Make us strong

When temptations come—Make us strong
 Save us from all sin
 —Keep us strong
 O Lord, hear our prayer!

All things come from you—All are yours
 Kingdom, glory, power—All are yours
 Take our lives and gifts—All are yours
 O, Lord, hear our prayer!

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Let Us Enter into Covenant..." [# 429 VIP]

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| 1. Let us enter into covenant with Christ,
Celebrating the Eucharist of love,
Take a little bread and wine,
Lift up the chalice of the King. | 3. He is lifted to the throne on high
And will come again to rule all the world
The saints who sleep in Christ shall rise
Rejoice O Zion and be glad. |
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Refrain:
Alleluia, it's a sign of love!
Alleluia, it's a sign of peace
Alleluia, it's the mystery of faith,
Alleluia, Amen.

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| 2. Take the body and the blood of Christ,
In divine revelation of His love,
Be transformed, Oh my people,
from your sin
And eat and drink and live! | 4. Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God
Who takes away the sins of the world.
'He who comes to me
I shall not turn away'. | 5. Come you faithful, to the paradise of God,
To the marriage feast of the Lamb.
Eat manna from the tree of life;
You are washed in the Blood of Christ! |
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Norbert Farrell (1943-)

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (pages 95 – 97 MPB)

CLOSING HYMN: "Forth in Thy Name..." [# 306 VIP]

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| 1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labour to pursue,
Thee, only thee, resolved to know
In all I think, or speak, or do. | And labour on at thy command,
And offer all my works to thee. |
| 2. The task thy wisdom has assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil,
In all my works thy presence find,
And prove thy good and perfect will. | 4. Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
And every moment watch and pray,
And still to things eternal look,
And hasten to thy glorious day; |
| 3. Thee may I set at my right hand,
Whose eyes my inmost substance see, | 5. For thee delightfully employ
Whate'er thy bounteous grace has given,
And run my course with even joy,
And closely walk with thee to heaven. |

Charles Wesley (1707—1788)

BENEDICTION

L: My brothers and sisters, go in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit into a world in need of God's love. Go and live out your faith. **THREEFOLD AMEN.**

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"*



15th Lord's Day After Pentecost

Sunday, September 5, 2021



Preacher

& Celebrant: Bishop Christine Gooden Benguche
(District President)

Liturgist:

Rev'd Dr. Wayneford McFarlane
(District Conference Secretary)

Organist:

Sis. Melrose Davies

Choristers:

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

District President: Bishop Christine Gooden-Benguche

District Conference Secretary: Rev'd Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

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