

# Order of Worship

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come and rejoice in God!

P: Sing praise to God who continually blesses our lives!

L: In the midst of troubles and stress, God is near, offering compassion.

P: Our hope is in the Lord.

L: Let all the people praise God.

P: Hallelujah! AMEN.

## HYMN “Let Earth and Heaven Combine...” [ # 77 VIP]

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| 1. Let earth and heaven combine,<br>Angels and men agree,<br>To praise in songs divine<br>The incarnate Deity,<br>Our God contracted to a span,<br>Incomprehensibly made man.        | Suffice for us that God, we know,<br>Our God, is manifest below.   |
| 2. He laid his glory by,<br>He wrapped him in our clay;<br>Unmarked by human eye,<br>The latent Godhead lay;<br>Infant of days he here became,<br>And bore the mild Immanuel’s name. | 4. He deigns in flesh to appear,<br>Widest extremes to join;<br>To bring our vileness near,<br>And make us all divine:<br>And we the life of God shall know,<br>For God is manifest below.   |
| 3. Unsearchable the love<br>That has the Saviour brought;<br>The grace is far above<br>Or men or angels' thought:  | 5. Made perfect first in love,<br>And sanctified by grace,<br>We shall from earth remove,<br>And see his glorious face:<br>His love shall then be fully<br>showed,<br>And man shall all be lost in God.<br><b>Charles Wesley (1707-88)</b> |

## PRAYER

**ALL: Holy One, there is no God like you.**

**In praise and thanksgiving, we come before you ready to learn of your power, ready for restoration and hope in our lives. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

## CHORUS: “Create in Me A Clean Heart...”

*Create in me a clean heart, O God*

*And renew a right spirit within me [Repeat]*

*Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord*

*And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me*

*Restore unto me, the joy of Thy salvation*

*And renew a right spirit within me.*

*Let us in silence confess our sins to God and pray for his forgiveness.*

*(Silence)*

**ALL: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against each other, in thought and word and deed, in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

L: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Hear then the good news. If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

- Bro. Ian Goldson

## HYMN “Once in Royal David’s City...” [ # 481 VIP]

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|--|---|
| 1. Once in royal David's city<br>Stood a lowly cattle-shed,<br>Where a mother laid her baby<br>In a manger for his bed.<br>Mary was that mother mild,<br>Jesus Christ her little child.                        | In whose gentle arms he lay.<br>Christian children all must be<br>Mild, obedient, good as he.   |
| 2. He came down to earth from<br>heaven<br>Who is God and Lord of all,<br>And his shelter was a stable,<br>And his cradle was a stall;<br>With the poor and mean and lowly<br>Lived on earth our Saviour holy. | 4. For he is our childhood's<br>pattern,<br>Day by day like us he grew,<br>He was little, weak, and helpless,<br>Tears and smiles like us he knew;<br>And he feeleth for our sadness,<br>And he shareth in our gladness.                                |
| 3. And through all his wondrous<br>childhood<br>He would honour and obey,<br>Love, and watch the lowly maiden  | 5. And our eyes at last shall see him,<br>Through his own redeeming love,<br>For that child so dear and gentle<br>Is our Lord in heaven above;<br>And he leads his children on<br>To the place where he is gone.<br><b>Cecil F. Alexander (1818-95)</b> |

## PRAISE TIME

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### COLLECT

**ALL: God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever more. Amen.**

## RESPONSIVE READING- Isaiah 12:2—6 (VIP) Led by Bro. Ian Goldson

L: <sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD<sup>[a]</sup> is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

R: <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

L: <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD,  
call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

R: <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known<sup>[a]</sup> in all the earth.

L: <sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal<sup>[a]</sup> Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

## THE GLORIA

## WELCOME

## HYMN “Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us...” [# 338 VIP]

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|---|---|
| 1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us,<br>Much we need Thy tender care;<br>In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,<br>For our use Thy folds prepare:<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Thou hast bought us, Thine we are. | 3. Thou hast promised to receive us,<br>Poor and sinful though we be;<br>Thou hast mercy to relieve us,<br>Grace to cleanse, and pow'are to free:<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Early let us turn to Thee;<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Early let us turn to Thee.                                       |
| 2. We are Thine; do Thou befriend us,<br>Be the guardian of our way;<br>Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,<br>Seek us when we go astray:<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Hear, O hear us when we pray;<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Hear, O hear us when we pray.             | 4. Early let us seek Thy favor;<br>Early let us do Thy will;<br>Blessed Lord and only Savior,<br>With Thy love our beings fill:<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Thou hast loved us, love us still;<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>Thou hast loved us, love us still.<br><b>Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847)</b> |

**OLD TESTAMENT: Zephaniah 3:14-20; - Sis. Mecadian Goldson**

**EPISTLE: Philippians 4:4-7 - Sis. Judy-Marie Campbell**

**GOSPEL – Luke 3:7-18 - Pastor Maurice Goldson**

MESSAGE:

- Pastor Maurice Goldson

The Nicene Creed (page 72 MPB)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: We pray for the Church: that she may be a sign of God’s light and goodness in our world, and a beacon of hope for the most vulnerable everywhere. We pray especially for members who have fallen in faith, continue to reach out to them that they may return to you in spirit and truth. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for the world we live in: that God may open our eyes to recognize the goodness of all creation and help us to do what we can to restore and care for the wonderful gift that we have been given. May we hear its cry of the damage done and be moved to protect it for future generations to enjoy. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for Nation, may we develop the attitudes to fight against injustice, corruption and violence against all people. This is what our Heroes died trying to accomplish. We ask you to help us and our leaders to work together to make Jamaica the place where people will want to live, work and raise families. We pray especially for the breakthroughs against Covid 19 virus. We pray for wisdom that will overcome hesitancy to take the vaccine. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for our Children and youth of our nation. We ask forgiveness for not protecting our children and creating safe spaces for them to grow and enjoy life. We pray your special protection over them in their going out and coming in. May God grant us the courage and love to reach out to our neighbours, giving them hope for the future and protection through our prayers and action. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for our Young adults in the nation. Those who are trying to make a life of their own through work and study. Almighty God help them to remember that without you Jesus, they that labour, labour in vain We pray that the young adults of this church and nation will seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and that by your grace you will supply all that they need for Godly living now and in their years ahead. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for all those who hunger, in our own community and around the world. May God grant them the hope, strength and support to overcome the challenges of poverty. May you equip us to do what we can in our community. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for the sick and shut in of our nation and the world. We pray for those who are suffering from Covid 19 complications and non-COVID 19 issues. We remember especially the sick members

of this church and community. Thou art the Healer, touch and heal them in body, mind and spirit. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for all those who fear for their children’s future. May God grant us the courage and love to reach out to our neighbours, giving them hope for the future. We pray that you will watch over our Children and keep them safe from all predators, and fulfill the promise you have for them. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray against all violence in your island Jamaica. We pray that you will bring peace by reducing access to guns, bullets and all weapons of violence. We pray especially for peace in homes, where abusers maybe tormenting persons. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

L: We pray for ourselves: that our prayer life may be improved, and our reading of the scriptures become more consistent. Through these actions, may God deepen our love for our sisters and brothers as ourselves, and enable us to demonstrate this by words of encouragement and actions that bring hope. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our Prayers

THE LORD’S PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OFFERTORY/ BLESSING OF TITHES & OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN “He Leadeth Me O Blessed Thought...” [# 353 VIP]

- 1. HE leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate’er I do, where’er I be  
Still ‘tis God’s hand that leadeth me.
- 3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine,  
Nor ever murmur nor repine;  
Content, whatever lot I see,  
Since ‘tis my God that leadeth me.

*Refrain:  
He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
By his own hand he leadeth me;  
His faithful follower I would me,  
For by his hand he leadeth me*

- 2. Sometimes ‘mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
Sometimes where Eden’s bowers bloom,

- 4. And when my task on earth is done,  
When by thy grace the victory’s won,  
E’en death’s cold waves I will not flee,  
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

*Joseph H. Gilmore (1834-1918)*

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



3<sup>rd</sup> Lord’s Day in Advent

Sunday, December 12, 2021

DIVINE WORSHIP

OFFICIATING CLERGY:

Preacher: Pastor Maurice Goldson  
(Lay Preacher – Western St. Andrew Circuit )

Liturgist: Bro. Ian Goldson  
(Member, Western St. Andrew Circuit)

Organist: Sis. Melrose Davies

Choristers: ▪ Sis. Yvonne Brown Sis. Marie Miller  
▪ Sis. Lucette Cargill Sis. Yvonne Patterson  
▪ Sis. Valerie Hinds Bro. Nigel Hays

Praise Team: Members of ‘FullJoy’ (Saxthorpe Praise Team)  
▪ Sis. Winsome Exell  
▪ Sis. Judy-Marie Campbell

District Bishop: Rev’d Christine Gooden- Benguche  
District Conference Secretary: Rev’d Dr. Wayneford McFarlane

A warm welcome to all worshippers!