**Order of Worship**

**Introit: “Jesus, Stand among us…” [# 373 VIP]**

**- Saxthorpe Choristers**

**Call To Worship**

L: God of wilderness and water Your Son was baptized and tempted as we are

**R:** **We come trusting in Your mercy and love, longing to know and learn more about Your ways**

L: We come during the Lenten journey, aware of Your steadfast love helping us to overcome the trials and temptations which can descend on us at any time

**ALL:** **Lead us, O God, to do what is right in Your eyes and teach us to follow the humble way of Christ, Your Beloved Son, our crucified and risen Lord. AMEN.**

**Opening Hymn: “God of Mercy, God of Grace…” [# 376 VIP]**

Glory to their Saviour King;
At your feet their tribute pay,
And your holy will obey.

1. Let the peoples praise you, Lord;
Earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to us His blessing give,
We to God devoted live;
All below, and all above,
One in joy, and light, and love. Amen.

**Henry F. Lyte (1793-1847)**

1. GOD of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of your face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill your Church with light divine;
And your saving health extend
Unto earth's remotest end.
2. Let the peoples praise you, Lord;
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing

**Prayer of Adoration:**

L: God of all power and truth and grace, we are in Your presence where there is fullness of joy and at Your right hand where there are pleasures for evermore.

**R:** **We adore You! We praise you!**

L: Keep us fully focussed, remembering always that nothing in all of creation can separate us from You.

**R:** **We adore You! We praise you!**

L: Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent God, faithful to Your word that You will never leave us or forsake us.

**R:** **We adore You! We praise you!**

L: We are ever grateful of Your plans for our welfare and for a future of peace and hope. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**ALL:** **AMEN.**

**Prayer of Confession**

L: Forgiving Father, as Your children, we come admitting that we have fallen short in thought, word, deed and motives. We have not made full use of opportunities afforded us to share Your Good News of Salvation. We have been fearful of being shunned. We have often joined with others adding to the long list of complaints, forgetting that we should be that little light making a world of difference for You. We have taken so much for granted.

We humbly pour out our hearts confessing our shortcomings and claiming Your promise that if we confess our sins, You are faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**ALL**: **Amen, thanks be to God.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

L: Father we thank You for this season of Lent, giving us the opportunity for Reflections, Repentance and Renewal. Thanks for the privilege of our faith journey and the continued revelation of what You have done for us in the Precious Gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Thanks for the Holy spirit and His transforming power. Thanks be to God for the things he has done. In Jesus’ name we pray. **AMEN!**

 **Chorus: ‘He Alone is Worthy’ - Saxthorpe Choristers**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *For He alone is worthy,* *to worship and adore**The Lamb of God victorious,* *My risen Lord;* | *He purchased my redemption,**My righteousness is He;**Exalt the name of Jesus,* *He is worthy.* |

**Youth Focus**

L: Father, we thank You for the Church, the family of God, the body of Christ. We are at various stages of our physical and spiritual growth. May we always be conscious of our responsibility to nurture our children and young people. As thy face the many challenges, including peer pressure, may we lovingly make ourselves available to them to be used by You, always remembering Your continued patience with us all.

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**The Collect**

L: Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Old Testament: Isaiah 55:1-9 - Sis. Yvonne Brown**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 63:1-8 (VIP # 601)** *Led by:* **Sis. Marcia Tavarez**

L: **1**O God, you are my God, I seek you,
    my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
    as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**R: 2So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
    beholding your power and glory.**

L: **3**Because your steadfast love is better than life,
    my lips will praise you.

**R: 4So I will bless you as long as I live;
    I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

L: **5**My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2063&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-14845a)]
    and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

**R: 6when I think of you on my bed,
    and meditate on you in the watches of the night;**

L: **7**for you have been my help,
    and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

**R: 8My soul clings to you;
    your right hand upholds me.**

***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: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 - Sis. Valerie Hinds**

**Hymn: “Lord, if at Your Command…” [# 316 VIP]**

1. Lord, if at your command
The word of life we sow,
Watered by your almighty hand,
The seed shall surely grow;
2. The virtue of your grace
A large increase shall give,
And multiply the faithful race
Who to your glory live.
3. Now then the ceaseless
shower
Of gospel blessings send,
And let the soul-converting power
Your ministers attend.

1. On multitudes confer
The heart-renewing love,
And by the joy of grace prepare
For fuller joys above.

**Charles Wesley (1707—1788) alt.**

**Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 - Sis. LIlieth Deacon**

 *(Member, Providence Circuit)*

**Sermon**  **- Sis. LIlieth Deacon**

 *(Member, Providence Circuit)*

**Hymn of Response “The Thirsty Deer Longs for the Streams” [#264 VIP]**

**- Saxthorpe Choristers**

1. The thirsty deer longs for the streams,
my thirsty soul longs for our God
I have been weeping aloud
All day and all night,
as I long for the face of our God.

***Refrain:
Why are you cast down,
O my soul?
Why are you so troubled inside?
O put your hope in our God,
yes God is our help,
O sing praises to our living God.***

1. I’m never alone when I sing,
declaring the wonders of God.
The crowds in God’s holy house,
they all join with me
just to proclaim how God’s great and good.
2. The wicked may make fun of me
and tease me if I am depressed
but I am confident that
God will rescue me.
Yes, God’s always done this
in times past.

 ***Psalm 42 Para by: Rev’d Dr. George Mulrain (1946—)***

* **Announcements**
* **Offertory**
* **Blessing of Tithes & Offering**

**Intercessory Prayers**

L: Creator God, the world has now become a global village with Communication Science and Technology readily available. We celebrate the many inventions/discoveries and pray that the vast resources provided by You will help to provide for the millions worldwide who live in abject poverty.

**R: Have mercy upon us, and hear us O God**

L: We bring before You, countries torn apart by war resulting in unnecessary suffering, with many of their citizens becoming refugees.

- Christians who continue to suffer persecution for their faith, even abandoned by their loved-ones.

- Christian missionaries serving in countries hostile to Christianity

 Continue to empower Your Church enabling us to remain militant here on earth, standing in the gap for each other.

**R: Have mercy upon us, and hear us O God**

L: Our region is not without its fair share of challenges causing unrest, uncertainty, crime, violence, disruption in families.

 Lord, it’s in You we have real safety, peaceful homes, hearts of love willing to go that extra mile, sharing with the needy and caring for the aged and infirm.

**R: Have mercy upon us, and hear us O God**

L: Help us never to despair, bur always remember that where conditions seem darkest, Your light shines brightest.

ALL: Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Closing Hymn: ‘O God Our Father… Make Us One’ [# 384 VIP]

1. Lord, make us strong, for thou alone dost know
How oft we turn our faces from the foe;
How oft, when claimed by dark temptation's hour,
We lose our hold on thee, and of thy power.
2. Go with us, Lord, from hence; we only ask
That thou be sharer in our daily task;
So, side by side with thee, shall each one know
The blessedness of heaven begun below.

***William V. Jenkins (1868-1920)***

1. O GOD our Father, who dost make us one,
Heart bound to heart, in love of thy dear Son,
Now as we part and go our several ways,
Touch every lip, may every voice be praise—
2. Praise for the fellowship that here we find,
The fellowship of heart and soul and mind,
Praise for the bonds of love and brotherhood,
Bonds wrought by thee, who makest all things good.

**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***

***“Building a Resilient People: Church, Community and Nation””***

**METHODIST VOICES IN WORD AND SONG**

**TELEVISION MINISTRY**



**DIVINE WORSHIP**

4th Lord’s Day before the Resurrection

**Sunday, March 20, 2022**

**Officiating Clergy:**

**Preacher: Sis. Lilieth Deacon**

*(Member, Providence Circuit)*

**Liturgist: Sis. Marcia Tavarez***(Member, Spanish Town Circuit)*

**Organist: Bro. Audley Davidson**

**Choristers: Sis. Yvonne Brown
 Sis. Lucette Cargill**

 **Sis. Valerie Hinds**

 **Sis. Marie Miller**

 **Sis. Yvonne Patterson
 Bro. Nigel Haye**

 **District Bishop**: Rev’d Christine Gooden Benguche

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

*A warm welcome to all worshippers!*