

Order of Worship

INTROIT: **"God of the Mountain"** - Saxthorpe Choristers

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:
- R: **The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!**
- L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:
- R: **The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!**
- L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:
- R: **The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**
- ALL: **O come, let us worship the Lord, for God has done wondrous things!**

HYMN: "On Jordan's Banks..." [# 139 VIP]

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| 1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings! | Like flowers that wither and decay. |
| 2. Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our heart prepare
For Christ to come and enter there. | 4. To heal the sick stretch out thy hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once more. |
| 3. For thou art our salvation. Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away | 5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Holy Ghost, for evermore. |

**Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
trans. by John Chandler
(1806-76) and others**

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

- L: Awesome God, you have made all of creation and each cell of our bodies. You know our thoughts and you know our sins. Though we desperately try to hide our mistakes, our weaknesses, our embarrassments, you know our very humanness and vulnerabilities. We come to acknowledge them before you.

(Silence to be observed for personal prayers)

We ask for your forgiveness for being inconsistent to living our commitment to You; for being stumbling blocks to others who desire to walk more fully in Your will; and for misusing all together the gifts You have given us for extending your kingdom.

Even as you know the limits of our human capabilities, we know the unlimited power of your love. Forgive us, cleanse us, make us whole.

- R: **Forgive us loving God for doubting Your power to make good use of our offerings to You in worship; for being timid in offering our gifts in the care of others; and for not taking opportunities to develop the gifts You have given to us.**

(Silence to be observed for personal prayers)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Based on Psalm 139, 1 Corinthians 6)

- L: The God who has made us will never desert us. The God of creation is creating still, making us new. The God whose love gave us the gift of Jesus Christ is the same God whose love forgives and sustains us. **Amen.**

HYMN: "Rejoice the Lord is King..." [# 142 VIP]

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| 1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
Mortals give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore; | 4. He sits at God's right hand
Till all His foes submit,
And bow to His command,
And fall beneath His feet: |
| 2. Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains
He took His seat above; | 5. He all His foes shall quell,
Shall all our sins destroy,
And every bosom swell
With pure seraphic joy; |
| 3. His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heaven,
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given; | 6. Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the Judge shall come,
And take His servants up
to their eternal home. |

**Refrain:
Lift up your heart,
lift up your voice;
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**We soon shall hear
The archangel's voice;
The trump of God shall
sound, rejoice!**

*Charles Wesley
1707-1788*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (Fourth Sunday in Advent)

- L: "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem,

because he was descended from the house and family of David" (Luke 2:1,3-4).

- L: Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveller and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.
- P: **Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the kingdom of God.**

- L: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty.

*(Light two purple candles, the rose candle,
and the last purple candle.)*

HYMN: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" [# 138 VIP]

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|---|---|
| 1. O Come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear: | From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave: |
| Refrain:
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel. | 4. O come, thou Key of David,
come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery: |
| 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe: | 5. O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight: |
| 3. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny; | trans. by John M. Neale
(1818—1866) and others |

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT:

- ALL: **Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

OLD TESTAMENT: **Isaiah 7:10-16** - Sis. Valerie Hinds

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 80:1—7, 17—19

Led by: Bro. Courtney Moseley

- L: ¹ Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who sit enthroned between the cherubim,
shine forth
- R: ² **before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
Awaken your might; come and save us.**
- L: ³ Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.
- R: ⁴ **How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger
smolder against the prayers of your people?**
- L: ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
- R: ⁶ **You have made us an object of derision to our
neighbors, and our enemies mock us.**
- L: ⁷ Restore us, God Almighty;
make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.
- R: ¹⁷ **Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand,
the son of man you have raised up for yourself.**
- L: ¹⁸ Then we will not turn away from you;
revive us, and we will call on your name.
- R: ¹⁹ **Restore us, LORD God Almighty;
make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.**

THE GLORIA

EPISTLE: Romans 1:1-7 - Sis. Lucette Cargill

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25 - Pastor Dr. Wayne Henry
Lay Preacher, Western St. Andrew Circuit

SONG: "Go Tell it on the Mountain" -

SERMON: - Pastor Dr. Wayne Henry
Lay Preacher, Western St. Andrew Circuit

- ❖ ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ❖ OFFERTORY
- ❖ BLESSING OF TITHES & OFFERING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- L: God of all peoples, we bring the cares of the people before you. We long for, and pray for, the light of God in Christ Jesus to drive back the darkness of human error, misery and evil.
- R: **Where people are lost and fed-up in acquiring too much material possession, where addiction to alcohol, other drugs, and gambling is causing ruin, we pray for the hope of epiphany. Where dictators rule without mercy or wisdom,**

where democracies are manipulated by the rich and powerful, we pray for the justice of epiphany.

ALL: Where the church dodges its evangelical mission, where the church evades its social and political responsibility, we pray for the truth of epiphany.

R: **Where youth see no prospect in the future and so contemplate suicide, where the long-term unemployed exist without hope, where gangs become the choice we pray for the light of epiphany. Where the terminally ill face death fearfully, where people without purpose face life despairingly, we pray for the love of epiphany.**

L: Most holy Friend, to you all souls are precious; please take from our eyes the scales of prejudice or indifference, that we may increasingly share your awareness of the neglected and abused people, and do all we can to make your love real to them. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World..." [# 65 VIP]

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Repeat the sounding joy,
Let earth receive her King; Repeat, repeat the sounding
Let every heart prepare him room, joy.
And heaven and nature sing, And
heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and
nature sing.
2. Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
3. He rules the world with truth
and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his
love.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

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



4th Lord's Day in Advent

Sunday, December 18, 2022

DIVINE WORSHIP



OFFICIATING:

Preacher: Pastor Dr. Wayne Henry, O.D.
Lay Preacher, Western St. Andrew Circuit

Liturgist: Bro. Courtney Moseley
Lay Preacher, Western St. Andrew Circuit

Organist: Sis. Melrose Davies

Choristers: Sis. Yvonne Brown
Sis. Lucette Cargill
Sis. Valerie Hinds
Sis. Marie Miller
Sis. Yvonne Patterson

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

A warm welcome to all worshippers!