**THE METHODIST CHURCH IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THE AMERICAS- JAMAICA DISTRICT PROVIDENCE CIRCUIT**



***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.”*

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

Bishop Christine Gooden-Benguche

**CIRCUIT SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER**

Rev’dDr. George Mulrain

**PROVIDENCE METHODIST CHURCH**

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**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Holy Communion**

**4th LORD’S DAY BEFORE THE RESURRECTION**

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

***PREACHER***

*Rev’d Dr. Oral Thomas*

**THE PREPARATION**

Introit:            Gentle Shepherd (Choir)

**Call to Worship:**

Responsive reading: Psalm 19: 1-6, 14

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament

 proclaims his handiwork.

**Cong: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares**

 **knowledge.**

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

**Cong: Yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,**

Leader: Which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and

 like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**Cong: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

**Hymn No. 98 “We sing the praise of Him who died”**

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| --- | --- |
| **1.** WE sing the praise of him who died, Of him who died upon the cross; The sinner's hope let men deride: For this we count the world but loss. | **2***.*Inscribed upon the cross we see, In shining letters, ‘God is love;’ He bears our sins upon the tree; He brings us mercy from above. |
| **3.** The cross—it takes our guilt away; It holds the fainting spirit up; It cheers with hope the gloomy day, And sweetens every bitter cup; | **4**. It makes the coward spirit brave,And nerves the feeble arm for fight;It takes all terror from the grave,And gilds the bed of death with light; |

**5** The balm of life, the cure of woe,

 The measure and the pledge of love,

 The sinner's refuge here below,

 The angels' theme in heaven above.

 Prayer for Purity MPB pg 68

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen**

**The Commandments of our Lord Jesus:**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One, and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

**Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

The second is this: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

**Lord, have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

And a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these your laws in our hearts we beseech you.**

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

THE CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**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**

Leader: 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.

**Cong’n: Amen, thanks be to God.**

Welcome

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**Hebrew Reading: Exodus 20: 1-17**

Then God spoke all these words:

2 I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3you shall have no other gods before me.

4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9For six days you shall labour and do all your work. 10But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

 Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

 You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour’s house; you shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

**Epistle Reading:    1 Corinthians 1: 18-25**

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19For it is written,‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’ 20Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

**Gospel Reading:    John 2: 13-22**

 **Glory to You, O God**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. 15Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16He told those who were selling the doves, ‘Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a market-place!’ 17His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’ 18The Jews then said to him, ‘What sign can you show us for doing this?’ 19Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ 20The Jews then said, ‘This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?’ 21But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Word Sung:    People Need the Need Lord (The Choir).

**The Word Proclaimed**

THE RESPONSE

**Hymn No. 99 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

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| **1.** BENEATH the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand— The shadow of a mighty rock Within a weary land; A home within a wilderness, A rest upon the way, From the burning of the noontide heat And the burden of the day. | **2*.*** Upon the cross of Jesus, Mine eye at times can see, The very dying form of one Who suffered there for me. And from my stricken heart, with tears, Two wonders I confess, The wonders of redeeming love, And my own worthlessness. |

**3.** I take, O cross, thy shadow,

 For my abiding-place!

 I ask no other sunshine than

The sunshine of his face

Content to let the world go by,

To know no gain nor loss—

My sinful self my only shame,

My glory all—the cross.

Notices & Offering:

OFFERING FOR THE CARE FUND

**Hymn No. 112  “There is a fountain filled with blood”**

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| --- | --- |
| 1 THERE is a fountain filled with bloodDrawn from Immanuel’s veins;And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,Lose all their guilty stains. | 2. The dying thief rejoiced to seeThat fountain in his day;And there may I, though vile as he,Wash all my sins away. |
| 3. O dying Lamb, your precious blood Shall never lose its power,Till all the ransomed church of GodBe saved to sin no more. | 4. E'er since, by faith, I saw the streamYour flowing wounds supply,Redeeming love has been my themeAnd shall be till I die. |

5. Then in a nobler, sweeter song

 I’ll sing your power to save,

 When this poor lisping, stammering tongue

 Lies silent in the grave.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts**.**

**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God**.**

**It is right and fitting so to do.**

It is a good and pleasant thing, joyful and salutary, always and everywhere, to give you thanks and praise, Lord God, Ever-living,………….Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we join in the hymn of everlasting praise;

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest,**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the Universe, ……This is My Blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Therefore, Father, in obedience to…….

your whole creation to your heavenly kingdom. This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**To whom with you, O Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory from all who dwell on earth and in heaven throughout the ages of ages. Amen!**

***The Minister breaking the Bread shall say:***

The Bread which we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

**Amen.**

***And raising the Cup shall continue*:**

The Cup of Blessing which we bless is a sharing in the Blood of Christ.

**Amen. Though we are many we are one Body because we share the one loaf and partake of the same drink.**

**Prayer of humble access**

**Lord, we come to your table, trusting in your mercy and not in any goodness of our own. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table, but it is your nature always to have mercy, and on that we depend. So feed us with the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, that we may for ever live in him and he in us. Amen.**

*THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD & THE CUP*

Post Communion Prayer

**We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all mankind. Amen.**

THE CLOSING

**Hymn No. 105 “Jesus, keep me near the Cross”**

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| --- | --- |
| **1**. JESUS, keep me near the cross; There a precious fountain, Free to all, a healing stream, Flows from Calvary's mountain. |  *In the cross, in the cross,* *Be my glory ever;* *Till my raptured soul shall find* *Rest beyond the river.* |
| **2.** Near the cross, a trembling soul,Love and mercy found me;There the bright and morning starShed its beams around me. | **3.** Near the cross: O Lamb of God,Bring its scenes before me;Help me walk from day to day, With its shadow o'er me. |

**4.** Near the cross I'll watch and wait,

 Hoping, trusting ever,

 Till I reach the golden strand,

 Just beyond the river.

**The Benediction**

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**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** – **7th** – Sis. Ellenora Robinson; **9th** – Sis. Sheron Forbes, Bro. Damiel Philips, Sis. Alma Smith, Bro. Roy Williams**; 10th** – Sis. Madge Brown, Sis. Beatrice Colquhoun; **12th** – Sis. Hyacinth Lloyd; **13th** – Sis. Angella Cousins Robinson, Sis. Lilith Johnson

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mon. March 08 6:00 p.m. **CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCE &**

 **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tues. March 09 6:00 p.m. **BIBLE STUDY -** Via Zoom

 **Meeting** **ID:** 84412152974

 **Passcode:** 046849

Fri. March 12 5:00 p.m. **CONFIRMATION CLASSES** via Zoom

**FUTURE EVENTS**

Sun. March 14 8:30 a.m. **DIVINE WORSHIP**

 M.I.T Sis. Tene Joseph

Mon. March 15 6:00 p.m. **CONGREGATIONAL PASTORAL COUNCIL**

 **MEETING** via Zoom

Mon. March 22 6:00 p.m. **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

 **MEETING** Via Zoom

**Introducing the prayer line –** Persons desirous of prayer may call the **Prayer line.** Mondays between **12 Noon – 2:00 p.m**. 876-927-5222;

 Daily between **10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon**. 876-4462475

 Daily between **4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m** 876-3157643