**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’d Barrington Litchmore

**PROVIDENCE METHODIST CHURCH**

**132 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6**

**TEL: 876-9775971 / 977-6489**

**Website:** [**www.providencemethodistja.com**](http://www.providencemethodistja.com)

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**DIVINE WORSHIP**

**WOMEN’S LEAGUE LORD’S DAY**

 **18th lord’s day after pentecost**

**Sunday, September 26, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

**LITURGIST**

*Sis. Renee Nesbeth*

**PREACHER**

*Sis. Cesna McCain*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Theme: Tap Into God’s Power: Pray, Pray, Pray**

**THE PREPARATION**

**INTROIT**– Regeneration Music

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We come together on this Women’s League Lord’s Day to offer our worship to God for His favour towards us.

**People: In the name of the Father and the of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Leader: Lord, you called us to life, you called us into being. We are people of action and observation, work and rest, prayer and ministry.

**People: Help us to find the right balance in our lives.**

Leader: Lord, you created us individually; we all have different aspirations. Some of us are more geared toward action; some of us excel in reflection. We need all to exist.

**People: Help us to find the right balance in our lives.**

Leader: Then let us gather, old and young, small and great, to dream God's dreams, receive God's power, and do God's deeds.

**People: Here we are, Lord. Shine the light of your love on us. Kindle your Spirit within us. Work your redeeming will in us, that the world may be one through the power of your love.**

**All: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN** – **“You Are God Alone”**

You are not a God created by human hands

You are not a God dependent on any mortal man

You are not a God in need of anything we can give

By Your plan that's just the way it is. (x 2)

You are God alone, from before time began

You are on your throne. You are God alone

And right now, in the good times and bad

You are on your throne. You are God alone.

You're the only God whose power, none can contend

You're the only God whose name and praise will never end

You're the only God who's worthy of everything we can give

You are God. That's just the way it is.

You are God alone, from before time began

You are on your throne you are God alone

And right now, in the good times and bad

You are on your throne, You are God alone

Unchangeable. Unshakable. Unstoppable

That's who .you are. (x2.)

You are God alone, from before time began

You are on your throne. You are God alone

And right now, in the good times and bad

You are on your throne. You are God alone

You are God alone.

**PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**

Leader: Almighty God, we lift our voices this morning to praise Your Holy Name. We come before you in awe and wonder to worship you because of who you are. You are Alpha and Omega, first and last; Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer; the only true God. Nothing exists or continues to exist without you.

We honour and praise you because though you are far beyond our understanding and comprehension, you invite us to draw close to you so you can instruct us in the ways of wisdom and insight. Throughout the ages you have guided your people through the wilderness, assuring us of a home with You. You have been faithful to us through all the seasons of our lives. You have given us the precious gift of time – time in your glorious creation, time with loved ones, time to study Your Word, time to live, love, laugh, worship, and serve. How precious are these gifts, O God! And so we give you all the glory because there is none like you

.

**All: But Father, even as we acknowledge your power and lordship, we freely admit that we have often gone our own way. We have failed to be good stewards of your creation. We have hurt loved ones and ignored our neighbours and so have not loved you with our whole heart or loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have neglected our faith and the teachings of Scripture. Indeed we have sinned against you in thought, in word, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent of all that we have done that was outside of your will. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord. Cover us in the power of your life-giving Spirit and enliven our hearts and minds to respond in faith and trust to the knowledge of your love and grace, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. In Jesus’ Name we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: With gentleness, God speaks to us; with graciousness, God forgives us; with joy, God embraces us.

**People: With our lips, we praise God; with our words, we thank God; with our silence, we find God in our hearts. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Giving God, we give you thanks for your enduring love and for sending us your Son Jesus to show us how to live in love. Accept our thanks and praise for all your gifts. We thank you;

* for the splendour of the whole creation, the beauty of this world, the wonder of life, and the mystery of love.
* for blessing us with family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.
* for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for helping us to accomplish them with satisfaction and delight
* for disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our total dependence on you.

Above all we thank you for Jesus Christ, for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience by which he overcame temptation, for his death on the cross and resurrection by which we are raised to the life in your kingdom. For these and countless other gifts we give you thanks. We pray all this in the name of and through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. **Amen**.

WELCOME ANDANNOUNCEMENTS – Steward on Duty

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT WOMEN’S LEAGUE PRESIDENT

**WOMEN’S LEAGUE PLEDGE** *(Women’s League members stand for pledge)*

**I accept the call of God to service, and trusting in His strength I offer myself for the work of the Women’s League in this Church. In all things, it shall be my aim to share in the full life of Christ’s Church, and to seek through worship and work to know and do the will of God in my home, my Church and my community, so helping to establish His Kingdom on earth.**

TIME OF PRAISE

**Choruses**:

“**We Are Together Again”**

We’re together again just praising the Lord,

We’re together again in one accord;

Something good is going to happen,

Some good is in store

We’re together again just praising the Lord.

**“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.

**“Your Grace And Mercy Brought Us Through”**

Your grace and mercy brought me through;

I'm living this moment because of you.

I want to thank you, and praise you too;

Your grace and mercy brought me through

CHILDREN AND YOUTH FOCUS

**YOUNG PEOPLE’S HYMN** – “Whisper A Prayer”

Whisper a prayer in the morning,

Whisper a prayer at noon;

Whisper a prayer in the evening,

To keep your heart in tune.

God answers prayer in the morning,

God answers prayer at noon;

God answers prayer in the ev’ning,

To keep your heart in tune.

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**THE COLLECT** *(prayed by all)***: Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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 READING** – Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

*Despite the personal danger involved, Queen Esther uses her influence to save her people from death.*

7 1So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. 2On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, ‘What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.’ 3Then Queen Esther answered, ‘If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. 4For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.’\* 5Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, ‘Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?’ 6Esther said, ‘A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!’ Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. 9Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, ‘Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.’ And the king said, ‘Hang him on that.’ 10So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

20 Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, 21enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, 22as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE READING** – Psalm 124 (VIP # 643)

*A psalm of joyous thanksgiving for God’s protection and help.*

L: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side —let Israel now say—

**P:** **if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,**

L: then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

**P:** **then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;**

L: then over us would have gone the raging waters.

**P:** **Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.**

L: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**P:** **Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

**The Gloria** *(all stand)*

**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** – James 5:13-20

*Believers are urged to pray for themselves and others as the prayers of the faithful are powerful and bring healing and forgiveness.*

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters,\* if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s\* soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN – “Sweet Hour of Prayer” (VIP #289)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** SWEET hour of prayer! *(rep.)*  that calls me from a world of care,  and bids me at my Father’s throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter’s snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!  | **2.** Sweet hour of prayer! *(rep.)*  the joys I feel, the bliss I share  of those whose anxious spirits burn with strong desires for thy return! With such I hasten to the place where God my Saviour shows his face, and gladly take my station there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!  |

**3**. Sweet hour of prayer! *(rep.)*

 thy wings shall my petition bear

 to him whose truth and faithfulness

 engage the waiting soul to bless.

 And since he bids me seek his face,

 believe his word, and trust his grace,

 I’ll cast on him my every care,

 and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

**GOSPEL READING** – Mark 9:38-50 (**All:Glory to you, O God)**

*Jesus refuses to condemn someone who, though he is not a disciple, helps others in His name. He then warns against leading others into sin or holding on to things that lead one to sin, because doing so brings condemnation.*

**Di Jamiekan Nyuu Testiment** – Sis Suzanne Taylor

38 Jan se tu Jiizas se, “Tiicha, wi si wan man a yuuz yu niem ron out diiman outa piipl an wi chrai fi tap im kaaz im no bilang tu wi gruup.”

39Bot Jiizas se tu dem se, “No tap im, kaaz nobadi we yuuz fi mi niem fi wok mirikl kyaahn jos ton roun di neks minit an chat bad bout mi. 40 Kaaz enibadi we naa fait gens wi de pan fi wi said. 41Mi a tel unu dis, an mi naa lai, enibadi we gi unu wan kop a waata kaaz unu bilang tu mi, boun fi get wa dem fi get.

42 “Ef nobadi mek wan a dem likl pikni ya we biliiv iina mi sin, it wuda beta fi dem ef sumadi tai wan big big rakstuon roun dem nek an fling dem iina di sii. 43 So ef unu an mek unu sin, chap it aaf. Kaaz it wuda beta fi unu kripl an liv fi eva wid Gad dan fi av tuu an an get fling dong iina el faiya we kyaahn out! 45Ef unu fut mek unu sin, chap it aaf. Kaaz it wuda beta fi unu ef unu kyaahn waak an liv fi eva wid Gad dan fi av tuu fut an get fling dong a el. 47Ef unu yai kaaz unu fi sin, juk it out. Kaaz unu wuda beta aaf ef unu go iina Gad kindom wid onggl wan yai dan fi av tuu yai an get fling dong a el,

48 we“ ‘Di worm dem we a nyam dem kyaahn ded

an di faiya we a bon dem kyaahn out.’

49Bot faiya a-go bon an kliin op evribadi.

50“Saalt gud, bot ef di ties gaan, ou yu a-go mek it ties laik saalt agen? Mek di Gud Nyuuz komiin laik saalt mongks unu an kaaz unu fi liv iina piis wid wan aneda.”

**New Revised Standard Version** – Sis Soba Pepple

38 John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’ 39But Jesus said, ‘Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. 40Whoever is not against us is for us. 41For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

42 ‘If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., 47And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

49 ‘For everyone will be salted with fire. 50Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’

R: This is the Gospel of Christ

**C: Praise be to Christ our Lord**

**MESSAGE** – **Pray In All Circumstances** *(Text James 5:16)*

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

**RESPONSE IN SONG** – Regeneration Music

**RECEIVING AND DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS**

*(Tithes and Offerings, Food Barrel Offering, Offering for the Wesley Diaconal Community)*

PRAYER FOR PERSONS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND

ANNIVERSARIES

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** – Sis Sharda Small

L: Let us join our hearts and minds in prayer. Let us pray:

 We pray for all the peoples of the world, especially those affected by the coronavirus pandemic. We pray especially for our sisters and brothers in Haiti. In these times of isolation when people are apart from loved ones, distant from friends, away from neighbours, reassure them that there is nothing in all of creation, not even a novel coronavirus that will separate us from your love.

**R: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers**

L: We pray for those in our own communities who are sick, for those who are bereaved and grieving, for those who feel isolated: we pray for all who support them. God be their healer, their comforter and their protector.

**R: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers**

L: We pray for the leaders of our nation: Grant wisdom to our Prime Minister and the other men and women in Parliament. Grant them the gifts of courage, compassion and wisdom in their decision making for the many important and critical situations they face. We pray for our military personnel and police officers. We ask God’s protection for them from the dangers they face daily.

**R: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers**

L: We pray for our church, for our District Bishop, for all Ministers, and all other leaders as they guide us through these trying times. We pray for members of the body of Christ that we may all be strengthened and empowered as we serve you in our different spheres of activity.

**R: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers**

*Women’s League members stand*

L: Lord, we come before your throne of grace to say thank you for uniting us as a group of women to serve you for a common purpose. Lord, give us strength that we may be able to stand as one, to fulfill the plans you have set before us. We are committed to serve in whatever area we are planted.

**R: Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayers**

*Children, youth and young adults stand*

L: We pray for our young people, in this congregation, in this community, and in Jamaica at large, that they will seek you and know you in a personal way. We thank you, Father, for showing us your love, for overwhelming us with your peace in these trying times, and for opening doors of opportunity for us that no man can close. Pull us closer to you Lord, as we shine Your light into this world.

 Merciful Father, we bring before you now our personal petitions and concerns.

(*Brief pause).*

Grant us all grace and faith to see through your eyes, hear through your ears, and touch through your hands as we share the Gospel and work to make this world a better place. In Jesus’ name, we pray. **Amen**.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (VIP # 25)

**CLOSING HYMN** – “**A Charge To Keep I Have” (VIP # 314)**

**1.** A charge to keep I have, **3.** Arm me with jealous care,

A God to glorify, As in thy sight to live;
A never dying soul to save, And O thy servant, Lord, prepare
And fit it for the sky. A strict account to give!

**2.** To serve the present age, **4.** Help me to watch and pray,
My calling to fulfill: And on thyself rely,
O may it all my powers engage Assured, if I, my trust betray,
To do my Master's will! I shall for ever die.

**THE SENDING**

Let us go out into the world, understanding that we are not of it, knowing that we are your children and baptized in your Holy Spirit. So let us walk in unity, showing the world that knew not our saviour that we are indeed one. We cannot be divided. We cannot be conquered. We will stand together.

**BENEDICTION**

May the God of peace who raised Christ from the dead strengthen your inner being for every good work. And may the blessing of God - Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit - rest upon you and dwell within you this day and evermore. **Amen**.

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**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES – 26th** – Bro Wayne Palmer; **28th** – Sis. Cynthia Ferguson, Bro. David Samuel; **29th** – Sis. Michelle Wilson-Reynolds; **30th** – Rev’d Dr. Oral Thomas; **October – 1st** – Sis. Ashlee Douillard

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tues. Sept 28 6:00 p.m. BIBLE STUDY

Wed. Sept 29 12 Noon PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

 **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Sun. Oct 03 8:30 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION**

**Condolence to**: The family of the late Sis. Joyce Gilbert who died recently. The Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date. Our sincere sympathy goes out to members of her family as they go through this difficult time.

 **JAMIEKAN NYUU TESTIMENT BIBLE –** Copies are available from Sis. Shirley Carby at a cost of $1,700.00.

**Methodist Home for Retired Persons:**  Please inform persons that there is space available at the home located at 26 University Crescent, Kingston 6, with accommodation especially for females. Both single and double occupancy can be available. Kindly check the Providence website [www.providencemethodistja.com](http://www.providencemethodistja.com) for more information on the home's features.

**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

 Generally available except on Mondays. 876- 9271439

**PLEASE REMEMBER PRAYERFULLY- Sis. Laurel Bruce**, 15 Deanery Ave, 928-1873; **Sis. Lesma Brown**, Glo’s Adult Care Centre, Louisville Road, Kingston 8. (Russell Heights) Telephone (876) 665-3016., **Sis. Verona Cameron**; **Sis. Helen Chambers,** 34 Charlemont Drive. 927-0747;

**Sis. Keturah Forrest**, 10 Old Henry Lane (6), 927-5395; **Sis**. **Pearl Morgan**, 5 Elliott Ave(8), 924-0005; Sis**. Gertrude Phillips**, 4 Finchley Close(6), 702-2947; **Sis. Violet Tapper, 1 Phadrian Ave, (6)**; **Sis. Cynthia Walsh**, 11 Ravinia Mews (6), 927-0275; **Sis. Jean Andrade,** 14 Roseneath Ave. 946-2769; **Bro. Horace Brown,** 8 Halifax Cres, 978-0091**; Sis. Lauris Goldson,** 30 Glendon Circle, 927-0711**; Sis. Clover Treasure**, 669-1709**; Sis. Bernice Saunders**, 7 Maynard Dr, Patrick City. **Sis. Lena Anderson,** 876-977-0201**; Bro. Hubert Bartholomew,** 876-8263319; **Sis. Grace Boyne, Sis. Joyce Bolton, Sis. Alma Smith, Sis. Verna George, Sis. Isolene Livingstone**, **Sis. Beryl Miles; Bro. Lester Palmer**, **Sis. Gwendoline Thomas**, **Sis. Sybil Francis, Sis. Pam Morris, Sis. Muriel Lewis, Sis. Pauline Mason, Sis. Enid Phillips, Sis. Marjory Smythe, Sis. Sadie Mitchell, Sis. Carmen Subaran, Sis. Mae Polack**; **Sis. Janice Robinson, Sis. Inez Bernard, Bro. Eric King, Rev’d Dr. Rupert Young, Sis. Gerda Theobalds, Bro. Roy Thomas, Sis. Carmen Allicock, Sis. Minna McLeod**, **Sis. Hazel Bennett**, **Sis Ivy Holder, Bro. Trevor Weston**

**THIS WEEK’S DEVOTIONAL READINGS FROM “OUR DAILY BREAD”**

Sun. 26 Sept John 19:38-42 Faith -Stand

Mon. 27 Sept Matthew 25:1-13 Live Like Jesus Is Coming

Tues. 28 Sept Ephesians 1:15-23 “Just the Office”?

Wed. 29 Sept Exodus 3:10-17 Who Am I?

Thur 30 Sept Isaiah 53:1-6 A Ready Remedy

Fri. 01 Oct Exodus 16:14-18 Eat and Repeat

Sat. 02 Oct Ephesians 5:1-13 Catching Foxes