**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**

**132 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6**

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

**Website:** **www.providencemethodistja.com**

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**8th lord’s day after pentecost**

**Sunday, July 18, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

**PREACHER**

*Rev’d Alison Iton*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

PREPARATION

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come into the presence of the Most High God with songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving.

**Cong: For our Saviour frees us from slavery; our Savior heals our diseases; our Saviour is our peace.**

Leader: You are a holy temple in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Cong: Come; let us worship God together.**

**OPENING HYMN VIP# 17 – “O God of all grace”**

**1.** O GOD of all grace,

 Your goodness we praise;

 Your Son you have given to die in our place,

 He came from above

 Our curse to remove;

 He has loved, he has loved us,

 because he would love.

**2.** Love moved him to die,

 And on this we rely;

 He has loved, he has loved us:

 we cannot tell why;

 But this we can tell,

 He has loved us so well

 As to lay down his life to redeem us from hell.

**3.** He has ransomed our race;

 O how shall we praise

 Or worthily sing your unspeakable grace?

 Nothing else will we know

 In our journey below,

 But singing your grace to your paradise go.

**4.** Nay, and when we remove

 To your presence above,

 Our heaven shall be still to sing of your love

 We all shall commend

 The love of our Friend,

 For ever beginning what never shall end.

OPENING PRAYERS

**INVOCATION**

Leader: Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Leader:

Even our best intentions go awry when we are not at one with God’s purpose. Our gracious God journeys with us and provides for us with unending mercy, patience, and kindness so that when we repent, we find ourselves forgiven.

(Let us confess our sins.)

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Master Builder, God who has constructed our lives for your very purposes: we confess that we have too often built the wrong things; we have used tools from the wrong master’s house – ones that fail to dismantle the darkness; we have focused on building our legacies and have missed opportunities to share yours; we have built walls when we should have built bridges. By the places we live, learn, work, shop, and go for entertainment, we have contributed to building powers and principalities that we should work toward deconstructing and demolishing. Sometimes our building has displaced the homes and disrupted the neighbourhoods of people whose voices did not matter to those in positions of power. Knock down the walls of our minds and renovate our imaginations that we may see your plans as better than our own. When your blueprints are bolder than our flawed floor plans, help us to trust you. We offer you these prayers in the name of the Carpenter who built the Church, and it is in his body we find our lives. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader:

Our Lord Jesus gives us rest and peace. Our Master’s touch heals us, and his shed blood is our salvation. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** (pg 81-86 MPB)

* Sydney Asher Alexander
* Dakari Mosiah Grant

**BAPTISMAL HYMN VIP # 446 “O Happy Home” (verses 1-3)**

**1.** O HAPPY home where thou art loved the dearest,

 Thou loving Friend, and Saviour of our race,

 And where among the guests there never cometh

 One who can hold such high and honoured place!

**2.** O happy home where two in heart united

 In holy faith and blessed hope are one,

 Whom death a little while alone divideth,

 And cannot end the union here begun!

**3**. O happy home whose little ones are given

 Early to thee, in humble faith and prayer,

 To thee, their Friend, who from the heights of heaven

 Guides them, and guards with more than mother’s care!

Time of Praise

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**COLLECT: Generous God, You give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT: 2 Samuel 7: 1– 14a**

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.’ 3Nathan said to the king, ‘Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.’

4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 5Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 6I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. 7Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ 8Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; 9and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. 12When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Response:** **Thanks be to God**

Responsive Reading Psalm 89: 20– 37

Leader: I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;

**Cong: my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.**

Leader: The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.

**Cong: I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.**

Leader: My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name

 his horn shall be exalted.

**Cong: I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.**

Leader: He shall cry to me, “You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my

 salvation!”

**Cong: I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.**

Leader: For-ever I will keep my steadfast love for him, and my covenant with

 him will stand firm.

**Cong: I will establish his line for ever, and his throne as long as the heavens endure.**

Leader: If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my

 ordinances,

**Cong: if they violate my statutes and do not keep my commandments,**

Leader: then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity

 with scourges;

**Cong: but I will not remove from him my steadfast love, or be false to**

 **my faithfulness.**

Leader: I will not violate my covenant, or alter the word that went forth from

 my lips.

**Cong: Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.**

Leader: His line shall continue for ever, and his throne endure before me like

 the sun.

**Cong: It shall be established for ever like the moon, an enduring witness in the skies.’**

**EPISTLE: Ephesians 2: 11– 22**

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— 12remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Response:** **Thanks be to God**

SPECIAL SELECTION

GOSPEL: Mark 6: 30– 34, 53– 56

 **Glory to You, O God**

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. 31He said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. 34As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. 54When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, 55and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. 56And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

**Response: Praise be to Christ, Our Lord**

**HYMNVIP#446 – “O Happy Home” (verses 4-6)**

**4**. O happy home where each one serves thee, lowly,

 Whatever his appointed work may be,

 Till every common task seems great and holy,

 When it is done, O Lord, as unto thee!

**5.** O happy home where thou art not forgotten

 When joy is overflowing, full and free;

 O happy home where every wounded spirit

 Is brought, Physician, Comforter, to thee.

**6.** Until at last, when earth’s day’s work is ended,

 All meet thee in the blessed home above,

 From whence thou camest, where thou hast ascended,

 Thy everlasting home of peace and love!

**MESSAGE - Rev. Alison Iton**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *VIP#190 (****J. Whittier)*

**1.** Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;

Reclothe us in our rightful mind,in purer lives Thy service find,

In deeper reverence, praise.

**2**. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,

The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word,

Rise up and follow Thee.

**3.** O Sabbath rest by Galilee,O calm of hills above,

Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee the silence of eternity,

Interpreted by love!

**4.** With that deep hush subduing all our words and works that drown

The tender whisper of Thy call, as noiseless let Thy blessing fall

As fell Thy manna down.

**5.** Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;

Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess

The beauty of Thy peace.

**6.** Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and Thy balm;

Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;

Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,

O still, small voice of calm.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Unless God builds the house, those who build labour in vain. God gives rest to the weary and sleep for his beloved. Let us present offerings of thanksgiving, without fear or anxiety about anything, for God provides for us.

RECEIVING AND DEDICATION OF TITHES & OFFERING

**DEDICATION OF OFFERING**:

Almighty God, we thank You for enriching our lives with all that is good and for providing for us in times of trial. Make us ever more mindful of the blessings you grant us each day; deepen our trust in your love and mercy. Increase our thanksgiving by guiding our offerings to help others in need. Unite us all in a community of thanksgiving, always glorifying you, O Holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Leader: O God, merciful and just; O God, kind and compassionate; O God, forever faithful for your own name’s sake: we pray for the world Christ came to save;we pray for the realm you are bringing through Christ. Bless the church, the body of Christ, with the power of the Holy Spirit, so that our strength is renewed like the eagle’s. Then send us out to proclaim the good news that in Jesus Christ there is newness of life.

Leader: We pray for all who are weary from hard labor, especially for those who are not fairly paid, for those who work in dangerous places,for those trapped in slavery. Break yokes of oppression and bonds of bitterness.

Leader: We pray for all who serve on behalf of others, especially for those who care for the sick, elderly, and dying; for those who fight fires, enforce just laws, serve in the military; for those who hold public office. Build up all people in peace and freedom.

Leader: We pray for ourselves,that we will be faithful, especially in times of ; that our diseases will be healed, so we have strength to serve others; that our love for one another and you grow ever deeper.

Leader: Make us into a holy temple in the Lord; build us spiritually into a dwelling place for God— into your realm, O Holy Trinity. Amen.

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMNVIP#407 –“The Church’s one foundation”**

**1.** THE church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;

She is his new creation by water and the word;

From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

**2.** Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,

Her charter ofsalvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;

One holy name she blesses, partakes one holyfood,

And to one hope she presses with every grace endued.

**3.** Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed

By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed;

Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up: How long?

And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

**4**. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,

She waits theconsummation of peace forevermore;

Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,

And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

**5.**Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,

And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,

Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

**COMMISSION &BENEDICTION**

Leader: You have heard the Word of the Lord. Before you re-enter the space where crowds are waiting on the other side for your responses, and others are hungering for your compassion, take a moment to be in conversation with the Lord about what you may need to tend to and what you need to rest from

*(Silence).*

Seek out your neighbour in love. If it is within your power, be reconciled to your enemies. Hunger and thirst for the rule of Christ Jesus and let him dwell in your minds and hearts. And may God grant you peace in your sleeping and waking; may Christ fill you with joy in your working and playing; and may the Holy Spirit drive you with passion in your love for God. **AMEN.**

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**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** – **18th** – Sis. Sharda Small; **20TH** - Bro. Clifford Lewinson ; **21st** – Sis. Isolene Livingstone; **22nd** – Sis. Patricia McDowell, Sis. Avis Morris, Bro. Horace Brown; **23rd** – Sis. Barbara Peat; **24th** – Sis. Janelle Cox

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tues. July 20 6:00 p.m. BIBLE STUDY

Wed. July 21 12 Noon PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

**FUTURE EVENTS**

**Sun. July 25 8:30 a.m. DIVINE WORSHIP**

 Bro. Michael Boyne

**Closure of the Church Office** – In order to undertake the sorting and filing of documents, the Church Office will be closed on Mondays between 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. This activity will commence on Monday, July 19th and will continue throughout the summer period.

**Please note** that the Church Office must be advised by 9:00 A.M. on Friday morning at the latest of your **intention to worship**, so that your name can be included in the list of attendees.

**Annual Budget:** All organizations and groups of the Church were asked to prepare and submit their Annual Budgets for the year commencing September 1, 2021 - August 2022. This should have been submitted to the Church Office by Friday, July 16, 2021.

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

Please inform persons that there is space available at the **Methodist Home for Retired Persons**, 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 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. Lilith Johnson,** Glo’s Adult Care Centre, 4 Louisville Road, Kingston, 941-5683; **Sis**. **Pearl Morgan**, 5 Elliott Ave(8), 924-0005; **Sis. Inez Morrison,** Trafalgar Apartments, 1 Caribbean Close, 667-1963; 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**; Bro. Carlton Brown**, **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, Rev’d Claude Cadogan**; **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**

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

Sun. 18 July 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15 Wise Aid

Mon. 19 July Psalm 24 Who Is He

Tues. 20 July Titus 2:1-8 Hands-On Learning

Wed. 21 July Mark 5:35-43 Never Too Late

Thur 22 July 1 Genesis 39:6-12, 20-23 Faithful in Captivity

Fri. 23 July Psalm 33:6-19 Eyes in the Back of My Head

Sat. 24 July Jeremiah 9:23-26 Something To Brag About