**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**

**5th LORD’S DAY OF THE RESURRECTION**

**Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

**PREACHER**

*Rev’d Dr. Oral Thomas*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

THE PREPARATION

**Call To Worship: Psalm 22:25-31**

Leader: From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will

pay before those who fear him.

**Cong: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall**

**praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever!**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all

the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**Cong: For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.**

Leader: To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  before

him shall bow all who go down to the dust,and I shall live for him.

**Cong: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,**

**All: And proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.**

**Hymn No. 28 (VIP) “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

|  |  |
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| **1.** PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty,  the King of creation;  O my soul ,praise him for he is  thy health and salvation!  All ye who hear,  Brothers and sisters,draw near,  Praise him in glad adoration. | **2.** Praise to the Lord, who doth  prosper thy work and defend thee;  Surely his goodness and mercy  here daily attend thee:  Ponder anew  What the Almighty can do,  Who with his love doth befriend  thee. |
| **3.** Praise to the Lord, who doth  Nourish thy life and restore thee,  Fitting thee well for the tasks  that are ever before thee,  Then to thy need  He like a mother doth speed,  Spreading the wings of grace o’er  thee. | **4.** Praise to the Lord, who, when  darkness of sin is abounding,  Who, when the godless do triumph,  all virtue confounding,  Sheddeth his light,  Chaseth the horrors of night,  Saints with his mercy surrounding. |

**5.** Praise to the Lord! O let

all that is in me adore him!

All that hath life and breath, come

now with praises before him!

Let the amen

Sound from his people again:

Gladly for aye we adore him.

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 His 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**

**1st Reading: Acts 8:26-40**

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is a wilderness road.) 27So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ 30So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ 31He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:  
‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
   and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
     so he does not open his mouth.   
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
   Who can describe his generation?  
     For his life is taken away from the earth.’   
34The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ 35Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 36As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ 38He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

**2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. 15God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19We love because he first loved us. 20Those who say, ‘I love God’, and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 15:1-8

**Glory to You, O God**

15 ‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 2He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

**Cong: Praise be to Christ Our Lord.**

**Hymn No. 34 (VIP) “Thy ceaseless, unexhausted love”**

**1.** THY ceaseless, unexhausted love,

Unmerited and free,

Delights our evil to remove,

And help our misery.

**2.** Thou waitest to be gracious still;

Thou dost with sinners bear,

That, saved, we may thy goodness feel,

And all Thy grace declare.

**3.** Thy goodness and thy truth to me,

To every soul, abound,

A vast, unfathomable sea,

Where all our thoughts are drowned.

**4**. Its streams the whole creation reach,

So plenteous is the store,

Enough for all, enough for each,

Enough for evermore.

**5**. Faithful, O Lord, thy mercies are,

A rock that cannot move:

A thousand promises declare

Thy constancy of love.

**6.** Throughout the universe it reigns,

Unalterably sure;

And while the truth of God remains,

The goodness must endure.

**The Word Proclaimed**

THE RESPONSE

**Hymn No. 22a “Great Is Thy faithfulness”**

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| **1.** Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  There is no shadow of turning with thee;  Thou changest not, thy compassions,  they fail not;  As thou hast been thou for ever wilt be: | *Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!*  *Morning by morning new mercies I see;*  *All I have needed thy hand has*  *provided.*  *Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto*  *me.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2.** Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  Sun, moon and stars in their courses  above,  Join with all nature in manifold witness  To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love: | **3.** Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! |

Notices & Offering

OFFERING FOR THE CARE FUND

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**:

**Hymn No. 254 (VIP) “Love divine, all loves excelling”**

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| --- | --- |
| **1**. Love divine, all loves excelling,    Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  Fix in us thy humble dwelling,   All thy faithful mercies crown;  Jesu, thou art all compassion,   Pure, unbounded love thou art,  Visit us with thy salvation,   Enter every trembling heart. | **2**. Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all thy grace receive, Suddenly return, and never,  Never more thy temples leave.  Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy hosts above,  Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **3.** Finish then thy new creation,  Pure and sinless let us be,  Let us see thy great salvation,  Perfectly restored in thee;  Changed from glory into glory,  Till in heaven we take our place,  Till we cast our crowns before thee,   Lost in wonder, love, and praise! |  |

**THE THANKSGIVING** – *(Prayer Book, pgs76 – 78)*

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

RAISING OF THE CUP

**Prayer of humble access**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** – *(Prayer Book, pg. 79)*

……***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. 255 “Blest be the tie that binds”**

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| 1. BLEST be the tie that binds  our hearts in Christian love;  the fellowship of kindred minds  is like to that above. | 2. Before our Father's throne  we pour our ardent prayers;  our fears, our hopes, our aims are  one,  our comforts and our cares. |
| 3. We share each other's woes,  our mutual burdens bear;  and often for each other flows  the sympathizing tear. | 4. When we asunder part,  it gives us inward pain;  but we shall still be joined in heart,  and hope to meet again. |

**The Benediction.**



**BIRTHDAYS – 2nd** – Sis. Rose Davies; **3rd** – Sis. Lorna Newman, Bro. Michael Alexander; **4th** – Bro. Milton Arthurs Snr, Bro. Jordan Spence, Bro. Kirk Weston;

**6th** – Bro. Dalton Robinson; **7th** – Sis. Verona Cameron, Bro. Euton Locke; **8th** – Sis. Vivienne Bayley-Hay

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Mon. May 03 6:00 p.m**. PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tues. May 04 6:00 p.m. BIBLE STUDY

**Topic:** *Truth and Politics;* presenter Bro. Trevor Morgan. **A special appeal goes out to the men of the congregation to be there and invite other men to attend the Bible Study sessions each week.**

Fri. May 07 5:00 p.m. CONFIRMATION CLASS

**FUTURE EVENTS**

Sun. May 09 8:30a.m. **DIVINE WORSHIP**

Sis. Margaret Armstrong

Mon. May 10 6:00 p.m**. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Sun. May 16 **CRADLE ROLL SERVICE**

**Sun. May 23 CONFIRMATION SERVICE.**

Members of the ***Pastoral Council*** are invited to attend the Confirmation Class on ***Friday, 21st May at 5:00 p.m***. to meet the confirmands.

**CONGRATULATIONS**: To Bro. Elroy Galbraith who was married on Friday in Japan to Sikopo Nyambe of Zambia.

**CONDOLENCES** **On the death of their loved ones**:

To FAMILIES

* Of the late Senator **Anthony Johnson**, including his widow Pamela, son Alexander, daughters Charmaine, Kamina (Senator Johnson-Smith), Olivia and 6 grandchildren.
* Of the late **Roy Bailey**, including daughters Allison Bailey-Wedderburn, Althea Bailey and Arlene Bailey
* Of the late **Victor Cooke** in Barbados, including daughter Yolande. Mr. Cooke was a Past Vice President of the MCCA and a former Treasurer of MCCA Connexional Funds.

**Superintendent Minister's long-leave** will be June - August.  Information regarding the leave of Dr. the Rev'd Iton and Rev'd Burton will be shared subsequently.

**The Providence Methodist Church Fund Raising Team** invites you a **DRIVE THRU LUNCH on Friday June 25, 2021 from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Menu:**

* Steamed Fish served with steamed Bammies $1600.00
* Escoveitch Fish served with Bammy /Festival $1600.00
* Jerk or BBQ Chicken served with Bammy/festival or Rice &Peas $1500.00

Caterer: Patsy Lyn Caterers LTD

Call the Church Office for Tickets

**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