**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**

 **17th lord’s day after pentecost**

**Sunday, September 19, 2021**

**8:30 a.m.**

**PREACHER**

*Rev’d Alison Iton*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PREPARATION**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?
**Cong: We long to hear God’s Word spoken to our hearts.**Leader: Who among you is seeking God’s bright holy truth?
**Cong: We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.**Leader: Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?
**Cong: We long to live lives of holiness and light.
ALL: God grants God’s wisdom generously to all who ask.
 Come near, people of God! Let us worship in wisdom and truth.**

**OPENING HYMN # 298 – “O for a heart to praise my God’**

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| --- | --- |
| **1.** O FOR a heart to praise my God, A heart from sin set free, A heart that always feels thy blood So freely spilt for me; | **2** A heart resigned, submissive, meek, My great Redeemer’s throne, Where only Christ is heard to speak, Where Jesus reigns alone; |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **3.** A humble, lowly, contrite heart, Believing, true, and clean; Which neither life nor death can part From him that dwells within; | **4**. A heart in every thought renewed,And full of love divine;Perfect, and right, and pure, and good,A copy, Lord, of thine! |

**5**. Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;

 Come quickly from above,

 Write thy new name upon my heart,

 Thy new, best name of love.

OPENING PRAYERS – INVOCATION

Leader: God of the first and the last, give us strength of mind, that we might walk the path of obedience and discipleship without wasting our time thinking about who is more important. Instead, guide our thoughts and our emotions that we may be like children, totally dependent on you, welcoming all with hospitality and love. In the Name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Recognizing that we are easily swayed by the wrong advice and that we have strayed from the ways of the Lord, let us, in silence, confess our sins to God, with hope of finding love and mercy

(Time of Silent Confession)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Our Creator and Sustainer, we confess that we are not always strong like the trees planted by the water’s edge. Sometimes we are weak and indecisive. When the first big wind comes, we lean and break. We plot revenge instead of letting you fight our battles. By our silence and busyness, we let wickedness and ugliness fester and flourish. Today Lord, forgive us when we covet and lie and when we get caught up in things that displease you. Heal us, direct our paths, and be for us the peace we so desperately crave. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but the people who fear the Lord are to be praised. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and we can live in peace. AMEN.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Special Welcome** – All Tertiary Students attending Institutions in Zone 1 (UTCWI, UTECH, UWI, MICO, St. Joseph’s Teacher’s College, Excelsior Community College, Caribbean Maritime University, Edna Manley College)
* **Special Welcome** – All members of the Westwood Old Girl’s Association (Westwoodites) who are sharing in their annual commemorative worship celebration.
* **Greetings** from Doreen Dietrich – President, Westwoodites.

**CHILDREN’S HYMN #286 – “Let there be peace on earth”**

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| 1. LET there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. | 2. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.  *Sy Miller* (1908-71)*And Jill Jackson* (1913- 95) |

YOUTH FOCUS – Rev. Joelle Alfred (UTCWI, MIT)

Time of Praise

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**COLLECT:**

**O Lord, we beseech You mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill them; through Jesus Christ Your Son Our Lord. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT - Proverbs 31:10-31** – Sis. Akiva Jackson (2nd year student Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI, Mona; Unity Methodist Church)

10 A capable wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. 12 She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. 13 She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. 14 She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away.
15 She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls. 16 She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. 17 She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong. 18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. 19 She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. 20 She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. 21 She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson. 22 She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. 23 Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land. 24 She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. 26 She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. 27 She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: 29 ‘Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.’ 30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. 31 Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Response: Thanks be to God**

**Responsive Reading – Psalm 1** - Sis. Claudine Watkis (Westwood Alumna, Class of 2009)

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take

 the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**Cong: but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

Leader: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

**Cong: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**Cong: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**EPISTLE: James 3:14 – 4:3, 7-8a** – Bro. Casandru Bartley (4th year student at UTECH, Warsop Methodist Church)

14But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. 15Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. 16For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. 18And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for\* those who make peace. 4Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 2You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet\* something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Response: Thanks be to God**

SPECIAL SELECTION – Church Choir

**GOSPEL: Mark 9:30 –37**  (NRSV)

 **Glory to You, O God**

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; 31for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, ‘The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.’ 32But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. 33 Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the way?’ 34But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. 35He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ 36Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 37‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

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

**Mark 9:30-37** - Daniel Dorcin (UTCWI, MIT) – Haitian creole

**Mark 9:30-37** - (Jamekian NyuuTestiment)

30 Jiizas an im falara dem lef an paas chuu Gyalalii. Im neva waahn nobadi fi nuo we dem de, 31 kaaz im did a tiich im falara dem. Im tel dem se, “Sumadi a-go sel out Di Man we Gad Pik an gi im uova tu piipl we iet im. Dem a-go kil im, bot chrii die afta dat, im a-go kom bak alaiv.” 32 Bot dem neva andastan wa im did miin, an dem did fried fi aks im.33 Afta Jiizas an im falara dem riich a Kyaporniyom an go iina di ous im aks dem se, “Wa unu did a taak bout wen unu did a waak?” 34 Bot dem no se notn, kaaz dem did a aagyu bout wich wan a dem a-go get di tap-a-tap pozishan iina di gruup.

35 Afta Jiizas sidong, im kaal im twelv falara dem an se, “Ef non a unu waahn di tap-a-tap pozishan, unu afi sekl fi laas plies an sorv evribadi.”

36 Den im tek wan likl pikni an mek im tan op mongks dem. Im og op di pikni an se tu dem se, 37 “Enibadi we tek iin wan a dem likl pikni ya kaaz im biliiv iina mi tek mi iin tu an enibadi we tek mi iin, a no jos mi dem a tek iin, dem a tek iin di wan we sen mi tu.”

**HYMN #350 – “Just a closer walk with thee”**

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| *JUST a closer walk with thee;* *Grant it, Jesus, if you please,* *Daily walking close with thee,* *Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.* | **1.** I am weak but thou art strong, Jesus, keep me from all wrong, I’ll be satisfied as long,  As I walk, let me walk close with thee. |
| **2.** Through this world of toils and snares,If I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares?None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. | **3.** When my feeble life is o’er,Time for me won’t be no more,Guide me gently, safely o’er,To thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. |

**MESSAGE - Rev. Alison Iton**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Amazing grace shall always be my song of praise
For it was grace that brought my Liberty
I'll never know just why he came to love me so

He looked beyond my faults and saw all my needs

*Refrain*:

*I shall forever lift my eyes to Calvary
To view the cross where Jesus died for me
And how marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul
He looked beyond my faults and saw all my needs*

I shall forever lift my eyes to Calvary
To view the cross where Jesus died for me
And how marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul
He looked beyond my faults and saw all my needs

RECEIVING AND DEDICATION OF TITHES & OFFERING

(Prayer for those celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: God of understanding, through the Word read and proclaimed, and through your Word incarnate, Jesus Christ, you give us the direction we need and show us that there is nowhere else to go but to you with our joys and our concerns

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray for our world, and our very nation of Jamaica, that too often follows the advice of wickedness that leads to war, to violence, to conflict between political tribes, communities, and gangs, to fear

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray for the women in this world, including the members of the Westwood Old Girls Association and others in our tertiary institutions who, as payment for their devotion and love as capable wives, daughters, sisters, girlfriends, mothers, receive rejection, abuse, heartbreak, and hate

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray the men in this world, especially those in our tertiary institutions, and for relationships that are broken by conflicts and dispute, by murder and deceit, and that can’t seem to find a way back to restoration and healing

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray for our children as they start a new school year, especially those who have been called the first in God’s heart and kingdom but are not welcomed, loved, heard, or spoken to

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray for those in our communion who are sick and shut in, who are grieving, who have lost the love they knew, who are lonely, and who find no joy in their daily tasks

(Silent prayer)

Leader: We pray for one another:

**(ALL): Lord, make us instruments of thy peace;**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**Where there is injury, pardon;**

**Where there is doubt, faith;**

**Where there is despair, hope;**

**Where there is darkness, light;**

**Where there is sadness, joy;**

**And all for thy mercy's sake.**

**O divine Master,**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

**To be understood as to understand;**

**To be loved as to love;**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

**We believe in you, God of justice and mercy, and we ask, trusting in your power, to heal the wounded hearts, to restore the brokenness of the world, and to lead us to everlasting peace. Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN** “**The Servant Song”**

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| **1**. Will you let me be your servant,Let me be as Christ to you;Pray that I may have the grace toLet you be my servant, too. | ***2.*** We are pilgrims on a journey,We are trav'lers on the road;We are here to help each otherWalk the mile and bear the load. |
| **3.** I will hold the Christ-light for youIn the night-time of your fear;I will hold my hand out to you,Speak the peace you long to hear.**5.** When we sing to God in heavenWe shall find such harmony,Born of all we've known togetherOf Christ's love and agony. | **4**. I will weep when you are weeping;When you laugh I'll laugh with you.I will share your joy and sorrow'Til we've seen this journey through. |

**BENEDICTION**:

Go out into the world endeavouring to be the last of all and the servant of all. Welcome the children, for in doing so, you welcome Jesus. Submit yourselves to God, resist all evil; draw near to God, and God will draw near to you. And may God, who watches over all the righteous, give you the gifts needed to be a capable servant. May Jesus Christ, who welcomes everyone, give you the loving heart of a child so that you can welcome others unconditionally. May the Holy Spirit, who gives us the understanding we need to love God and to love others, give us unselfish and generous hearts, to heal relationships and to live in peace. AMEN.

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**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES – 20th –** Sis. Karine Cameron, Sis. Marla Treasure, Bro. Eric King; **21st** – Bro. Sheldon McKen; **22nd** – Sis. Yvonne Beckford, Sis. Ruth Carey, Sis. Ivy Holder, Sis. Renee Nesbeth; **23rd** – Sis. Paulette McKen; **24th** – Sis. Enid Harrison, Bro. Keith Lewis

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tues. Sept 21 6:00 p.m. BIBLE STUDY

Wed. Sept 22 12 Noon PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

 **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Sun. Sept 26 9:00 a.m. DIVINE WORSHIP**

Sis. Cesna McCain

 **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. 19 Sept Matthew 6:25-32 Feeling Small

Mon. 20 Sept John 15:1-8 In the Vine

Tues. 21 Sept Exodus 6:1-8 Name of Names

Wed. 22 Sept Philippians 4:10-13 Growing to Know

Thur 23 Sept Psalm 3 A Shield Around Me

Fri. 24 Sept Genesis 6:9-18 Qualified in God’s Eyes

Sat. 25 Sept Mark 1:9-15 False Places of Safety