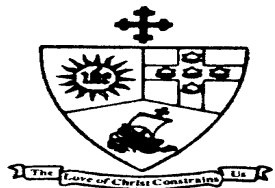


**MAY 17, 2020  
FAMILY SUNDAY**



**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"*

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

Bishop Christine Gooden-Benguche

**CIRCUIT SUPERINTENDENT**

Rev'd Dr. George Mulrain

**PROVIDENCE CIRCUIT**

**ON-LINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, 17TH MAY, 2020**

**AT 8:30 A.M.**

**Family Sunday**

*Liturgist - Sis. Cesna McCain*

*Preacher - Bro. Donovan Rookwood*

Introit (Sanctuary)

**Call to Worship**

**All:**

**Let the whole world bless our God and loudly sing his praises.**

**Our lives are in his hands, and he keeps our feet from stumbling.**

**You have tested us, O God; you have purified us like silver.**

**Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did for me.**

**For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke.**

**Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.**

(Psalm - NLT)

**Hymn – "Shine, Jesus, Shine"**

1. Lord the Light of Your Love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness shining,  
Jesus light of the world shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,  
Shine on me. Shine on me.

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory.  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth Your Word  
Lord and let there be light.

2. Lord I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance,  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me. Shine on me.
3. As we gaze on Your Kingly brightness.  
So our faces display Your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me. Shine on me.

Graham Kendrick (1950-)

**Welcome and Special Notices**

**Prayers of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving**

*Adoration*

Almighty God, we Your children come into Your presence this morning in awe and wonder for You are Creator, the author of all beginnings and endings, of all that is good. The beauty of our surroundings reminds us of your power and glory and goodness – the vibrant colour of the blooming flowers, the green hills, the chirping of birds, a sudden shower to cool the heat of the day, animals going about their daily business, the trusting smiles and innocence of little children.

Indeed, we exalt You for You are awesome, the only Living God, great King above all gods. We declare Your mighty power today before all people and ascribe to You all glory, honour, and dominion.

Source of all light, knowledge, truth, goodness and peace, we humbly ask that You guide and inspire us during this period of worship, so that we may be enabled and equipped

to serve You and tell of Your grace and limitless love; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### *Confession*

Thank You, Merciful Lord, for allowing us to approach You just as we are to confess our sins. We are grateful for this privilege for only You know how far we have wandered from the path You would have us follow; only You know the extent of our wrongdoing.

We make our personal confessions in silence.

(silent prayer)

We confess with shame our resistance to doing Your will. We confess now our ingratitude, our selfishness, our prejudice, our envy and greed. We confess to deliberately or thoughtlessly hurting others. We confess our failure to see and address the concerns of those around us who need a helping hand, our failure to set the right example for our children to follow, our failure to love others as You have loved us, our failure to share the Gospel and witness effectively for You.

Search our hearts, Lord. Reveal to us, we humbly pray, the full extent of our wrongdoing and grant us Your forgiveness. Cleanse us of our sin so that we might please You in all we think, say and do. We ask these mercies in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### *The Assurance of Pardon*

Jesus Christ bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness. Receive the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ our sins have been forgiven.

All:

Thanks be to God. Amen.

#### *Thanksgiving*

Loving God, we give You thanks for the many blessings You continue to shower on us. In Your tender care You generously provide for all our needs. Thank You for family and friends, for health, food and drink and shelter.

Thank You for providing us with needed support in a variety of ways in this time of change and uncertainty as our country weathers the COVID-19 crisis.

We give thanks for persons in our communities - family members, neighbours, our church family, business people, social and health workers, the security forces, public servants, volunteers - who have been assisting persons confined to their homes to obtain needed medication and supplies and to conduct business. We give thanks for those who provide physical companionship and those who encourage others via telephone and social media.

We give thanks for teachers, parents, caregivers and others who are going the extra mile to see that our children and young people continue their education, are supervised and kept meaningfully engaged while schools remain closed.

Most of all, we thank You for Your gift of life – life here on earth and the promise of eternal life. Enable us to show our

thankfulness by giving our lives wholly to You; we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, Amen.

#### **Children and Youth Focus**

Children's Time

Cradle Roll

Prayer for Children

**All: Lord, we pray for Your guidance and protection over the children in our care. Provide us with commitment and wisdom to teach them about You, so that through our loving instruction and example Your Word. Your voice and Your way will become a sweet joy to them. Endow them with the fruit of the Spirit. Finally we pray that in time they will commit to walking in Your light all their lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

#### **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

##### **Collect**

**All: God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.**

First Reading – Acts 17:22-31

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading –

All: Glory to You, O God.

"Alle, Alle, Allelulia!"

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise be Christ, our Lord.

"Alle, Alle, Allelulia!"

#### **Hymn – "Leaning on the everlasting arms"**

#### **Message – Bro. Donovan Rookwood**

#### **THE RESPONSE**

##### *Prayers of Intercession*

The Lord be with you. As brothers and sisters of Jesus, let us bring before God our prayer for all children. Your response will be, **"Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer."**

We pray for all children who search for You that they may find You.

Bless us, who steward them, with lips that sing your praise and lives that tell the stories of all that You have done for us. Open our eyes to find You among us as we share your love with others.

**All: Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer.**

We pray for all children who are at risk of harm in any way, and for those who live in institutions in Jamaica: for all children whose voices are not heard or believed, those with no one on their side.

Bless us, who steward them, with a joy for justice and the strength to persevere as we work together in kingdom building.

**All: Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer.**

We pray for all children who hunger, and those families in Jamaica who worry each day how they will manage.

Bless us all with meaningful work and fill us with good gifts, as we love and care for each other and find our sustenance in You.

**All: Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer.**

We pray for all children who suffer the violence and scars of war, and all who live and serve in war-torn communities in Jamaica. Give them courage in the face of fear; in times of trouble, do not let their feet slip.

Bless us, your church, with your vision of peace, for you have made us one family by giving life and breath to all.

**All: Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer.**

We pray a covering of your protection over all children against all illnesses – especially against the COVID 19 virus.

We remember before you all children who have died in the past year, that their families may know your peace.

**All: Lord in your mercy, hear your children's prayer. Bless us with the gift of faith, that we may know You and love You, and enjoy life eternal shared with You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn – "My Jesus I Love Thee" (VIP #258)**

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,  
For thee all the pleasures of sin I resign,  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art thou,

If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree,  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow,  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3. I will love thee in life, I will love thee in death,  
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;  
And say, when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore thee and dwell in thy sight;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
William R. Featherston (1846 - 1873)

## BENEDICTION

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

17th - Sis. Althea Bailey  
19th - Sis. Vilma Vermont,  
20th - Sis. Frances Godfrey, Sis. Anya Swapp  
21st - Sis. Carlene Brown, Bro. Roy Thomas  
22nd - Sis. Sherry-Ann Crooks, Sis. Agnes Wallace  
23rd - Sis. Patricia Welsh

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

May 8th - Arianne Mayhew  
May 9th - Tuwonimi Pepple  
May 11th - Dominic Haisley  
May 13th - Gabrielle Christmas  
May 15th - Dante Buckley  
May 16th - Okeeno Bullock  
May 19th - Dirk Harriott

