INTROIT

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CALL TO WORSHIP – *(Prayer Book, pg. 68)*

Our help is in the name of the Lord, our God**,**

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Our salvation is in the Lord Jesus Christ**,**

**Who died for our sins and rose for our justification.**

Our confidence is in the Holy Spirit,

**Who enables us to become God’s children.**

The Lord reigns!

**Let the earth rejoice.**

Our God reigns!

**We shall be glad and wait for his word.**

HYMN #382 VIP - “Lift every voice and sing”

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGaEV\_ir3KQ

**(Abyssinian Baptist Church)**

1 LIFT every voice and sing,

till earth and heaven ring,

Ring with the harmonies of liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise,

high as the listening skies,

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith

that the dark past has taught us,

Sing a song full of the hope

that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,

Let us march on till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod,

bitter the chastening rod,

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,

have not our weary feet,

come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way

that with tears has been watered,

We have come, treading our path

through the blood of the slaughtered;

Out from the gloomy past,

till now we stand at last

where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,

Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Thou who hast by thy might,

led us into the light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places,

our God, where we met thee.

Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine

of the world, we forget thee.

Shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,

True to our God, true to our native land.

*James W. Johnson* (1871-1938)

OPENING PRAYERS, *led by Dr. Rev’d Alison Iton, Deacon, Providence Circuit*

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**Adoration**. God of us all, we adore You for Your creative power. Through Your spoken Word, the world came into being - mountains and hills, valleys and plains, fruitful trees and flowering plants, rivers and seas! All of nature declare the wonder of Your creation. Most outstanding in Your creation are human beings, made in Your image and likeness.

On this Lord’s Day when we think of freedom from slavery and freedom for political independence, we affirm Your interest is in freedom for all time. You freed the Israelites when they were enslaved in Egypt. You heard the cries of our forebears from Africa as they yearned for freedom. Our faith continues to be a source of assurance and comfort about Your pledge to grant us liberty today from anything that enslaves.

**Confession**. God of love and mercy, even as we lift our voicesin praise and adoration of You, we must confess our unworthiness. Despite the good world that You created, we have made a mess of things. We have imprisoned ourselves by our own folly. You gave us laws with which to be governed; but we paid extraordinarily little heed to them. We allowed disobedience to the commandments, thereby creating lawlessness and discord. We are in danger of losing our freedom due to human sinfulness.

**Forgiveness.** We ask Your forgiveness, dear God, for our shortcomings. Pardon the lack of vigilance that causes us now to suffer the harmful effects of crime and violence. As we celebrate emancipation and independence, we are sadly conscious of these and other past mistakes; Make us determined to change Jamaica into a place where truth, justice, peace, and love abound. Even as we confess, we have the assurance that You will pardon and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Indeed, we have the confidence to know that we are forgiven. Thanks be to You! **Amen**

NOTICES

MINISTRY OF THE WORD:

*Introduced by Mr. Barrington Boothe, Caretaker, Providence Methodist Church* 20200722\_111050.mp4

The Collect: **Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord**. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT – Genesis 32: 22 – 31 *read by Mr. Barrington Boothe* 2020722\_111050.mp4

**22**The same night he (Jacob) got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. **23**He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. **24**Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. **25**When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. **26**Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” **27**So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” **28**Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.” **29**Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. **30**So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.” **31**The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 14: 13 - 21

**“Glory to you, O God!”** *read by**Mrs. Alexia McPherson, Principal, Providence Methodist Early Childhood Institution*

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**13**Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. **14**When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. **15**When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” **16**Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” **17**They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” **18**And he said, “Bring them here to me.” **19**Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. **20**And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. **21**And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

This is the Gospel of Christ **Praise be to Christ, our Lord.**

HYMN VIP #214 In Your Hands **(CD *Caribbean Praise* Track 9*)***

1 You have all my future in your hands, in your hands.

I bid you take over all my life, Lord.

My dreams, aspirations, all my best, Jesus, Lord.

My hopes, my fears, in your hands.

*In your hands, Lord, I place today, tomorrow.*

*In your hands, Lord, I surrender all.*

*In your hands, I commit my joys, my sorrows;*

*In your hands, Lord, I surrender all.*

2 Keep walking beside me every night, every day;

And giving me courage for the fray, Lord.

I need you to guide me every step of the way,

Forsake me not, Lord, I pray.

3 You place many duties in my hands, in my hands;

And shaping my world is my task, Lord,

On you I depend, Lord, for the power; this I ask,

That all make sense in my hands.

4 So Lord, I am trusting everything to your hands,

And then I keep praying for our land, Lord,

To labour with others for the best, Jesus, Lord,

Our all I place in your hands.

*Allan F. Kirton (1941-2010)*

SERMON: “*Freed for Self-Worth”* 20200730\_145313.mp4

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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Let us ask God’s continued guidance upon our country celebrating its freedom.

**O God give us leaders of integrity, who are enterprising, accountable, and committed to Jamaica’s growth and development. May our citizens be disciplined to deport themselves properly whether in public or private places and to always generate a spirit of freedom.**

Let us ask God’s blessing upon those engaged in health care.

**Healing God make our citizens more health conscious, in observing the guidelines designed to rid us of the current corona pandemic. Lay your hands upon the sick and those seeking relief from discomfort. Bless, guard, and preserve the persons on the front-line of care.**

Let us ask God’s protection for children and youth.

**Gracious God help young ones to enjoy childhood as they develop through innocence unto awareness. Shield them from molesters, abusers, and other evil persons. Give them role models who will help fashion them into decent, law-abiding citizens.**

Let us ask God’s intervention in the provision of our nation’s infrastructure.

**Merciful God as our communities strive to make available the necessities of water, electricity, good roads, and communication facilities, assist those in their search of affordable housing. For those who are building new structures, may they be sensitive about the provision of food, water, sanitation and recreational facilities.**

Let us pray for our mission as a church.

**Make us effective in our witness for You, O God! Fashion the people among whom we work, into beings who reflect the divine image. Keep us faithful in our struggles, knowing that You are real close to us.**

Let us pray for ongoing celebrations in Jamaica.

**O God our Creator, in whom lies the destiny of nations, look with favour upon us in Jamaica, that as we celebrate our freedom, we may be conscious of your mighty hand guarding us. Steer us away from hatred, violence, and corruption that this land may ever reflect kingdom values upon earth, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Saviour. Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

HYMN VIP #51 a & b Le lo le lo lay lo **(CD Caribbean Praise Track 10**)

***(Spanish)***

LE lo le lo lay lo. *(3 times)*

lo le lo le lo lay.

Santo, santo, santo Dios de gloria y poder.

Cielos y tierra proclaman tu gloria.

Hosana, hosana, hosana en los cielos. *(rep.)*

Bendito aquel que viene en el nombre de Dios.

Hosana, hosana, hosana en los cielos. *(rep.)*

***(English)***

Holy, holy, holy God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. *(rep.)*

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. *(rep.)*

*William Loperena* (c. 2000)

20200701\_202904.mp4 THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

The Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed took bread into his holy hands and looking up to heaven, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: “Take this and eat it. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: “Drink from it, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PRAYER AT THE TABLE *(first in Silence, then pray together):*

**Gracious God, we thank You that we have this bread to offer. May it be for us the body of Jesus Christ!** **Amen.**

**Gracious God, we thank You that we have this drink to offer. May it be for us the blood of Jesus Christ!** **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS: In confidence that we enjoy the real presence of Christ in this sacrament, we lift our voices to God, saying:

**Lord, we come to your table, trusting in your mercy and not in any goodness of our own. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table, but it is your nature always to have mercy, and on that we depend.So feed us with the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, that we may for ever live in him and he in us. Amen.**

Let us then reverently partake of the sacrament.

***Bread and Cup are shared.***

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.***

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HYMN VIP #525 The Right Hand of God **(CD *Caribbean Praise* Track 15*)***

1 THE right hand of God is writing in our land,

Writing with power and with love;

Our conflicts and our fears,

Our triumphs and our tears,

Are recorded by the right hand of God.

2 The right hand of God is pointing in our land,

Pointing the way we must go;

So clouded is the way,

So easily we stray,

But we're guided by the right hand of God.

3 The right hand of God is striking in our land,

Striking out at envy, hate and greed;

Our selfishness and lust,

Our pride and deeds unjust,

Are destroyed by the right hand of God.

4 The right hand of God is lifting in our land,

Lifting the fallen one by one;

Each one is known by name,

And lifted now from shame,

By the lifting of the right hand of God.

5 The right hand of God is healing in our land,

Healing broken bodies, minds and souls;

So wondrous is its touch,

With love that means so much,

When we're healed by the right hand of God.

6 The right hand of God is planting in our land,

Planting seeds of freedom, hope and love;

In these many-peopled lands,

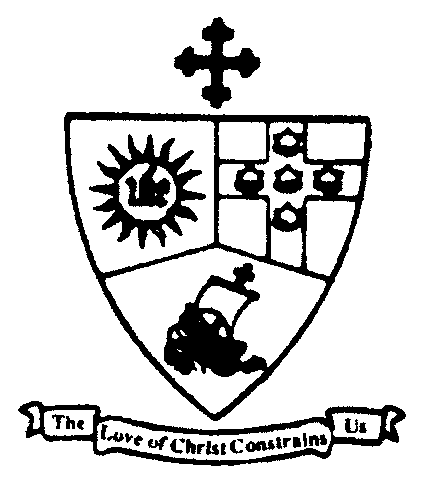
Let his children all join hands,

And be one with the right hand of God.

*Patrick Prescod* (1932- )

BENEDICTION

**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 METHODIST CHURCH**

ONLINE WORSHIP

**2nd August 2020**

**9th Lord’s Day after Pentecost**

Celebrating Emancipation and 58 years of Independence

**“Freed for Self-Worth”**

**8:30 a.m.**

**PREACHER**

**Rev. Dr George Mulrain**

**PRAYERS & READERS**

**Dr. Rev. Alison Iton**

**Mr. Barrington Boothe**

**Mrs. Alexia Seaton-McPherson**