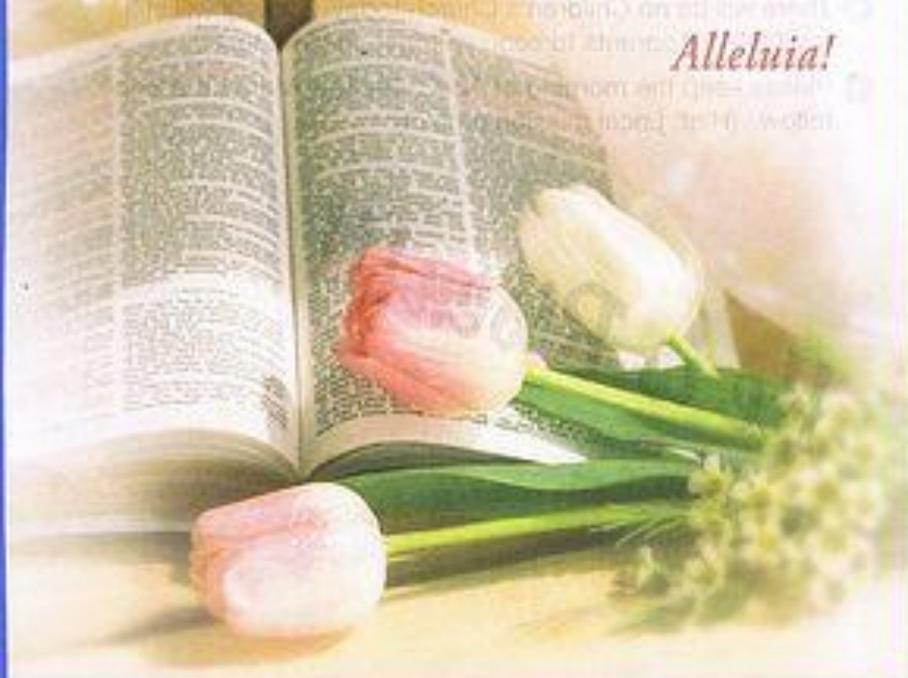


*He is not here: for he is risen.
Matthew 28:6*

Our
Savior!
Lives!

*From the cradle to the grave...
from the grave to the throne...*

Alleluia!



The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas
Leeward Islands District
ANTIGUA CIRCUIT

**Order of Service to Celebrate the Resurrection - Easter
Lord's Day 12th April, 2020
9:00 am**

**PLEASE LEAVE YOUR MICROPHONES ON MUTE
UNLESS YOU ARE LEADING**

Musical Prelude ...

An Introit ...

Even in the midst of our Good Friday grief, a sparrow sings in the garden,
heralding the morning, as sunlight kisses the dewy grass.

Hymn .. VIP 54a .. “Majesty, worship his majesty”

Majesty, worship His Majesty,
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, Kingdom authority
Flow from His throne unto his own,
His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high The Name of Jesus,
Magnify, come glorify, Christ Jesus the King.
Majesty, worship His Majesty;
Jesus who died, now glorified,
King of all Kings.

Responsive Introit:

M: The Lord is risen, Alleluia!

C: **He is risen indeed, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: The stone which the builders refused has become the head of the
corner.

C: **This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

M: This is the day which the Lord has made.

C: **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

M: The Lord reigns! Let the earth rejoice.

C: **Our God reigns! We shall be glad and wait for his word.**

Hymn .. VIP 127 ... “Low in the grave He lay”

Low in the grave He lay
Jesus my Savior!
Waiting the coming day
Jesus my Lord!

*Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!*

Vainly they watch His bed,
Jesus, my Savior;
Vainly they seal the dead,
Jesus, my Lord:

Death cannot keep his prey,
Jesus, my Savior;
He tore the bars away,
Jesus, my Lord:

THE PRAYER FOR PURITY

Let us all pray:

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.

Sis. Mariette Matthew

God of mystery and might, your wondrous love always seems to catch us off guard. We come to the tomb looking for death, but find life instead. As we behold the glory of our salvation, take us back to that moment of discovery - when grief and loss gave way to a glimmer of hope. Before we shout our alleluias, remind us of the moment when despair was transported

into glimpses of new possibilities.

In the holy awe of Easter morning, we take a moment of silent gratitude that Christ calls each of us by name. (*moment of silence ... hear Christ call your name*)

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

THE COMMANDMENTS OF OUR LORD JESUS **(Led by Children and Young People in our Circuit)**

Junare Tonge

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.

Norris Isaac

The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Myah Mark

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.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(Let us in silence confess our sins to God and pray for his forgiveness.)

Bro. Jules Edwards

Receive our lament, Lord of life, for during your final days, we turned away from you, even after you shared table with us, offering us bread of heaven and the cup of salvation; and in your hour of greatest need, we fell asleep while you prayed in the garden, even after you urged us to keep the faith to avoid the time of trial.

But we are her now, dearest friend, remembering what it cost you to know the joy we feel today. May our lives reflect the depth of our gratitude to be known as your disciples. Amen. (*B. J. Beu*)

Sis. Juliet Payne (on behalf 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.

Rev. Derek Browne

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.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

THE “GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH” ... *(All standing)*

Bro. Noel Browne (on behalf of all)

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH, and on earth peace, goodwill to all. We praise you; we bless you; we worship you; we glorify you; we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

You who take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You who take away the sin of the world receive our prayer. You who sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For you only are holy; you only are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit are Most High in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Rev. Derek Browne

From Tragedy to Triumph ...

Hymn .. MHB 244 ... “The head that once was crowned with thorns”

The Head that once was crowned with thorns,
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty Victor's brow.

The joy of all who dwell above,

The joy of all below
To whom He manifests His love,
And grants His name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,
With all its grace, is given,
Their name an everlasting name,
Their joy the joy of heaven.

The highest place that heaven affords
Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords,
And heaven's eternal Light.

They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The mystery of His love.

The Cross He bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to Him;
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

Welcome & Courtesies (Letter from the LID, Bishop Charles Seaton)
Celebrations & Announcements ..

Sis. Mashama Samuel

COLLECT FOR THE DAY: God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the Cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

New Testament Reading: Acts 10: 34-43 ... **(Sis. Tracey Weste)**

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Con: **Thanks be to God**

Epistle: Colossians 3: 1-4 ... **(Bro. Raju Boddu)**

The New Life in Christ

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your^[a] life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Con: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn .. VIP 118a ... “Because He lives”

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,

*Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns.

The Holy Gospel ... St. John 20: 1-18...

Sis. Jean Bedminster

The Resurrection of Jesus

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look^[a] into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing

him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew,^[b] “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ
Con: **Praise be to Christ our Lord**

Hymn .. VIP 129 ... “Thine be the glory” (Tithes, Offerings & Gifts)

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay:

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

Bro. Hollis Francis

Offertory Prayer: **God of grace and God of glory, pour your power on your people this day, that our lives may reflect the gift we have received through the resurrection of your Son. Truly we see that you show no partiality, offering abundance of life and fullness of grace to all who turn to you in their need. With deepest gratitude for your many gifts, particularly the gift of your Son, we offer you our tithes, offerings & gifts this day. In the name of the resurrected one, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Prayers for Birthday and Anniversary Celebrants ... **Rev. Derek Browne**

Solo - **Sis. Barbara Matthews**

SERMON ...

Invitation to Christian Discipleship ...

Hymn .. VIP 123 ... "I serve a risen Savior"

I serve a risen Savior
He's in the world today.
I know that He is living,
Whatever men may say.
I see His hand of mercy;
I hear His voice of cheer;
And just the time I need Him
He's always near.

***He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.***

In all the world around me
I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows weary,
I never will despair;
I know that He is leading,
Thru all the stormy blast;
The day of His appearing
Will come at last.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs
To Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him,
The Help of all who find,
None other is so loving,
So good and kind.

PASSING OF THE PEACE ..

The Peace of the Lord be with you,
And also with you.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ...

MPB Pg. 76 ff.

Rev. Derek Browne

THE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right and fitting so to do.

Bro. John Francis

It is a good and pleasant thing, joyful and salutary, always and everywhere, to give you thanks and praise,

Lord God, Ever-living, Ever-Blessed, Almighty, All-loving.

Through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord,

You created all things and made us in your image.

And when we had fallen into sin, You gave him to be our Savior.

He shared our human nature and lived a fully human life.

He suffered rejection and condemnation, and died on the cross.

You raised him up from the dead, and you exalted him to the glory of your right hand, Where he reigns forever as priest and king and makes intercession for us.

In witness of his glory and honor, you poured out the Holy Spirit,

Building up many people into one Body,

Making us living members of your Holy Church,

And enabling us to stand before you to sing your praises and celebrate your mighty acts.

But today, especially, we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord: for he is the Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his resurrection has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we join in the hymn of everlasting praise;

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

Rev. Caren Richards-St. Rose

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the Universe,
And blessed is your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
Who, 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.”

In the same way, after the 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.”

Christ has died! Christ is Risen! Christ will come again!

Rev. Janetta James

Therefore, Father, in obedience to his command, we do this in
remembrance of him, praying that you will accept our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we who receive your gifts of
bread and wine may share in the Body and Blood of Christ, and become
united with him.

And, as we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, we pray that you
will bring us with your whole creation to your heavenly kingdom.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Bro. Orbin Anderson (on behalf of all)

**To whom with you, O Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all
honor and glory from all who dwell on earth and in heaven
throughout the ages of ages. Amen.**

Rev. Derek Browne

The Bread which we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

Amen.

The Cup of Blessing which we bless is a sharing in the Blood of Christ.

**Amen. Though we are many we are one Body because we share the
one loaf and partake of the same drink.**

(All kneeling - silence kept)

The Lord's Prayer (to be said)

Bro. Anderson James (on behalf of all)

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.

(Invitation to the Table)

Thanksgiving Prayer

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.

Blessing of the Children & Youth ... *(to be done by parents at home)*

*He is Lord, He is Lord. He is Risen from the dead and He is Lord,
Every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess That Jesus Christ is Lord.*

Prayers of Intercession ..

(Led by Children and Young People in our Circuit)

Let us pray

Loran Maxim

Almighty God, praise, honour and glory be to you for the gift you gave to us through your Son Jesus Christ. He came into this world, He suffered, died and was laid in the tomb, but the grave could not keep him down. Hallelujah! Thank you for his death and resurrection which shows us that we too, though we may die, can rise from all that binds us to this world of sin. We know that without the resurrection of your Son, our faith would be empty and without hope, but He is alive and we rejoice in knowledge that in Jesus all that separates, injures and destroys, has been overcome by that which unites and heals and creates.

Risen Lord hear our prayer.

Joia Edwards

For the Church fulfilling your will in this world, we praise You. We give thanks for calling us into the company of those who trust in Christ and seek to obey his will. We think of your church today celebrating in various ways due to the present situation in the world. May your spirit guide and

strengthen us all, and as we worship you daily, may we seek to resurrect some lives that have gone astray.

Risen Lord hear our prayer.

Tayei Browne

Lord of Life we pray for all those who bring your word of life as a light to those in darkness; For those who bring your word of peace to those enslaved by fear; for those who bring your word of love to those in need of comfort. Lord of love and Lord of peace, Lord of resurrection of life, be known through our lives and through your power.

Risen Lord, hear the cries of your people.

Ancia Jones

Lord of the resurrection we bring to mind all the countries of the world that are broken because of injustice and war and those affected by COVID 19. We remember the families of those who have died, those who are isolated from loved ones, those who are in need of your grace. May they all come to know you as the one who defeated death and find hope in You, the one who is now seated at the right hand of the Father.

Risen Lord hear our prayer.

Jhavarcy Tonge

Lord we pray for those in your world who are in need and ask you to look with pity on those who suffer. May all who struggle know that you are always with them in their suffering and will follow them step by step down whichever road they choose to take. Be merciful to the broken hearted, bind up their sorrows. We pray for the sick, that You would heal their infirmities, for the lonely that in You they would discover the perfect friend, and for the bereaved, that in the midst of their unmeasurable loss they would know the depths of your love.

Risen Lord, hear the prayers of your people.

Athaliah Teague (on behalf of all)

As we continue to celebrate this day, we pray that we may all look forward with hope to our own resurrection, for you have made us your sons and daughters and restored the joy of our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Hymn .. VIP 115 .. “Christ is risen! Hallelujah!” (Care Fund Offering)

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!
Risen our victorious Head;
Sing His praises; Hallelujah!
Christ is risen from the dead.
Gratefully our hearts adore Him,
As His light once more appears;
Bowing down in joy before Him,
Rising up from griefs and tears.

*Christ is risen: Hallelujah!
Risen our victorious Head;
Sing His praises; Hallelujah!
Christ is risen from the dead.*

Christ is risen! All the sadness
Of His earthly life is o'er;
Through the open gates of gladness
He returns to life once more;
Death and hell before Him bending,
He doth rise the Victor now,
Angels on His steps attending,
Glory round His wounded brow.

Christ is risen! Henceforth never
Death or hell shall us enthrall;
We are Christ's, in Him forever
We have triumphed over all;
All the doubting and dejection
Of our trembling hearts have ceased,
'Tis His day of resurrection;
Let us rise and keep the feast.

Benediction ...

From darkness and despair, we find hope and joy.

Christ is risen! We go forth in joy!

From doubt and betrayal, we find trust and faith.

Christ is risen! We go forth in faith!

From suffering and death, we find healing and life.

Christ is risen! We go forth to live!

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. **Alleluia.**

