

APPROACH TO WORSHIP



Leader: See what love has been given to us, that we should be called children of God.

People: By this we know love, that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, and lived and died, that God's love might be made plain among us.

Leader: Therefore, beloved, let us not love in word or in speech but in deed and in truth.

People: Because we love one another, we know that we have passed from death into life.

All: This is the victory that overcomes the world, through Jesus our risen Christ. Amen.

Amen

Chorus of Praise

- Lord I Lift Your Name On High

Gathering Hymn *All Creatures Of Our God And King*

1 **A**ll creatures of our God and King,

lift up your voice and with us sing,
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of ev'ning, find a voice,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 And all ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care;
O praise Him, O praise Him!

4 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise
the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in
One;
O praise Him, O praise Him!

Prayer Chorus: Pass me not ,O Gentle Saviour

PRAYER OF PRAISE, ADORATION & CONFESSION

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father who art in heaven, holy holy holy
holy be Thy name*

*Thy kingdom come on earth, Thy will be done
on earth,*

*Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in
heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread (Repeat x 3)

And forgive us our trespasses (Repeat)

As we forgive those who trespass against us,

Forgive us our trespasses.

Do not lead us into temptation (Repeat)

But deliver us from all evil, (Repeat)

Amen, Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen, Amen!

(Arr. Fr. Richard HoLung)

Responsive Reading Psalm 98 (NRSV)

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

People: The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Leader: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

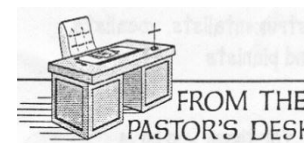
People: Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

ALL: at the presence of the LORD, for He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Scripture Readings

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17



May 2024

The Family- Empowered to heal.

Many stories have been shared over the years about people who experience brokenness and pain, loss and disappointment, setbacks and comebacks, failures, and successes in their lives. Not all these people are in the church, but I am sure that all persons in the church have experienced one or more of these stories at some point in their lives.

There was an interview aired on TVJ's Smile Jamaica recently, by Simone, of a young lady who was a Certified Engine System Mechanic. What struck me about the interview was not so much that the interviewee, Kenedra Gardner was excelling in a field normally reserved for men. That's ok, and I do believe, men and women can excel in any profession they apply themselves to. Miss Gardner, in talking about the impact of her father on her life, teared up while talking, observing that he was such a great influence and support and was not even her biological father. That statement and story touched me deeply. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NP7L7KBG4VI>). Read the comments under the video.

This is family at its best as a healing community.

The family was created as an important social unit offering a safe nurturing space for children and adults. It's a place for persons to grow, to fulfill their potential as human beings created in the image of God; it's a space for education in moral and ethical values and the development of social and emotional skills; it's a place to care for the elderly and those who may experience any kind of physical and mental disability. It's healing if it moves people from brokenness to wholeness

When these goals are achieved there is happiness, there is the fostering of peace, love, harmony, and togetherness. We are not saying that there won't be conflicts, misunderstandings, and disappointments but a healthy family develops the skills to manage these. What are these skills that can make families safer spaces for healing and growth?

The dominant family patterns in Jamaica according to the 1993 Grace Kennedy lecture by Prof. Elsa Leo-Rhynie are,

1. Married: man and woman legally united and sharing the same residence.
2. Common-law: man and woman not legally united, but sharing a sexual

3. *Visiting: man and woman sharing a sexual relationship but not legally united nor sharing a common residence.* (Leo-Rhynie 1993;7)

These families invariably include the ‘extended family members’, grandparents, cousins, nieces and nephews, and step-children. But whatever the family forms, these skills are needed to create and sustain healthy healing families. “Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love”. (Eph. 4:2 NLT)

Appreciation

I have found that showing gratitude and appreciation often contributes greatly to family harmony and empowerment. Showing gratitude allows family members to recognize the value of each other. It could be gratitude for preparing a meal, keeping the common space clean, dropping off at church or school, and buying treats periodically. Everyone in the family must be made to feel that they are appreciated.

Another side of appreciation is commendation. This is simple praise and honour. It is not so much expressing thanks for a task done but praising or honouring the other for an attitude displayed or a behaviour practiced. Such as attending to one’s grooming (combing the hair, brushing the teeth, using deodorant), being respectful, and initiating acts of kindness like taking grandpa for a walk without having to be told.

Communication

Effective communication is important for a healthy and healing family. Communication includes listening and understanding each other. Not rushing the other when they speak; not jumping to conclusions before hearing the whole story and trying to understand where the person is before judging and criticizing. Too often children complain that parents don’t listen to them. Listening doesn’t mean shouting and throwing things when angry and insisting that your position is right. Listening doesn’t mean one has to agree, but it helps to understand. Jesus by listening to the woman at the well learned a lot about her and she also about Him.

Communication conveys respect. Respect is not a right of the elders but a responsibility of all family members and this is where adults can model for children, what is appropriate in how they relate to each other. Communication is not manipulating, bribing, or ignoring others to get cooperation or to have your way. No, it is to listen with respect and to realize that the other person has a voice and needs to express that voice.

Balance

The final of many things I could say is balance. Balance in managing money, time, work, school, church, and family time together. Parents must be careful that they don’t use money to buy the love and affection of their children. Teaching proper use of money and the value of budgeting can be important life lessons for children and adults in a family relationship.

There must be balance in the use of time for work, school, social activities, worship, and sharing with the family. Healthy and growing families make time to interact with one another. Whether it is doing an activity with them, that they like, or learning to take breaks from electronic gadgets and setting boundaries, where these are out of bounds when the family is together.

Conclusion

I believe some of these qualities were evident in Miss Gardner’s family. They allowed her to heal and develop her potential.

Indiscipline, abuse, deception, and lack of respect for others are not accidents but aberrations of a healthy growing family. Partners must practice healthy faithful relationships, which builds trust and offers a model for children. Parents must practice intentional parenting, consider the outcomes they want, and make the necessary inputs. Children will test the boundaries set by good parents, but they need firmness and respect, consistency, trust, and support.

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

People: **The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the Commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

Leader: The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

People **More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Leader: Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

People: **But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**

Leader: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

All: **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

WORSHIP THROUGH CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Brief Welcome & Greeting

(OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE & GIVING)

Birthdays & Anniversaries – MARCH
Announcements

Offertory Commitment & Blessing of Offering

Receiving of Tithes & Offering

Sunday School Minute

Prayer with the Children

Junior Church

Prayer of Intercession & Thanksgiving

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Readings **Acts 10: 44-48**

John 15: 9-17

Selection

Message - **Pastor Trevor Edwards**

Hymn of Response

#606
Baptist Hymnal

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Hymn — #438
Baptist Praise & Worship

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins
away
Slain for us and we remember
The promise made that all who come in
faith
Find forgiveness at the cross

[Chorus]
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King

[Verse 2]
The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn
for you
Eat and remember
The wounds that healed the death that
brings us life
Paid the price to make us one

[Verse 3]
The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you
Drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter
in
To receive the life of God Behold the lamb
who bears our sins away

Keith and Kristyn Getty

☞ Holy Communion ☞



Communion (Invitation, Institution,
Consecration, Distribution,
Communal prayer, collection)

Hymn — *In Remembrance of Me*

Let us break bread together on our
knees.

1 Let us break bread together on our
knees; (on our knees)
let us break bread together on our
knees. (on our knees)

[Refrain:]
When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the Risen Lord
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

2 Let us drink wine together on our
knees; (on our knees)

Covenant Sharing

☞ Closing Prayer ☞

☞ BENEDECTION ☞

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe by the
Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus
Christ as our Saviour and, on the
profession of our faith, having been
baptized into the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we
do now, in the presence of God, and this
assembly, most solemnly and joyfully
enter into covenant with one another as
one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the
Holy Spirit to work together in Christian
love; to strive for the advancement of this
church, in knowledge, holiness, and
comfort; to promote its prosperity and
spirituality; to sustain its worship,
ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to
contribute cheerfully and regularly to the
support of the ministry, the expenses of
the church, the relief of the poor, and the
spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and
secret devotions; to religiously educate
our children, to seek the salvation of our
kindred and acquaintances; to walk
circumspectly in the world; to be just in
our dealings, faithful in our engage-
ments, and exemplary in our
deportment; to avoid all tattling,
backbiting, and excessive anger; to seek
God's help in abstaining from all drugs,
food, drink, and practices which bring
unwarranted harm to the body or
jeopardize our own or another's faith.

We further engage to watch over one
another in brotherly and sisterly love; to
remember one another in prayer; to aid
one another in sickness and distress; to
cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling
and Christian courtesy in speech; to be
slow to take offence, but always ready
for reconciliation and mindful of the rules
of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we
remove from this place we will, as soon as
possible, unite with some other church
where we can carry out the spirit of this
covenant and the principles of God's
Word.



MAY 2024

Birthdays

- 05- Sister Tamar Henry
- 06- Sister Angeles Martin
- 13 - Sister Latoya Cox
- 15 - Sister Sheila Glenister
- 15- Sister Marcia Powell
- 19- Brother Andrew Chung
- 20- Sister Isabella Harding
- 20- Sister Jacqueline Parchment
- 27- Brother Paul Griffith Jr.
- 27- Sister Shelly-Ann Harrisingh
- 29- Brother David Morgan
- 29- Sister Margaret Headlam