

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ZION PARISH

Theme: "The Right Hand of God"



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Worship Service in Celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month Holy Eucharist, Rite II

June 28, 2020
10:00 a.m.

The Reverend Canon Dr. Kortright Davis, Guest Preacher

St. John's Mission Statement

To share God's love with everyone to bring hope and change lives.

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop
The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite II – Book of Common Prayer

10:00 a.m.

Call to Worship

Prelude

Selected

Hymn of Preparation And now, O Father, mindful of the love 1982 Hymnal 337

- 1 And now, O Father, mindful of the love
that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,
and having with us him that pleads above,
we here present, we here spread forth to thee,
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.
- 2 Look Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of thy grace,
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim:
for lo! between our sins and their reward,
we set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

Hymn Father, I place into Your hands

- 1 Father, I place into your hands; The things I cannot do,
Father, I place into your hands; The things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands; The way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust you.
- 2 Father, I place into your hands; My friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands; The things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands; The person I would be,
For I know I always can trust you.
- 3 Father, we love to seek your face, We love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise; And in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you; And in your presence rest,
For we know we always can trust you.
- 4 Father, I want to be with you; And do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words; That you are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones; That you will draw to you,
For I know that I am one with you. (Repeat 2X)

The Nature of the Occasion:

Welcome on behalf of Dr. Goulda Downer, Chair

Caribbean American Political Action Committee (C-PAC)

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun, doth his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his Name like sweet perfume shall rise, with every morning sacrifice.
- 3 People and realms of every tongue, dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim, their early blessings on his Name.
- 4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
- 5 Let every creature rise and bring, peculiar honors to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

The Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise Lift every voice and sing

LEVAS 1

- 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 parents 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 for ever 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 for ever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Said by All

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for the Caribbean

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the people of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of Peoples of the Caribbean both at home and in the Diaspora a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that they may use their liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God

The First Lesson

Genesis 22:1-14

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He

bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 13 *read responsively by half verse*

- 1 How long, O LORD? will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

The Second Lesson

Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now

that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn Through All the Changing Scenes Hymns Ancient and Modern #290

- 1 Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still, my heart and tongue employ.
- 2 O magnify the Lord with me, with me exalt his Name;
when in distress to him I called, he to my rescue came.
- 3 The hosts of God encamp around, the dwellings of the just;
deliverance he affords to all, who on his succor trust.

The Gospel

Matthew 10:40-42

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon Hymn Through All the Changing Scenes Hymns Ancient and Modern #290

- 4 O make but trial of his love; experience will decide
how blest are they, and only they, who in his truth confide.
- 5 Fear him, ye saints, and you will then, have nothing else to fear;
make you his service your delight; your wants shall be his care.
- 6 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom we adore,
Be glory, as it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon Dr. Kortright Davis

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were

made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People - Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

A Litany for the Nations and Peoples of the Caribbean

Leader Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of the Caribbean.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader We thank you for the great resources of the Caribbean.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader We thank you for all those who have made the Caribbean strong.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in the Caribbean.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader We ask God's blessings upon the young people of the Caribbean that they may continue to know both the history of and see the vision for the Caribbean.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader God we pray for the leaders of the Caribbean nations that they will have the will and resources to build the infrastructure of their nations, to provide economic opportunities, housing and healthcare for all people who seek to better their lives and the lives of others.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader O God, we remember and honor our African ancestors who were captured, forcibly enslaved and brought the New World. We remember the men and women who lost their lives fighting for the freedom we enjoy today.

People **Hear us, Lord**

Leader O Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy name. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Said by all

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Solo

“In His Presence”

Zoë Hillocks, Soloist

Presentation Hymn All people that on earth do dwell

1982 Hymnal 377

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2 O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his Name always, for it is seemly so to do.
- 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord

S-130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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.

Then the Celebrant continues saying

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ,

your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

People and Celebrant

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

The Lord's Prayer

African American Heritage Hymnal 664

People and Celebrant

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowéd be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, hallowéd be Thy name.

Done on earth as it is in heaven, Hallowéd be Thy name.

Give us this day our daily bread, Hallowéd be Thy name.

And forgive us all our debts, Hallowéd be Thy name.

As we forgive those our debtors, Hallowéd be Thy name.

Lead us not into temptation, Hallowéd be Thy name.

But deliver us from evil, Hallowéd be Thy name.

Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, Hallowéd be Thy name.

For ever, and ever, Hallowéd be Thy name.

Amen, amen, amen, Hallowed be Thy name.

Amen, amen, amen, amen. Hallowed be Thy name. Hallowed be Thy name.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Manje sa ou voye ban nou an Papa, manje ki bay lavi. (Haitian Creole)

(This food you have sent to us Father, it gives us life.) (English Translation)

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

If you have used your own bread and wine (or juice) at home during the Great Thanksgiving prayer, you may use the following words before consuming the bread and wine (or juice),

Oh God, bless this bread and this wine (juice) I now consume. Amen.

Communion Hymn The Lord My God My Shepherd Is

1982 Hymnal 663

- 1 The Lord my God my shepherd is; how could I want or need?
In pastures green, by streams serene, he safely doth me lead.
- 2 To wholeness he restores my soul, and doth in mercy bless,
and helps me take for his Name's sake, the paths of righteousness.
- 3 Yea, even when I must pass through, the valley of death's shade,
I will not fear, for thou art here, to comfort and to aid.
- 4 Thou hast in grace my table spread, secure in all alarms,
and filled my cup, and borne me up, in everlasting arms.
- 5 Then surely I can trust thy love, for all the days to come,
that I may tell thy praise, and dwell, for ever in thy home.

Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn The Right Hand of God

LEVAS 61

1. The right hand of God is writ - ing in our land,
 2. The right hand of God is point - ing in our land,
 3. The right hand of God is strik - ing in our land,
 4. The right hand of God is heal - ing in our land,
 5. The right hand of God is plant - ing in our land,

1. Writ - ing with pow - er and with love,
 2. Point - ing the way we must go.
 3. Strik - ing out at en - vy, hate, and greed.
 4. Heal - ing bro - ken bod - ies, minds, and souls.
 5. Plant - ing seeds of free - dom, hope, and love.

1. Our con - flicts and our fears, our tri - umphs and our
 2. So cloud - ed is the way, so eas - i - ly we
 3. Our sel - fish - ness and lust, our pride and deeds un -
 4. So won - drous is its touch with love that means so
 5. In these Ca - rib - bean lands, let His peo - ple all join

1. tears Are re - cord - ed by the right hand of God.
 2. stray, But we're guid - ed by the right hand of God.
 3. just Are de - stroyed by the right hand of God.
 4. much, When we're healed by the right hand of God.
 5. hands, And be one by the right hand of God.

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude

Selected

THOSE SERVING TODAY

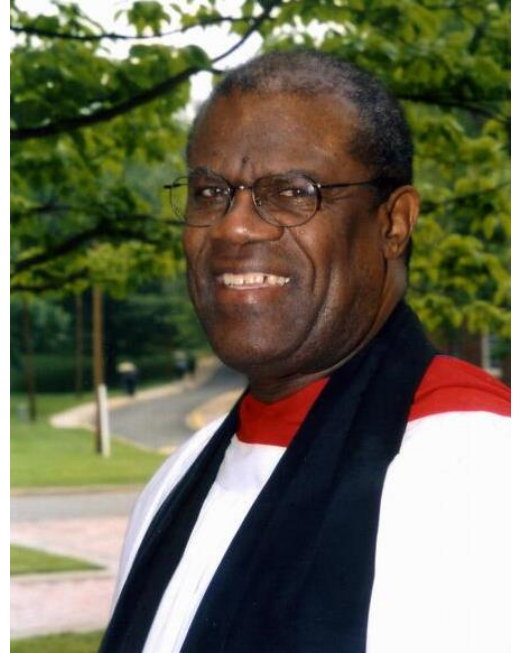
Celebrant:	The Reverend Joseph M. Constant
Guest Preacher:	The Reverend Canon Dr. Kortright Davis
Organist and Choirmaster:	Patrick D. McCoy
Lector and Cantor:	Melissa Sites
Lay Eucharistic Minister:	Larry Walker
Soloist:	Zoë Hillocks
Trumpeter:	Ian Johnson
Technical Assistant:	Claire Constant
Altar Guild:	St. John's Altar Guild Team

The Reverend Canon Dr. Donald Henry Kortright Davis

Born in St. John's, Antigua, The West Indies. Trained for the Anglican priesthood at Codrington College in Barbados, by the Community of the Resurrection. Ordained Deacon in 1965 (Antigua), and Priest (St. Kitts) in 1966.

Served as Rector of several parishes in the West Indies, and was for some time on the Faculty of Codrington College, Barbados, and also an Executive of the Caribbean Conference of Churches, including Coordinator of the CCC Inaugural Assembly in 1973.

Currently Professor of Theology at Howard University School of Divinity, and Rector Emeritus of The Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Washington, D.C.



Commissary, and Honorary Canon, for the Dioceses of the Windward Islands and North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba. He has served as Convenor and Chaplain of several CARICOM-related Groups and Diplomatic Events in Washington DC. He was also the Founder and Coordinator of the Caribbean Anglican Consultation, CAC (1985 – 2012).

He has served on several University-wide Committees and Commissions at Howard University, most recent of which have been the Howard University Self-Study Committee, and the Presidential Commission for Academic Renewal (PCAR). He is an Officer of the Faculty Senate Council.

He was one of the Archbishop of Canterbury's representatives on the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC II). He serves as Consultant to several other ecclesiastical bodies, Anglican dioceses, and academic institutions. He has served as a member of the Faith & Order Commission of the World Council of Churches; and the Inter-Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Commission (IATDC), appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

He has earned degrees from the Universities of London, Sussex, and the West Indies. His Doctor of Philosophy degree is from Sussex. He has also had the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him by The General Theological Seminary, New York; St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Virginia; and The Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Virginia; and the Doctor of Laws (LL.D) by the University of the West Indies.

He is the author of several books, and chapters, as well as numerous articles. His list of books includes such titles as: *Emancipation Still Comin'*; *African Creative Expressions Of The Divine*; *Can God Save The Church?* *Serving With Power: Reviving The Spirit Of Christian Ministry*; *Compassionate Love And Ebony Grace*.

He is married, and is the father of two daughters and a son, and the grandfather of five.

**A Message from the
Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM)
His Excellency Mr. Noel Lynch,
Chair of the CARICOM Caucus of Ambassadors**

His Excellency serves as Ambassador of Barbados to the United States of America and
Permanent Representative of Barbados to the Organization of American States

On this occasion of Caribbean American Heritage Month, I extend my best wishes and encouragement to all Caribbean people in the United States, at this unique crossroads of history.

This year's celebration comes amid unprecedented events which have taken a disproportionate toll on black and brown people, many of whom make up the Caribbean-American community.

The ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt mainly in communities of color, exposing the health and income equality gaps that contribute to the poorest disease outcomes. At the same time, the protests for racial equality in the United States have shown up the painful lived realities of many in the community; challenging us to work even harder to advance the interests of those who are too-often marginalized.

This year, more than ever, is a time to reflect on the best examples of nation-building from our Caribbean experience. Our ancestors overcame subjugation to birth successful nations in their own image, and their strength is the gift handed down to us as the heirs of their legacy.

At yet another decisive moment in history, Caribbean-Americans have a duty to put their best brains and skills to work for the benefit of this country. It is well past time for our community to make its presence felt in America's social, political and economic spaces, guided by the Caribbean blueprint for the protection of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

May we use this month, and the momentum of this moment, to join as one Caribbean family to advance our interests in the United States.



Noel A. Lynch
Ambassador

The Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) is a group of twenty developing countries in the Caribbean that have come together to form an economic and political community that works together to shape policies for the region and encourages economic growth and trade.

**A Message from the
Caribbean American Political Action Committee (C-PAC)
Dr. Goulda Downer, Chair**



June 28, 2020

Dear Fellow Caribbean-American Diaspora Family,

On behalf of the 2020 Caribbean-American Ecumenical Service Planning Committee, I wish to thank you for joining us in today's worship celebration of Caribbean-American Heritage month. We celebrate this month to honor the contribution to this country by the nearly eight million people who were either born in the Caribbean or are of Caribbean heritage.

The public murders of Black men and women by police and others, and the many other atrocities visited upon Black people- worldwide - is not new. One hundred years ago in August of 1920, Marcus Garvey and his organization, the Universal Negro Improvement Association, brought together 2,500 delegates from Africa, the Caribbean, North, South, and Central America to deliberate on the worldwide condition of the *Negro* people. The gathering produced a document titled, "*The Rights of the Negro Peoples of the World*". This, the centennial year of that event, may mark the year that Marcus Garvey's dream of uniting Africans and those of African descent all over the world begins its journey towards realization.

The song writer, Jeremy Riddle, wrote that, "*God moves in mysterious ways his wonders to perform.*" I believe that to be true. The tortured murder of Raychard Brooks, George Floyd, Breonana Taylor, Ahmad Arbry, Haitians Abner Louima and Patrick Dorismond along with so many others seemingly extends the permanent, permission to devalue our Black lives. Lives that were sacrificed first to build this country and then forced to sustain it. Our very existence, despite the myriad centuries of atrocities, bears witness to the strength our ancestors found even amidst the unimaginable injustice and violence. We are the harvest from the seeds that were buried. The vibrant, multiracial, multicultural protests in our streets and the streets of major cities around the world, is a testament that we remain rooted and still standing.

Bob Marley sang it best; "*How good and how pleasant it would be, before God and man, to see the unification of all Africans.*" We are reminded that wherever we were born, or live, those of us who are "Black" are engaged in the same struggle against "racial" discrimination and white supremacy. We are all Africans.

So, as we celebrate Caribbean-American Heritage month our spirits should be heartened. For, we do not stand alone in our fight for civil rights, justice, and equality. Buoyed by our ancestor's humanity, we are joined by our African brothers and sisters, the African diaspora, and people of goodwill of all "races," ethnicities, creeds, and colors. As we march into the future, we have much to be thankful for. And we should be comforted knowing that, *God does indeed move in mysterious ways His wonders to perform.*

Please join us at noon on Saturday, October 10th for the C-PAC **Africans Unite Summit**. Dr. Julius Garvey, son of Marcus Garvey, will be joined by other notable guests to discuss *The Rights of people of African Descent Worldwide*. We will also work to develop a plan on how best to realize Marcus Garvey's dream of uniting all Africans.

Have a joyous day!



Dr. Goulda Downer

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. ▪ Suite 300 ▪ Washington, DC 20006 ▪ 202-439-1498 www.CaribbeanPac.org

The Caribbean American Political Action Committee (C-PAC) was founded in November 2005 to advance the political agenda of Caribbean-Americans currently residing in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area (Washington DC, Maryland and Northern Virginia). C-PAC's overarching mission is to be the political voice of the Metropolitan area's vibrant and growing Caribbean-American community.



“They have in me struck down but the trunk of the tree; the roots are many and deep - they will shoot up again!” *Toussaint Louverture*

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” *Marcus Garvey*

Offerings and Donations to St. John's: Thank you for your efforts in maintaining your pledge commitment to St. John's even in these challenging times. We have responded to your request in providing more options to send your offerings and donations to St. John's. You can send your offerings and donations to St. John's using the following options:

1. Check Donations – To contribute via a personal check, you can mail a check directly to St. John's using the address below:

St. John's Episcopal Church
PO Box 14
Beltsville, MD 20705

Our office staff is still receiving mail and will make sure that your check is deposited and credited appropriately in the church record.

2. Online or Electronic Giving – You are welcome to send your contributions electronically.
 - You can use Zelle using the church's email address: office@saintjohnsbeltsville.org
 - You can also use the form on the Giving page of the website for electronic payments. We are working with VANCO as our eGiving provider to process your offerings and donations electronically. If you select the secure **Online** tool to submit your offerings or donations, please complete the **Online Donation** box on the Giving page. After your transaction is completed, you will receive an e-mail with details of your transaction.

Again, we are grateful for your love offering to support St. John's operation and our shared ministry. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact our treasurer, Hodge Herry, at herryhodge@verizon.net.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland 20705
Phone: 301-937-4292
Office Email: office@saintjohnsbeltsville.org
Rector: jconstant@saintjohnsbeltsville.org
Website: www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org