

tithes & offering

We stand and declare that we are all cheerful givers. We commit these tithes and our offerings to God as our first fruits, our expressions of gratitude for God's goodness. We give because God so loved us that He first gave by sending His only Son to die for our sins. We gladly proclaim that "It is more blessed to give than to receive"; we are blessed as individuals and as a church family. We will continue to give cheerfully to the building up of the Kingdom of God and the work of His church because we know that this is what God desires of His faithful followers.



Pause on a Tuesday for **Midday Meditation** from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.



Participate in **Bible Study** on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Please find the Zoom link below.

UPCOMING EVENTS—APRIL

- * We regret to announce the death of Deacon Lancaster Henry on Monday, March 31. Funeral arrangements have been set for Friday, April 11 at 10:30 a.m. Interment at Dovecot Memorial Park.
- * The Deacons' Board Meeting will be held this Tuesday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m.
- * The Good Friday service will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 18.
- * Jamaica Nite 2025 will be held on Friday, April 25, on the church grounds. Persons interested in volunteering or sponsoring, please see Deacon Harris. Additional details will be provided at a later date.
- * Games Day/Movie Night will be held on Saturday, April 26.
- * The 2nd Quarterly Members' Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27, at 11:30 a.m.

MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN OUR PRAYERS

Sis. Ruby Beckford
Sis. Enid Shand
Sis. Enid Coke
Sis. Claire Anderson
Sis. Hazel Davis
Sis. Violet McLeary
Sis. Samantha Taylor-Brown
Sis. June Dunkley
Sis. Princess Halliman Robinson
Bro. Donald Miller
Bro. David Levermore
Bro. Frankie Dinnald
Bro. Ken Allison
Rev. and Mrs. Earl & Patricia Morgan



If you can call, visit or say a prayer for these brethren, it would be appreciated tremendously.

BARBICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

106 Barbican Road, Kgn 8
Tel: 876-927-3941 or 876-823-7074 (mobile)
Email: barbianbaptist@gmail.com
YouTube: @barbianbaptistchurch

Musicians: Francois Brown (on duty)

Sunday School Supt.: Sis. Sharon Earle-Edwards
Sunday School: 8:00 a.m.

Join us at: <https://tinyurl.com/BBCSundaySchool>
Meeting ID: 859 2802 5543 **Passcode:** 113204

New Members' Class: 8:00 a.m. on Zoom.
Meeting ID: 881 1539 8995 **Passcode:** 269869

Women's Federation: 2nd Sundays after worship.
Church Council Meeting: Thursday before 1st Sunday

Midday Meditation: Tuesday @ 11:45—12:45 p.m. on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 818 8924 6904 **Password:** 044267

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study: Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 882 5775 8645 **Password:** 211236

Praise Team Practice: Saturdays @ 2:00 p.m.

Golden Spring Church Service: 11:00—12:30 p.m.

BBC Banking Info:

Name: Barbican Baptist Church
Account #: 371000429

Account Type: Chequing account
Location: NCB Matilda's Corner

Barbican Baptist Church

THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

BARBICAN CIRCUIT
(Jamaica Baptist Union)

Sunday Morning Divine Worship Service & Holy Communion COMMITMENT SUNDAY

April 6, 2025
9:15 A.M.

Church Year Theme: Keeping Faith With The Word In An Ever-Changing World: Pursuing Integrity

Theme for the Month: Because He Lives



Leader:

Deacon Andre Harris

Speaker:

Reverend Trevor Edwards

Deacon on Duty:

Deacon Andre Harris

Pastor:

Reverend Trevor Edwards
*Barbican/Golden Spring
Circuit of Baptist Churches*

APPROACH TO WORSHIP



Leader: We come to you, God of the covenant,

People: For, in the glory of the cross

Leader: your Son embraced the power of death

People: and broke its hold over your people.

Leader: In this time of repentance,

People: draw all people to yourself,

Leader: that we who confess Jesus as Lord

People: may put aside the deeds of death

All: and accept the life of your kingdom, as we worship and adore you. Amen.

Choruses of Praise

- Follow, Follow, I Will Follow Jesus
- What Shall I Render

Gathering Hymn **# 28**
BHB
*Sing Praise to God
Who Reigns Above*

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy name
give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim
aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

*Johann J. Schütz, 1675
tr. Francis E. Cox, 1864*

**Prayer
Chorus**

***We Place You in
the Highest Place***

PRAYER OF PRAISE, ADORATION & CONFESSION

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father who art in heaven,
Holy, holy, holy be Thy name
Our Father who art in heaven, 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!
(Fr. Richard Ho Lung)

Responsive Reading **Psalm 126**
(NRSV)

Leader: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream

People: Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

Leader: The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

People: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

Leader: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

ALL: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Biblical Phases for Processing Grief and Loss.

Pete Scazzero offers three phases drawn from the Bible that he recommends are helpful for believers to consider in responding to grief and loss. These are:

Pay attention to pain
Wait in the confusing in-between
Allow the Old to give birth to the New.

To discover the treasures and make the Valley of Baca a place of springs, it is necessary for anyone going through grief and loss to **pay attention to their pain**. This means articulating what you feel. Give witness to your grief; lament if you need to; bawl if you feel like; but by all means name what you feel, let it out. Failure to do this leaves residual feelings that could imprison the individual emotionally for the rest of their life. Get together some friends, other family members, and share your feelings. Don't be stoical or pretend to be unmoved or dispassionate; share your pain.

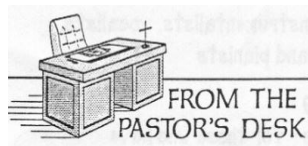
Wait in the Confusing In-Between. Waiting during grief and loss can be painful, frustrating, and lonely, but wait. The biblical stories on waiting yield great results. It is through waiting that we learn patience, resilience, and gain courage. Joseph waited twenty years in Egypt, through servitude and imprisonment, before the Lord vindicated him. During the wait, he never lost faith in God. While you wait, keep your focus on the God of promise. The history of God's people is a testimony of waiting on the fulfillment of God's promises in their lives, but God never let them down. God, too, will vindicate you and give you peace as you remain faithful to him.

As you allow the old to give birth to the new, you discover the wisdom of Jesus in the statement, "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit (John 12:24 NRSV). From Paul and Silas's loss of freedom and beatings, conversion for the Philippian jailer and his household was produced.

Conclusion

It is without doubt that grief and loss produce great pain and discomfort, but we can gain great treasures such as transformation, hope, new relationships, new insights, better understanding of God and better understanding of ourselves as we go through, not only the general stages of grief, but also the biblical phases. *"The wound is the place where the light enters you,"* Henri Nouwen. Follow carefully Jesus's suffering and grief, and see what treasures He has left for the church.

Your Pastor



The Rich Treasures of Grief and Loss.

"I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places..." (Isaiah 45:3 NRSV)

The experience of grief and loss in any form tends to create so much pain, anxiety, and disappointment that one may ask, "Where are the 'treasures' in grief and loss when your 'treasures' have been lost?"

However, let us examine the concept of treasures found in grief and loss a little more closely. One of the images that stands out for me is recorded by the Psalmist in Psalm 84:5-7. The Psalmist, commenting on God's people making their pilgrimage to Jerusalem to worship, states that passing through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs. The Valley of Baca has trees that secrete a sap and give the appearance of weeping. The Valley of Baca is also known as the Valley of Weeping. It is a dry, arid place, suggesting difficulty and hardship and sorrow and pain. This metaphor suggests that as God's children navigate through their weeping experiences – dry and arid like grief and loss – they make it a place of springs. In other words, their journey, although challenging, ultimately yields valuable experiences that can be seen as treasures.

Treasures such as life lessons, resilience, faith in God, hope, transformation, and many more are some of the important life lessons that people gain through grief and loss. Throughout our lives, we experience various forms of loss, including the death of loved ones—whether from natural causes, suicide, or murder—loss of relationships, job losses, retirement, financial loss due to scams, property invasions, loss of important items like credit or debit cards, and loss of status or self-esteem. Whatever the nature of the grief and loss, human beings tend to respond in basically the same way. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross developed some responses in her classical studies many years ago.

Stages of Grief and Loss

Here is a summary of these approaches.

Denial – *I can't believe this is happening or this has happened; I am shocked.* This is a defense mechanism that helps us to pace the feelings of shock

Anger – *How come this happened? Who is responsible or who is to be blamed?* Sometimes, we blame God, the church, the hospital, the caregiver, other family members, or even our employer or co-worker. Anger helps to mask deeper pain, which we need to pay attention to.

Bargaining – *If only I had... God, if you bring them back, I will...,* A way of simplifying a complex problem. It is trying to regain control or to ease guilt.

Depression – *Life makes no sense, what's the point of going on?* – A natural response to the weight of the loss; it's a quiet stage of processing reality.

Acceptance – *Life will be okay, it's hard to live without... but I'll manage.* It's coming to terms with the reality of the loss and learning to live with it.

Making meaning – *What does this all mean, and what are the lessons I can learn from this experience?*

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

WORSHIP THROUGH CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Brief Welcome

Announcements

Recognition of Birthdays – **APRIL**

Tithes and Offering and Doxology

Offertory song: I'm Gonna Walk Those Streets of Glory/By and By When the Morning Comes

Sunday School Minute

Prayer with the Children and Youth

Junior Church

Prayer of Intercession & Thanksgiving

WORSHIP THROUGH PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Scripture Readings **O.T.—Joshua 24:1-18**
N.T.—Luke 9:51-62

Hymn of Meditation **# 541**
BP&W
O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

O love that will not let me go,
 I rest my weary soul in thee;
 I give thee back the life I owe,
 That in thine ocean depths its flow
 May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follows all my way,
 I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
 My heart restores its borrowed ray,
 That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
 May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me thru' pain,
 I cannot close my heart to thee;
 I trace the rainbow thru' the rain
 And feel the promise is not vain
 That morn shall tearless be.

O cross that liftest up my head,
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;
 I lay in dust life's glory dead,
 And from the ground there blossoms red
 Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson, 1842-1906

PREPARATION CHORUS

*Bless Thy word unto our hearts
 And glorify Thy name (rept.)
 Glorify Thy name (rept.)
 Bless Thy word unto our hearts
 And glorify Thy name.*



Hymn of Response

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!

Chorus
*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 brings;
 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
 lives!

Gloria and Bill Gaither, (1971)

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn

311
BHB
*By Christ Redeemed,
in Christ Restored*

By Christ redeemed, in Christ restored,
we keep the memory adored,
and show the death of our dear Lord
until he come.

His body, broken in our stead,
is here in this memorial bread,
and so our feeble love is fed
until he come.

The drops of his dread agony,
his life-blood shed for us, we see;
the wine shall tell the mystery
until he come.

And thus that dark betrayal night
with the last advent we unite,
by one blest chain of loving rite,
until he come.

O blessed hope! With this elate,
let not our hearts be desolate,
but, strong in faith, in patience wait
until he come.

George Rawson. 1857, 1876

Hymn

What Have I Given?

Thy life was given for me,
thy blood, O Lord, was shed,
that I might ransomed be,
and quickened from the dead;
thy life was given for me;
what have I given for thee?

Long years were spent for me
in weariness and woe,
that through eternity
thy glory I might know;
long years were spent for me;
have I spent one for thee?

Thy Father's home of light,
thy rainbow-circled throne,
were left for earthly night,
for wanderings sad and lone;
yea, all was left me;
have I left aught for thee?

Thou, Lord, hast borne for me
more than my tongue can tell
of bitterest agony,
to rescue me from hell;
thou sufferedst all for me;
what have I borne for thee?

And thou hast brought to me
down from thy home above
salvation full and free,
thy pardon and thy love;
great gifts thou broughtest me;
what have I brought to thee?

O let my life be given
my years for thee be spent;
world-fetters all be riven,
and joy with suffering blent:
thou gavest thyself for me,
I give myself to thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1858

☞ Holy Communion ☞



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

Covenant Sharing

☞ Closing Prayer ☞

☞ BENEDICTION ☞

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.



APRIL 2025

BIRTHDAYS

- 01—Master Dylan Levermore
- 03—Sister Janet Johnson-Morris
- 08—Sister Donna Fray
- 15—Sister Tru-Sha Dixon
- 19—Sister Inez Kerr
- 20—Brother Durrant Hyatt
- 21—Sister Bernice Spencer
- 24—Sister Erica Maddix
- 29—Sister Beryl Moseley
- 30—Sister Feron Brown Hamilton