



FEB 2023

Reach Out

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH | AN EXTN OF KMC



Christ:
**FOUNDATION OF
THE CHURCH**

SRMC WORSHIP TEAM RETREAT - 26 JAN 2023



~ INSIDE ~

Pastoral Letter	04
Praise & Prayer	07
Announcements	08
Hymn History	09
Facing the Enemy	11
Bible Crossword	14
Church Activities	15
Pulpit Calendar	16



MISSION STATEMENT

"To be obedient, cheerful, compassionate, humble stewards of God's Word and resources, in utter dependence upon God through prayer, so that we as a congregation and those we reach out to, will experience transformation through the saving grace of God and grow as Christ-centered people, guided by the Holy Spirit."

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:

9:00 AM

PASTOR:

Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju

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SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTORAL LETTER



Dear SRMC Family,
Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It gives me immense joy and pleasure in writing to you again through this newsletter. I hope and believe that we all had a wonderful meditation on the topic: *Living a new life in Christ*. As we are planning to celebrate Church Anniversary this month, it is appropriate for us to think of God's faithfulness in the life of SRMC. He has established SRMC. The Church is founded on Jesus Christ, his life and work on the cross for humanity. Therefore, the theme for this month would be "***Christ: Foundation of the Church***".

As we think of Church, is it a "gathering of people" or building and most importantly today many of us are confused because of many denominations and varied traditions. Each one of the denominations have their own way of functioning and it gives a picture that "**The Church**" is founded on one particular group of people or people's group. One thing that we should be aware of and understand is that, Church is founded on Christ Jesus. The basis for Church's existence is the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross.

The Church is grounded in the being and life of God, and rooted in; the eternal purpose of the Father to send his Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Head and saviour of all things. The church does not exist by and for itself, and therefore cannot be known or interpreted out of itself. Both the source and the goal of the church are in the eternal love of God which has overflowed in the creation and redemption of the world. God has not willed to live alone, but to create and seek others distinct from himself upon whom to pour out his spirit, that He might share with them his divine life and glory, and as Father, Son and Holy Spirit dwell in their midst for ever. God will not be without His church; the church is nothing without God. But in God the Church exists as the supreme object of divine grace, and in the church, God is pleased to live His divine life and manifest His divine glory. That is the mystery and destiny of the Church, hidden from the foundation of the world, but

revealed and fulfilled in the Incarnation of the Son of God and in His glorious work of redemption, for in Jesus Christ the Church as the people of God is the crown of creation living in praise and gratitude to the creator and reflecting with all things, visible and invisible, the glory of the eternal God.

In the words of Billy Graham, Jesus is the head of the church. From him must spring all the activities and teachings of the church, for He is the fountainhead. It is upon His order that the church has its existence. Peter himself gave testimony when he proclaimed Jesus as Christ, the Son of living God, and Jesus affirmed that upon this truth He would build His Church (Mathew 16:16-18). Jesus also made it clear that His followers were to “Shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood” (Acts 20:28).

The great anthem heard in church over the years says, “The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,” and is drawn from Scripture. “For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 3:11), and He commanded His followers to build on that foundation.

Jesus founded His church and it is made up of those who believe in Him, follow Him, and remain faithful to Him. We must not attach ourselves to a particular minister or personalities but to the Lord Jesus Christ. The true Christian goes to church not only for what he gets out of it, but also for what he brings to it- faithfulness in living for Christ and for going out and being His light in a dark world. Jesus said, “You shall be witnesses to me... to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8), and this begins right where we are: in our homes, school, workplace & neighborhoods.

Jesus promises to equip us for the work of the ministry and to encourage the body of Christ on Earth (Ephesians 4:12). As we are celebrating our Church anniversary this month, it is appropriate to reflect upon our foundation on which SRMC is built upon. As Paul encourages and reminds us that 2 Timothy 1:1-2:13 to be faithful and we need to preserve, keep building our faith. We all have a great responsibility to build the church on Christ the Solid Rock, not to be shaken by any currents, winds, temptations of the world rather to focus on Christ alone as the Lord of the Church. the solid rock of Jesus is resilient to any kind of storm in our lives. in his presence, we can be at

peace and assured. Whatever comes our way, we can always trust in the love, hope and enduring rock of Jesus. May God almighty enable each one of us to have this understanding and strive towards building the Church.

May God bless us all !!!

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju
(Pastor, SRMC)



We believe in the power of small groups, clustered based on locations, where we can learn, build and grow each other in the Lord. Please contact Pastor, to find out who your NFG representative is, and join the SRMC family, for Godly meditations and discussions, birthday/anniversary wishes and a wholesome, fruitful fellowship.

Please continue to support SRMC's vision of a wholesome and God-loving Faith Community in this part of the city. You can send in your tithes/offerings to the Church by scanning this QR code. May God bless you abundantly.



PRAISE & PRAYER

Praise God

- ♦ Praise God for His grace, as we meditated on the theme **“Living a new life in Christ”** during the month of January.
- ♦ Praise God for the ministry of **Rev. J. D. Vijay Kumar**, for helping us participate in Holy Communion and also bringing the word of God unto us, during the month of January.

Remember and Pray

- ♦ Continue to pray for our Bishop N. L. Karkare, Madam Kamal Karkare, Executive Secretary Rev. David Nathaniel, Conference Treasurer, Rev. Mathew George M., District Superintendent Rev. Sebastian Ravikumar. Pray continuously for the Bangalore Regional Conference and that God's will be accomplished through the conference.
- ♦ Pray for our dear Pastor, Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju and his family. Also, kindly keep our extended Pastoral team & their families at KMC; Rev. Mathew George, Rev. Daniel Ezra Naveen, Rev. John Shikamani and our Pastorate Committee members and their families in prayers.
- ♦ Pray for the SRMC Sunday School, children & teens ministry. Pray for wisdom and health for all teachers and volunteers, for the media team and for the technical challenges that are involved.
- ♦ Pray that God may raise people in the Church and outside, who can own the Project – **‘Arise, let us build’** and support in building up the place of worship at Sarjapur Road. Please pray for the right decisions to be taken going ahead.
- ♦ Pray for the Management Team of SRMC and their families as they help in various activities of the church.
- ♦ Pray for the Bible Study group, Worship team, Men's & Women's fellowships, Sunday School, Choir and all the volunteers who are striving hard to serve and raise resources for our Church.
- ♦ Pray for the sick, elders, widows and the poor, who need help in our church. Pray also for all the families that you remember at our Church.

- ◆ Pray for all the families who are still suffering due to the effects of Covid, that God may give them strength to cope and hope to move ahead.
- ◆ Pray that God may reveal His Plan for us in this locality and that the SRMC family may become a channel of blessing in this vicinity.
- ◆ Pray for SRMC to become a separate Pastorate, as decisions to that effect would likely be taken in this year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PASTORAL CARE** is available through the Church, you can avail the services by speaking to the Pastor personally.
- **REACH OUT** is the in-house magazine of SRMC and you are welcome to contribute your stories, missionary stories, testimonies, activity pages for children and other articles. You also have the opportunity to suggest the theme for the next Month and related resources.
- Please continue to support through your **tithes**, faithfully every month. You can offer **offerings and tithes** by utilizing online payment options given in our website (www.srmcblr.org) or cash. It is only through your contributions that we can build the Kingdom of God. Giving is a sign of a good Disciple.
- Project – ‘**Arise, let us build**’ contributions can be made through our website as well.
- **SRMC Sunday School** is held in the Church premises, every Sunday during the Sunday Worship Service. Please enroll your children immediately.
- **Humble request:** Please be consistent in your attendance to the Church. This will help you to grow spiritually and it will also help the Church to grow both Spiritually and Missionally.
- Participate in the **activities** of the **wings of the Church**. Women’s & Men’s fellowships, Choir, Worship Team, Church Bible Study, can be chosen from.

Hymn History - ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME



All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name is a Christian hymn. The hymn has been called the "National Anthem of Christendom". The lyrics, written by **EDWARD PERRONET**, first appeared in the November, 1779 issue of the Gospel Magazine, which was edited by the author of "Rock of Ages", Augustus Toplady.

Perronet, (1721–2 January 1792) was the son of an Anglican priest, who worked closely with Anglican priest John Wesley and his brother Charles Wesley for many years in England's eighteenth century Christian revival. Born in Sundridge, Kent, England, Perronet was the son of Vincent Perronet, and a descendant of a French Huguenot family which fled first to Switzerland and then to England to escape religious persecution.

At the time, persecution of Methodists was common. John Wesley once noted in his diary that Edward himself "was thrown down and rolled in mud and mire" at Bolton. Though considered a capable preacher, Perronet was uneasy about doing so in front of John Wesley, despite Wesley's persistent urging. After wearying of his requests, Wesley simply announced one day that Brother Perronet would speak. Edward cleverly managed to escape Wesley's intention by mounting the pulpit, declaring he would deliver the greatest sermon ever preached, and proceeding to read Christ's "Sermon on the Mount"; after which, he immediately sat down.

Following worsening relations with the Wesleys, Perronet published "The Mitre" in 1756, a ferocious attack in verse on the Church of England and the notion that the Eucharist was a priestly rite only to be properly administered in England by Anglican priests. This provoked a schism with the Wesleys and Perronet's connection with organized Methodism came to an end. He preached in the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion until his open aversion to the established church led to his becoming the minister of an Independent congregation.

During his life, Edward published three volumes of Christian poems, including a poetic rendering of the Scriptures. Shortly before he died, 2 January 1792 in Canterbury, Kent, England, he uttered these last words: "Glory to God in the height of His divinity! Glory to God in the depth of his humanity! Glory to God in His all-sufficiency! Into His hands I commend my spirit."

The popularity of this late-18th-century hymn may be attested by the fact it appears in hymnals with as many as three different tunes: CORONATION, DIADEM and MILES' LANE. Each tune reflects a different cultural and denominational context in which this text is sung.

Another unusual aspect of “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name” is the number of modifications that have been made from the original text. The original hymn text dates from 1779 and 1780, and was first printed in November 1779 in the Gospel Magazine, a publication by “Rock of Ages” composer Augustus M. Toplady. An eight-stanza version appeared just a year later in the same magazine titled, “On the Resurrection. The Lord is King.”

Massive alterations began as early as 1787 when the text was included in John Rippon's Selection of Hymns with the title “The Spiritual Coronation, Canticles 3:11”—a reference to the Song of Songs: “Go forth, O ye daughters of Zion, and behold King Solomon with the crown wherewith his mother crowned him in the day of his espousals, and in the day of the gladness of his heart.” British hymnologist and literary scholar J.R. Watson notes, “By applying Solomon's crowning to this hymn, the Old Testament reference is seen as Solomon's prefiguring of Christ.”

The tunes commonly associated with this famous text reveal much about this joyful expression of the 18th-century evangelical revival movement. CORONATION is a tune by American Oliver Holden (1792) and was first published in Boston in 1793. A stately tune in duple meter, it has the character of a coronation march. DIADEM was composed by James Ellor in 1838 at the age of 19 for the anniversary of a Wesleyan Sunday school in his hometown of Droylsden, Manchester. This tune, in triple rhythm, has the feel of a stately minuet and suggests an anthem to be sung by a choir, especially with the independent parts of the refrain. It is indeed thrilling to hear congregations or church musicians sing this version in four parts.

The tune originally paired with this text, MILES' LANE, does not appear in The United Methodist Hymnal. Written by William Shrubsole (1760-1806), it is less favored, in light of the other more buoyant tune options.

Regardless of the tune, the version we sing today leaves no doubt that the entire earth—from the “chosen seed of Israel's race” and “sinners” and “martyrs” to “every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball”—will sing the “everlasting song” at Jesus' feet. Now that will be a song to hear!

Compiled by Joel Dubba

Sources: umcdiscipleship.com | [Wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org)

FACING THE ENEMY WITH CONFIDENCE

We all know the story of Elijah, and just as God brought an unknown man into the spotlight in Israel to confront the evil King Ahab and his wife Jezebel, He also was at work in the country of Judah where King Jehoshaphat was on the throne.



His faithfulness to God is laid out in 2 Chronicles 19-20 where we find one of the most powerful and uplifting stories in Scripture. The interesting thing here is Ahab's wickedness never contaminated Jehoshaphat, for he trusted fully in God to lead his life. Jehoshaphat had seen what terrible things had been done by these vicious leaders, so when Jehoshaphat became king of Judah, he was determined to follow God. He brought back the worship of the God of heaven and earth. And he purposed to do what was right in the sight of God.

One moment please! How many of us face situations in our daily life as Jehoshaphat faced. You may be surrounded with destructive situation, or you may work in a place of turmoil, or you may face upheaval in your family life! Do you have courage like King Jehoshaphat to step on the path of your Heavenly Father?

Do you know what King Jehoshaphat was doing in Judah when the most wicked Ahab and Jezebel were ruling the nation of Israel? The Bible tells us that Jehoshaphat "went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim and brought them back to the Lord, the God of their fathers" (2 Chron 19: 4). He was on a one-man crusade for God.

If we do great ministry as King Jehoshaphat did, we would think that following God and doing what was just should pay big dividends. If you believe what some people say, if you follow God, you will prosper, then King Jehoshaphat should have had smooth sailing.

What happened then???

In 2 Chronicles 20: 1-3 The Bible says, "After this," which means after doing good, after being good "the Moabites, the Ammonites and the Meunites came against Jehoshaphat. These wicked nations jumped on this good king, thinking they would take him down. Now I would like to lay before you a thought that comes to my mind, most times in our

lives, our personal battles come as three specific attacks - to our health, to our finances and to our relationships! It's like the Moabites, the Ammonites and the Meunites - a triple threat!

In my personal life though I have never seen all three attacking me together, one or the other keep coming over me. I am sure as you review your life, many of you are going to have your own list of triple threats - those enemies who are trying to take us down and deprive us so that we will not be able to carry out our heavenly Father's plans in our lives. Let us see what Jehoshaphat is doing? He did not let the fear caused by the triple threat to pull him down. But the Bible tells us that King Jehoshaphat, "set himself" or as the Hebrew translates this phrase, he "committed himself or cast himself at his heavenly Father's feet to seek His will and pray.

As His loving son King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah fasted and prayed, the Lord sent Jahaziel the Levite, with a message, 'Do not be afraid or dismayed . He also gave the king a real reason not to be afraid , and went on to tell him exactly where the enemy would be found (2 Chron 20:14-16). I absolutely love this part of the story! With God on his side, King Jehoshaphat did not have to worry at all about a sneak attack, he did not have to worry about laying a trap for his enemies - God had laid out already! In a little more clear detail Jahaziel told him exactly where the enemies were hiding in the wilderness of Jeruel.

Dear friends! As we read in Scripture about God's advice to King Jehoshaphat, we find our Heavenly Father not only guiding us along the way but He is at the helm of our lives too! What more could we ask for and what a wonderful reason for us to have confidence and not be afraid?

WAIT! Here's where God's message gets very interesting! First of all, God told His children - you don't have to fight today. But do remember this, God told His children to show up with confidence for His second command was for everyone to take their position and "Stand still."

Now this is not the first time God instructed His children to "stand still." If we go back to Exodus 14: 13, with the Egyptian army bearing down on them, and the Red Sea preventing any escape on the other side, Moses told the people, "Fear not; stand still (firm, and see the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you today. For the Egyptians you have seen today, you shall never see again" (Exodus 14: 13).

In both the case of the Israelites at the Red Sea and Judah facing the "triple threat" of the Moabites, Ammonites, and Meunites, there was a special reason God told His children to "stand still." Sometimes in our

hurry, we miss the critical point God is teaching us. God told His children to "stand still" so they would "see the deliverance" He had for them.

Friends! I don't like admitting this, but when I take upon myself the job of trying to rush and fix things or fight the battle myself, I get so busy focusing on what I am doing, I fail to see what my dear heavenly Father is already doing for me, I can't see His deliverance is already on the way.

As the message of assurance of victory came to King Jehoshaphat, he was so overcome with gratitude that the Bible tells us, he "bowed his head with his face to the ground... worshipping God."

One moment please!!! Did they worship the Lord after they won the battle? If you read 2 Chron 20:20, you will notice that the defeat of the enemy was not until the next day. But even before they saw the victory with their own eyes, the people were worshipping a God who promised them victory! How often, in my own life, I want to see God do something before I thank Him! But here is man who teaches us that the true worship of our Father does not come with strings attached.

What a great life laid before us to learn from! A man who purposed to do the will of God when evil prevailed everywhere! A man who went on His knees when triple threat threatened to pull him down! A man who praised God even before he saw the promised victory!

King Jehoshaphat's life has challenged me to face the enemy with confidence! What about you?

Yours sister in Christ,
Mrs. Prema Sunder Raj



**ASH
WEDNESDAY**
22nd Feb '23

Sermon topic:

Return to GOD

Scripture Portion:

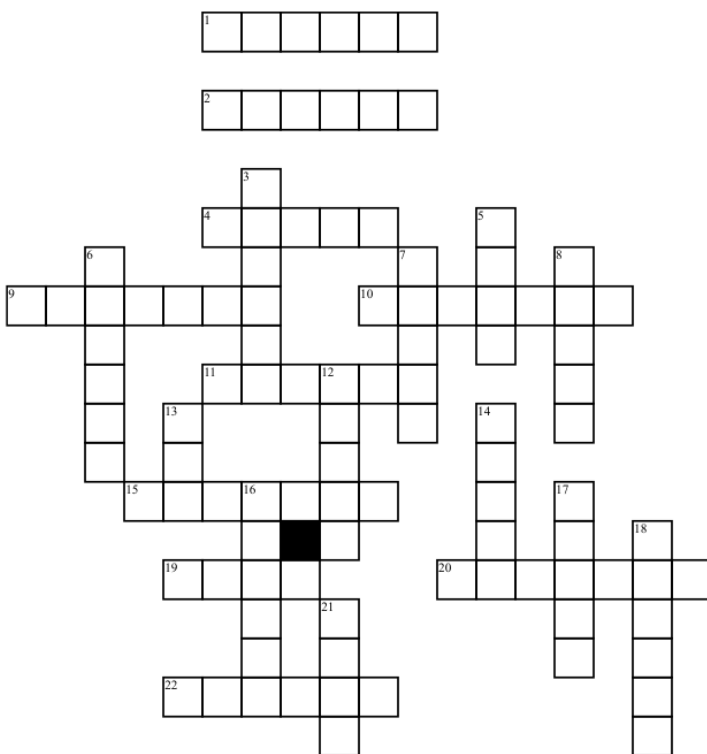
Jonah 1:1-17

Speaker:

Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju

BIBLE CROSSWORD - FEB 2023

People of the Bible



Across

1. Born with tremendous strength
2. His mother could not have children
4. One of the gates rulers or Israel
9. Cut the hair of Samson
10. Son of king David
11. Able to preform miracles
15. Wife of Isaac

19. Name means the act of seeing or light

20. Had a child at 99 years old, he was faithful man
22. Rescued Hebrew babies

Down

3. Passed away birthing her last child
5. Spokes person of his brother Moses
6. Prophet of the lord

7. Was thrown over the boat, and swallowed by a huge fish

8. Always talking to god
12. Mother of Isaac
13. First women to sin
14. Husband of Rachel, he had 12 sons
16. Real name is hadassa
17. Died at 180 years old
18. Name was changed to belteshazzar
21. First man to sin

KINDLY PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES OF SRMC:

Sunday Worship Service

SRMC Sunday School

SRMC Bible Study

SRMC Women's Bible Study

SRMC Women's Fellowship Meeting

SRMC Management Team meeting

SRMC Men's Fellowship

SRMC Worship Team Practice

SRMC Choir Practice

9 am, every Sunday

9:45 am, every Sunday

7 pm, every Thursday

6.30 pm, every Friday

After service, every 4th Sunday

7:00 pm, every 2nd Sunday

After service, every 2nd Sunday

4.30 pm, every Saturday

3 pm, every Saturday

All are invited!



SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

11th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

February 19th, 2023 | 9AM



FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Beside St. Patrick's Academy, Kodathi Gate, B'lore - 35.

LIVE STREAM ON WWW.SRMCBLR.ORG



CHRIST: FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Pulpit Calendar

"Jesus is the head of the church. From him must spring all the activities and teachings of the church, for He is the fountainhead." - Rev. Billy Graham

FEBRUARY 2023

1st Sunday | 05/02/2023 | 9 AM

COMMUNION SERVICE | UNDERSTANDING GOD

2 TIM. 2:11-18 | SPEAKER: REV. J. UDAY KUMAR

2nd Sunday | 12/02/2023 | 9 AM

ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

MATT 16:17-18 | SPEAKER: REV. ALFRED S. RAJU

3rd Sunday | 19/02/2023 | 9 AM

SRMC IITH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

CHRIST: THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION | 1 COR. 3:11

4th Sunday | 26/02/2023 | 9 AM

CHRIST THE CORNER STONE

EPH. 2:1-20 | SPEAKER: REV. ALFRED S. RAJU

All services are LIVE STREAMED on www.srmcblr.org

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Besides St. Patrick's Academy, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru