Order of Service

**Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

Dear God, I love you. I love you for taking care of me, for providing for me, for guiding me. I love you so much. Thank you for loving me even when I do not love myself. Thank you for all You do to help shape me into the person You want me to be. I will continue to Bloom for you in Jesus name. Amen

**Choral Response Buds of Promise**

**Buds Hymn “Blooming All For Jesus” Hymn #676**

**The Litany - 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8**

**Leader:** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

**People:** It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

**Leader:** Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth.

**People:** It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

**All:** Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease: where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

**Gloria Patri –** Buds and Congregation

**Apostles Creed –** Buds and Congregation

**Scripture** - Galatians 5:22

**Prayer for Love – Bud of Promise**

**Choral Response**

**Selection - Buds of Promise**

**Remembering Marie L. Clinton – Bud of Promise**

**Buds Information - Motto/Colors/Slogan/Pledge – Buds of Promise**

**Song of Preparation – Buds of Promise**

**Buds Message – “Love can change the world”**

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

**Offering**

**Remarks**

**Missionary Benediction**

God be merciful unto us and bless us and cause His face to shine upon us and give us peace. Amen

~ ~ ~

*Send all donations for the Marie L. Clinton Day Observance to your*

*District President for remittance to the Executive Director.*

**Mrs. Marie Louise Clay Clinton (1871–1934)**

Mrs. Marie Louise Clay Clinton was the organizer and first Superintendent of the Buds of Promise Juvenile Missionary Society. She was born in Huntsville, Alabama in1871. Mrs. Clinton was the wife of Bishop George Wylie Clinton. She loved children and, having none of her own, she dedicated her life to children’s work. She understood the importance of Christian training for very young children. Mrs. Clinton worked diligently to see that children be included as part of the General Missionary Society. In 1904, her request to include the children as an organized department of the Missionary Society was taken to the General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. It was then that the department was adopted and, through her efforts, became permanently known as the “Buds of Promise” department in 1908. Mrs. Clinton served as the General Superintendent for 28 years until 1932 and remained an enthusiastic worker until her death in1934. In 1951, the Missionary Convention in Wilmington, North Carolina voted that a day be set aside in order to honor the founder of The Buds of Promise Department. Because of Mrs. Marie L. Clay Clinton’s love and devotion to children and work of missions, the fourth Sunday of January is recognized as “Marie L. Clinton Day”.

**Globally Committed to Agape Love**

**“Love can change the world”**

The Great Commission: #MissionsMatter, Globally Committed to Social Justice, Environmental Stewardship, Transformative Service, and now **Agape Love.** John 3:16 International Children’s Bible says “For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. God gave His Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life.”

Agape love is selfless love. It is given without expecting anything in return. It is everlasting, sacrificing, free and unconditional. It is a smile that will warm someone’s heart and help them to have a good day. It is a kind word or deed you say or do, just because.

Kirk Franklin said it best in his song. Love, a word that comes and goes, but few people really know, what it means to really love somebody. Love though the tears may fade away, I’m glad Your love will stay. Cause I love You, and You show me, Jesus, what it really means to love. Love, the nights that I cried You loved me, when I should have died You loved me. I’ll never know why You love me. It’s a mystery to me now I’m glad I see Jesus. When all hope was gone, You loved me. You gave me a song that You love me. Now I can go on cause You love me.

Genesis chapters 37 - 46 tell the story of Joseph and his beautiful coat of many colors. His father gave him a beautiful coat and his brothers became jealous. They knew Joseph was the favorite of his father and so they planned to get rid of him. Joseph also had a special gift. That gift was to interpret dreams. This was just one more reason to hate Joseph. One brother said “Let’s not kill him, let’s just sell him.” So they sold him. Imagine your own brothers plotting to kill you, sell you and tell your father that his son was dead. As the story continues, Joseph is put into jail, accused of doing bad things, and forgotten about. But God never forgets about us. His love for us is so strong and powerful that He can move any mountain out of our way and calm any storm. Joseph uses his God given gift to interpret dreams which eventually help to free him and make him in charge. Joseph is eventually reunited with his brothers and his father. Love can conquer any evil plan or wicked deed. Love is what our world needs now. Love is what we need to stop being jealous of each other and wanting to hurt each other. Buds, keep loving and spread some Agape Love. You, can change the world!

Marie L. Clinton Day

Buds of Promise Juvenile Missionary Society

“The Great Commission: #MissionsMatter”

Globally Committed to “**Agape Love**”



Sunday, January 22, 2023

Ms. Cynthia L. Revels-Young

Connectional Superintendent, Buds of Promise

Mrs. Sandra B. Crowder

International President, WH&OMS