

*God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Holy Spirit Our Comforter, Humankind Our Family*

## SAINT JOHN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

708 15th Street North || Birmingham, AL 35203

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor



### *Order of Resurrection Sunday*

Sunday, April 17, 2022 - 10:00am

**THE PRELUDE**.....**Music Ministry**

**THE DOXOLOGY**.....**"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

*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. Amen.*

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**.....**Pastor Ronald D. Sterling**

**Pastor:** Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth! Sing about the glory of his name! Tell the world how glorious he is. Say to God: "How awesome are your works!"

**People:** **Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs.**

**Pastor:** Come and see what our God has done, what awesome miracles he does for his people!

**Together:** **Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wonderful deeds! He has won a mighty victory by his power and holiness. The whole earth has seen the salvation of our God!**

**THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION.....Mass Choir**  
**Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Alleluia! (156 AMEC)**

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once He died, our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!*

*Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia! Amen.*

**THE INVOCATION.....Rev. Sherri Radney**

*A prayer inviting the power and presence of God to join and lead us in worship.*

**THE CHORAL RESPONSE....."He Is Lord"**

*He is Lord.  
He is Lord!  
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow,  
Every tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord!*

**THE CONFESSION OF SIN (Standing - congregation in unison)**

God of justice, you have called us to live boldly in the reality of your coming kingdom. We confess O God, that we have not fulfilled our calling. We have not used your power to serve our neighbors but continue to stand by idly and look at wrong as well as commit some of the acts ourselves. We have walked away from oppression and injustice. Gun shots and other violence destroys our babies while we too, turn our backs on your beloved children who hunger and thirst in a world of plenty. Forgive us, Lord. Make us courageous servants of your justice, peace, and wholeness, in the name of your crucified Son, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON.....Rev. Sherri Radney**  
Psalm 103:8-12

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Thank you, O Resurrected Savior, for your blood.

**THE SCRIPTURE READING.....Rev. Xavier Beasley**  
**John 20:1-18 (NRSV)**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

**THE PREFACE TO THE DECALOGUE**

*From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise:  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung. Through every land by every tongue.*

**THE SUMMARY OF THE DECALOGUE**

Hear what Christ our Saviour saith, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**THE GLORIA PATRI**

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

**THE EASTER PROGRAM**

**THE BAPTISM**

**THE PASTOR'S WORDS & GREETINGS TO VISITORS**

**THE BLESSING OF THE OFFERTORY** *(Tithes / Offerings / Gifts to be given after the benediction)*

**SERMONIC SELECTION.....Mass Choir**

**THE MESSAGE.....REV. DR. RONALD D. STERLING, PASTOR**

**THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

*An invitation to accept Jesus as Savior*

**THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*A statement of what we as Christians believe.*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. The third day he arose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the church universal the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**THE DOXOLOGY.....”Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”**

*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 BENEDICTION.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling**

*Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

