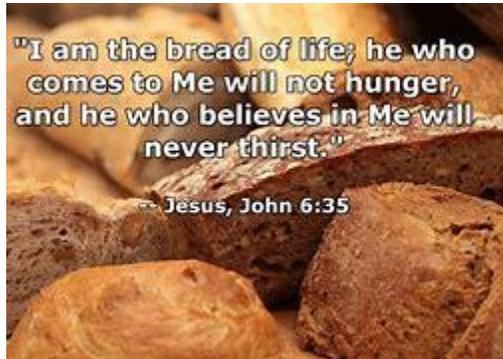


God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, the Holy Spirit Our Comforter, Humankind Our Family

**SAINT JOHN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**708 15<sup>TH</sup> STREET NORTH || BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203**  
**Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor**



## **Order of Worship**

Sunday, August 14, 2022 - 10am.

**The Prelude.....Music Ministry**

**The Doxology**

**The Hymn of Celebration....."We'll Understand It Better By and By"**

We are often tossed and driven on the restless sea of time,  
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine,  
In that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled aw,  
We will understand it better by and by.

Refrain:

By and by, when the morning comes  
All the saints of God are gathered home,  
We'll tell the story how we've overcome,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute of the things that life demands,  
Want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands,  
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to His word,  
We will understand it better by and by.

Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand,  
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed Promised Land;  
But He guides us with His eye and we'll follow till we die,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.

Temptations, hidden snares often take us unawares,  
And our hearts are made to bleed for a thoughtless word or deed,  
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best,  
We will understand it better by and by.

**Prayer.....Brother Bennie Hardin**

**Prayer Response....." Jesus, Jesus, Jesus"**

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus; There's just something about that name!  
Master, Savior, Jesus, Like the fragrance after the rain;  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Let all heaven and earth proclaim:  
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,  
But there's something about that name!

**Scripture.....Rev. Laurel Thornton**

### **Psalm 82**

God takes his stand in the council of heaven; he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:  
"How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked? Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy; Rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked. They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. Now I say to you, 'You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High; Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.'" Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

**Introit 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 Contemporary Decalogue**

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not commit murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not be a false witness.  
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**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, Amen.*

**The Pastor's Words and Greetings to Visitors**

**The Blessing of the Offertory** (*Tithes / Offerings / Benevolent*)

**The Sermonic Hymn**.....**Music Ministry**

**The Message**.....**Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor**

**The Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

**The Affirmation of Faith**

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 on 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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

**The Doxology**

**The Benediction**.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling