

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

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church

708 - 13th Street North || Birmingham, AL 35203

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

Regular Order of Worship

August 27, 2023 - 10:00am

The Praise & Worship.....Music Ministry

The Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessing 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

Minister: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!
Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!"

People: **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand, elsewhere, I
would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than
dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: **They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the
courts of our God.**

Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your
glory dwells.

People: **But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence
before Him.**

Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be
acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer.

**People: O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!**

Hymn of Celebration....."Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou has been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

The Prayer.....Sister Mary Copes

Prayer Response....."I Need Thee Every Hour"

*I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord ;
No tender voice like Thine
Can peace afford.*

Refrain

*I need Thee, O I need Thee,
Every hour I need Thee;
Oh bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee!*

The Scripture.....Brother Floyd Collins

Matthew 16:13-20 (ESV)

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

(Please stand for the Summary of the Decalogue)

The Introit

*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.....Brother Floyd Collins

Hear what Christ our Saviour saith, thou shalt love the Lord thou 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 Pastor's Words, 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

Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessing flow: Praise Him, all creatures here below:
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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

*The light of God surrounds me,
The love of God enfolds me,
The power of God protects me,
The presence of God watches over me.
Wherever I am, God is.*

