

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

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church
708 - 13th Street North || Birmingham, AL 35203



Order of Worship & Celebration of Communion

September 4, 2023 - 10:00 am

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....."Yield Not to Temptation"

Yield not to temptation,
For yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you
Some other to win;
Fight manfully onward,
Dark passions subdue;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

Refrain
*Ask the Savior to help you,
Comfort, strengthen and keep you;
He is willing to aid you ,
He will carry you through.*

Shun evil companions,
Bad language disdain,
God's name hold in reverence,
Nor take it in vain;
Be thoughtful and earnest,
Kind hearted and true;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

To him that o'ercometh

God giveth a crown,
Through faith we shall conquer,
Though often cast down;
He, who is our Savior,
Our strength will renew;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

The Prayer

Prayer Response.....“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us
And grant us Thy peace. Amen

The Scripture.....Bro. Freddie Thomas

Romans 12:9-21 (ESV)

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit,^[a] serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it^[a] to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

(Please stand for the Contemporary Decalogue)

The 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.*

Contemporary Decalogue.....
(Read all before singing The Gloria Patri and seating the people)

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.*

The Pastor's Words, Celebrations, and Greetings to Visitors

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

The Sermonic Selection.....**Music Ministry**

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

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Communion Hymn.....**"There is a Fountain"**

The Solicitation

The General Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

The First Collect

The Second Collect

The Prayer of Adoration

The Prayer of Humiliation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Elements

The Prayer (*Lord's Prayer or extemporaneous prayer*)

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

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