

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

## Saint John AME Church

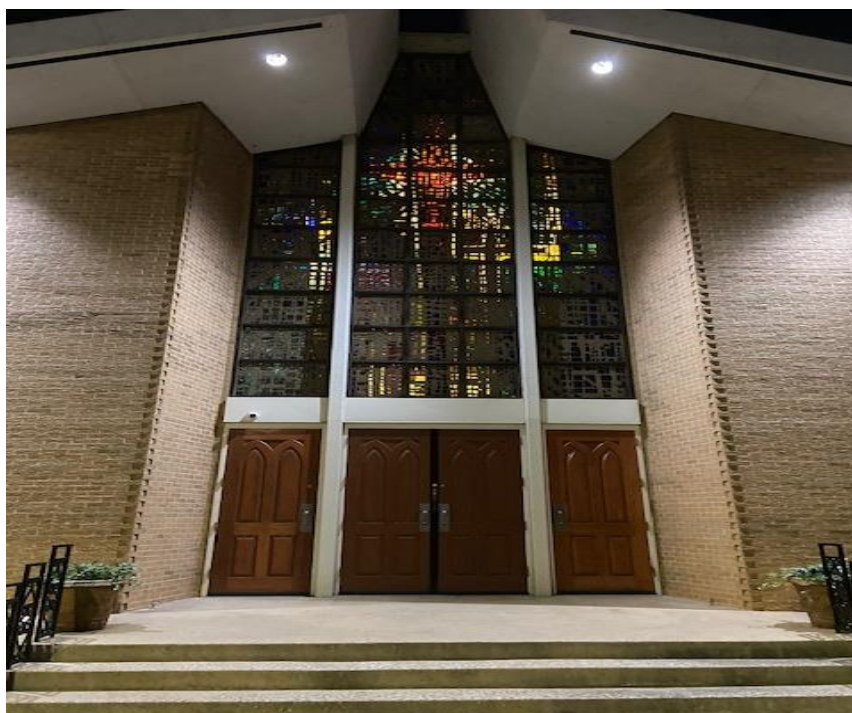
708 15<sup>th</sup> Street North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

The Reverend Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor || Sister Kim C. Sterling, First Lady

### Mission

Saint John's mission is to "love God and love others" by ministering to the social, spiritual, and physical development of all people.



**Sunday, November 9, 2025**

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Praise & Worship.....Music Ministry**

**The Doxology**

**AMEC Hymn No. 647 [Tune: Old 100]**

*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 Sterling**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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!**

**The Hymn of Praise....."How To Reach The Masses (Lift Him Up)"**

How to reach the masses, men of every birth,  
For an answer Jesus gave the key;  
"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, I'll draw all men unto me."

**Refrain**

Lift Him up, Lift Him up, Still He speaks from eternity:  
"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto Me."

Oh! The world is hungry for the Living Bread,  
Lift the Savior up for them to see;  
Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said,  
“I’ll draw all men unto  
Me.”

Don’t exalt the preacher, don’t exalt the pew,  
Preach the gospel, simple, full, and free;  
Prove Him and you will find that promise is true,  
“ I’ll draw all men unto  
Me.”

Lift Him up by living as a Christian ought,  
Let the world in you the Savior see;  
Then all will gladly follow Him who once taught,  
“I’ll draw all men unto Me.”

### **The Invocation**

**The Choral Response.....The Young Adult Choir**

### **The Scripture Lesson (s)**

**Old Testament .....Sister Juanita Paige**

#### **Psalm 145:17-21**

- <sup>17</sup> The LORD is righteous in all his ways  
and kind in all his works.  
<sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.  
<sup>19</sup> He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;  
he also hears their cry and saves them.  
<sup>20</sup> The LORD preserves all who love him,  
but all the wicked he will destroy.  
<sup>21</sup> My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

**"This is the Word of the Lord."**

**New Testament.....Sister Brittany Ford**  
**II Thessalonians 2:13-17**

<sup>13</sup> But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

**"The Word of God for the people of God."**

**Gospel .....Sister Larntenia Armstrong**  
**(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)**  
**Luke 20:27-38**

<sup>27</sup> There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, <sup>28</sup> and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. <sup>29</sup> Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. <sup>30</sup> And the second <sup>31</sup> and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. <sup>32</sup> Afterward the woman also died. <sup>33</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife."

<sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, <sup>35</sup> but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, <sup>36</sup> for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons<sup>[b]</sup> of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup> But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup> Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him."

**"May the Lord bless the hearers and doers of His Word."**

## **The Preface to the Decalogue**

### **AMEC Hymn No. 69 From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

*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 Decalogue (Summary)**

Hear what Christ our Savior 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, Amen.*

**Special Selection.....Sister Yolonda Carter**

### **Ministry of Stewardship (Tithes/Offerings/Benevolent)**

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen*

**Announcements and Acknowledgements.....Pastor Sterling**

**The Worship through Music.....The Young Adult Choir**

**The Message..... Pastor Sterling**

**The Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

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 (Contemporary)**

## **Benediction**