

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

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

The Service of Communion



The Order of Service

Sunday, October 03, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

The Prelude.....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.*

The Call to Worship.....Pastor Sterling

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem! For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house. Lord, I have loved Thy habitation, the place where thy honor dwelleth. For the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer. O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth, sing praises.

The Hymn of Celebration....."O How I Love Jesus"

There is a Name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
It sounds like music in my ear, The sweetest Name on earth.

Refrain:

Oh, how I love Jesus, Oh, how I love Jesus,
Oh, how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me!

It tells me of a Savior's love, Who died to set me free;
It tells me of His precious blood, The sinner's perfect plea.

It tells me what my Father hath In store for every day,
And though I tread a darksome path, Yields sunshine all the way.

It tells of One whose loving heart Can feel my deepest woe;
Who in each sorrow bears a part That none can bear below.

The Invocation.....Rev. Xavier Beasley

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 Scripture Readings: (NRSV).....Rev. Laurel J. Thornton

Old Testament: Psalms 26:8-12; Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4; Gospel: Mark 10:13-16

Old Testament: Psalms 26:8-12

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides. Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty, those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes. But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. My foot stands on level ground in the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel: Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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 Contemporary Decalogue.....Rev. Charles Marie Davis

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.

Amen. Lord have mercy

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 Announcements

The Pastor's Words

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

The Sermonic Selection.....Sister Taya Hardnett

The Sermon.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Communion Hymn..... "There Is A Fountain"

There is a fountain filled with blood, Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains.

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 Lord's Prayer

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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Benediction.....Pastor Sterling

**Postlude....."Rejoice the Lord is King"
arr. Nancy Lau**