

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

Epiphany

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church
708 15th Street North II Birmingham, AL 35203
Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

First Sunday After the Epiphany



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 09, 2022 ~ 10a.m.

PRELUDE.....Music Ministry

DOXOLOGY....."Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

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.

Call to Worship.....Pastor 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.

Together: Oh 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.....Music Ministry

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

There’s a sweet, sweet spirit
In this place,
And I know that it’s the spirit
Of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions
On each face,
And I know that it’s the presence
Of the Lord.

Chorus

Sweet Holy Spirit,
Sweet Heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us
Filling us with Your love.

And for these blessings
We lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we’ll know
That we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings
You cannot receive
‘Til you know Him in His fullness
And believe;
You’re the one to profit
When you say,
“I am going to walk with Jesus
All the way.”

PRAYER.....Rev. Xavier A. Beasley

A prayer inviting the power and presence of God to join and lead us in worship.

CHORAL RESPONSE....."Anointing"

*Anointing fall on me,
Anointing fall on me,
Let the power of the Holy Ghost
Fall on me.
Anointing fall on me.*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22(NRSV).....Rev. Charles Marie Davis

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."...Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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.*

SUMMARY OF THE DECALOGUE

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."

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.*

PASTOR'S WORDS

SERMONIC SELECTION.....Music Ministry

MESSAGE.....**REV. DR. RONALD D. STERLING**

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

An invitation to accept Jesus as your Savior

BLESSING OF THE OFFERTORY (*Tithes / Offerings / Gifts to be given after the benediction*)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A statement of what we as Christians believe.

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 sin, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

DOXOLOGY....."Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

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BENEDICTION.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling