

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

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

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 30, 2022 - 10am

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!

SONG OF CELEBRATION....."This Little Light of Mine"

Led by Brother Charles Horton

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine,
Let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine

All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine

PRAYER.....Rev. Laurel J. Thornton

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

CHORAL RESPONSE....."I Really Love The Lord"

*I really love the Lord,
I really love the Lord,
You don't know what He's done for me
He gave me the victory
I love Him, I love Him
I really love the Lord!*

SCRIPTURE.....Rev. Charles Marie Davis

Luke 4:21-30 (NRSV)

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue at Nazareth: "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine

over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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....."Why Should I Feel Discouraged"
Brother Charles Horton

MESSAGE.....**REV. XAVIER A. BEASLEY**

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