

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



Bishop Richard Allen
February 14, 1760 - March 26, 1831

CELEBRATION OF FOUNDER'S DAY

Sunday, February 13, 2022 - 10:00am

THE PRELUDE.....Music Ministry

THE 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.

THE 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!

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION....."Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Rev. Laurel Thornton

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies
Let it resound high as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening Rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed.?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might, led us into the light ,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

THE PRAYER.....Brother Brian Ransom

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

THE CHORAL RESPONSE....."Yes, God Is Real"

*Yes, God is real, He's real in my soul:
Yes, God is real for He has washed and made me whole:
His love for me is like pure gold,
Yes, God is real for I can feel Him in my soul.*

THE SCRIPTURERev. Xavier Beasley
Psalm 124 (ESV)

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—let Israel now say—if it had not been the Lord who was on our side when people rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters. Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth! We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped! Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

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.*

THE 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."

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.*

THE FOUNDER'S DAY LITANY *(Bishop Richard Allen)*.....Rev. Sherri Radney
By Rev. Garland F. Pierce

THE SERMONIC SELECTION.....Brother Raymond Oliver

THE MESSAGE.....**REV. DR. RONALD D. STERLING, PASTOR**

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

An invitation to accept Jesus as your Savior

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

THE 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 at 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. Amen.

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