

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

**SAINT JOHN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

708 15<sup>TH</sup> Street North • Birmingham, AL 35203

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor



**PREACHER: REV. WILLIAM ERIC HAMILTON**  
*Pastor, Lee Chapel AME Church, Edgewater*

*Celebration of The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

Sunday, March 27, 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. Amen.*

**Call To Worship.....Pastor Ronald D. Sterling**

**Minister:** O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

**People:** **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

**Minister:** For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise. So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your Name.

**All:** **We are called to worship a living God; to remember Your greatness, kindness, and power as we shout Hallelujah to the King of glory!**

**Hymn of Celebration..... “I Am On The Battlefield for My Lord”**

**Chorus**

I am on the battlefield for my Lord,  
I am on the battlefield for my Lord;  
And I promised Him that I  
Would serve Him till I die  
I am on the battlefield for my Lord.

I was alone and idle, I was a sinner, too;  
I heard a voice from heaven say there is work to do  
I took the Master’s hand,  
And I joined the Christian band;  
I am on the battlefield for my Lord.

I left my friends and kindred, bound for the Promised Land,  
The grace of God upon me, the Bible in my hand,  
In distant lands I trod, crying sinner come to God;  
I am on the battlefield for my Lord.

Now when I met my Savior, I met Him with a smile;  
He healed my wounded spirit, and owned me as His child,  
Around the throne of grace, He appoints my soul a place;  
I am on the battlefield for my Lord.

**Invocation.....Sister Anita Hamilton**

**Choral Response.....” How Great Thou Art”**

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
*Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars. I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed,*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;  
How great Thou Art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

**Confession and Pardon.....Sister Erica Hamilton**

**Confession of Sin (Unison):** O Lord, our God, other lords have dominion over us; our transgressions are multiplied before You and our sins testify against us. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us and purge away our sins for Your name’s sake. Lord, be merciful unto us, for we have sinned against You. Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously. Make clean our hearts and do not take Your Holy Spirit from us.

**Pardon:** We acknowledged our sin to you, O God and did not conceal our guilt. We said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave us the guilt of our sin. Thank You for Your faithfulness to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thank You, O King of glory for restoring our salvation.

**Scripture.....Brother Nicholas Hamilton**  
**2 Corinthians 5:16-21(NRSV)**

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

*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.....Brother Nicholas Hamilton**

Hear what Christ our Saviour 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 & Greetings to Visitors**

**Blessing of the Offertory (*Tithes/Offerings/Gifts to be given after the benediction*)**

**Introduction of the Preacher.....Brother Brian C. Hamilton**

**Sermonic Selection.....Music Ministry**

**Sermon.....Rev. William Eric Hamilton**  
*Pastor, Lee Chapel AME Church, Edgewater*

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship.....Pastor Ronald D. Sterling**

**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.

**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.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

**Benediction.....Rev. William Eric Hamilton**

