

*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



### *The Celebration of Palm Sunday*

Sunday, April 10, 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. Amen.*

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**.....**Pastor Ronald D. Sterling**

**Pastor:** Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**People:** **Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.**

Pastor: The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he.

**People: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.**

Pastor: All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

**Together: For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone...“Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.”**

**THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION.....Mass Choir**

**“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”**

*All hail the power of Jesus’ name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.*

*Ye chosen for seed of Israel’s race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.*

*Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget  
The wormwood and the gall,  
Go spread your trophies at His feet,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Go spread your trophies at His feet,  
And crown Him Lord of all.*

*Let every kindred, every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all.*

*O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall!  
We’ll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
We’ll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.*

**THE PRAYER.....**Rev. Xavier Beasley

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

**CHORAL RESPONSE.....**"There's Something About That Name"

*Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,  
There's just something about that name!  
Master, Savior, Jesus,  
Like the fragrance after the rain;*

*Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,  
Let all heaven and earth proclaim:  
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,  
But there's something about that name!*

**THE CONFESSION OF SIN** (*Standing - congregation only in unison*)

Heavenly Father, I confess that I have sinned against you. I have delighted my soul in other things more than I have in you. Why, then, is it any surprise to me that you feel far off from me? I have driven you away! In my arrogance, I have enjoyed the comforts of this world while I care too little that the poor cannot feed or care for themselves. Because of my greed, I boast of all that I have and all that I desire. In one moment, I believe that I'm invincible, able to withstand any problem or struggle. In the next moment, I believe that the evil all around me is out to get me. My mouth is full of cursing and deceit and oppression; under my tongue is mischief and iniquity. O God, forgive me of my sin.

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON.....** Rev. Charles Marie Davis

What shall we render to the Lord for all his mercy; He has loosed us from our sin? He has always promised to help us: For I, the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, fear not; I will help thee (Isaiah 41:13). Now, If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thank you God! You loosed our bond of sin and restored our salvation.

**THE SCRIPTURE READING.....**Rev. Sherri Radney

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

**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 SUMMARY OF THE DECALOGUE**

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.

**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 PASTOR'S WORDS & GREETINGS TO VISITORS**

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

**SERMONIC SELECTION**.....Mass Choir

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

**THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

*An invitation to accept Jesus as Savior*

**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.

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

*Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

