

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

Saint John
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

Order Of Worship

Sunday, September 18, 2022 – 10am

Prelude.....Music Ministry

Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessing flow: Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Call To Worship.....Pastor Sterling

Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings.

For You, O God, have heard my vows; You have given *me* the heritage of those who fear Your name.
You will prolong the king's life, His years as many generations.

He shall abide before God forever. Oh, prepare mercy and truth, *which* may preserve him! So I will sing praise to Your name forever, That I may daily perform my vows.

Hymn of Celebration....."Lead Me, Guide Me"

I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power
To help me over my weakest hour;
Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in Thee,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

I am lost, if you take your hand from me;
I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

Invocation.....Rev. Laurel J. Thornton

Choral Response....."Praise Him, Praise Him"

*Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him, Jesus, blessed Savior,
He's worthy to be praised.
From the rising of the sun Until the going down of the same;
He's worthy, Jesus is worthy, He's worthy to be praised.
Glory, Glory In all things give Him glory; Jesus, blessed Savior,
He's worthy to be praised.*

**Scripture.....Rev. Xavier Beasley
Ephesians 6:10-20**

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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.*

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

Blessing of the Offertory *(Tithes / Offerings / Benevolent)*

Sermonic Selection.....Ministry of Music

Sermon.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
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Benediction.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.