

Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church

708 - 13th Street North || Birmingham, AL 35203

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor

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



The Order of Worship

Sunday, October 30, 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 Ronald D. 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: O 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!

Hymn....."We'll Understand It Better By and By"

We are often tossed and driven on the restless sea of time,
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine,
In that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away,
We will understand it better by and by.

Refrain

By and by, when the morning comes
All the saints of God are gathered home,
We'll tell the story how we've overcome,
For we'll understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute of the things that life demands,
Want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands,
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to His word,
We will understand it better by and by.

Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand,
All the ways that God would lead us to that blessed Promised Land;
But He guides us with His eye and we'll follow till we die,
For we'll understand it better by and by.

Temptations, hidden snares often take us unawares,
And our hearts are made to bleed for a thoughtless word or deed,
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best,
But we'll understand it better by and by.

Invocation.....Brother Chaz Carter

Prayer Response....."Thank You Lord"

Thank you Lord, thank You Lord
Thank You Lord
I just want to thank You, Lord.

Been so good, been so good
Been so good,
I just want to thank You, Lord.

Made a way, made a way,
Made a way,
I just want to thank You,
Lord.

Scripture.....Sister Kierra Giles
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 (NRSV)

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring. To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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.....Rev. Xavier Beasley

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....."God Is"

SERMON.....THE REV. DR. RONALD D. STERLING

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;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Benediction.....Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.