

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

**Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church
708 15th Street North • Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor**

Order of Worship

September 17, 2023 – 10:00am

The Praise & Worship.....Music Ministry

The 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.*

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.

People: **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 of Celebration....."There is a Name I Love to Hear"

There is a name I love to hear;
I love to sing it's worth,
It sounds like music in my ear,
The sweetest name on earth.

Refrain

O how I love Jesus!
O how I love Jesus!
O how I love Jesus!
Because He first loved me.

It tells me of a Savior's love,
Who died to set me free;
It tells me of His precious blood,
The sinner's perfect plea.

It tells of one whose loving heart
Can feel my deepest woe,
Who in my sorrow bears a part
That none can bear below.

Jesus! The name I love so well,
The name I love to hear;
No saints on earth its worth can tell,
No heart conceive how dear.

The Prayer..... Bro. Chaz Carter

Prayer Response....."Give Me a Clean Heart"

Give me a clean heart
So I may serve Thee.
Lord fix my heart, so that I may be used by Thee.

For I'm not worthy
Of all these blessings.
Give me a clean heart,
And I'll follow Thee.

The Scripture.....Sister Doris Hardy
Matthew 18:21-35 (ESV)

21 Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. 23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant[c] fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

The Introit:

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 hand 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.

Announcements, Greetings to Visitors

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

The Sermonic Selection..... Music Ministry

The Message..... Brother Freddie Robinson

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The 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

The Doxology

*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 Benediction.....Brother Freddie Robinson