

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

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

**Order of Worship**

**September 24, 2023 – 10:00 AM**

**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....."Blessed Assurance"**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.

**Refrain**

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior, all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love

**The Prayer..... Bro. Ray Oliver**

**Prayer Response..... " Pass me Not, O Gentle Savior"**

Pass me not, O gentle Savior,  
Hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou art calling,  
Do not pass me by.

**Refrain**

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry,  
While on others Thou art calling,  
Do not pass me by

**The Scripture.....Sister Doris Hardy**

Psalm 145:1-8 (ESV)

I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.  
<sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.  
<sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.  
<sup>4</sup> One generation shall commend your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.

5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
6 They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,  
and I will declare your greatness.  
7 They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.  
8 The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**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 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.*

**Announcements, Greetings to Visitors**

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

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

**The Message**..... **PASTOR STERLING**

**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**.....**Pastor Sterling**