

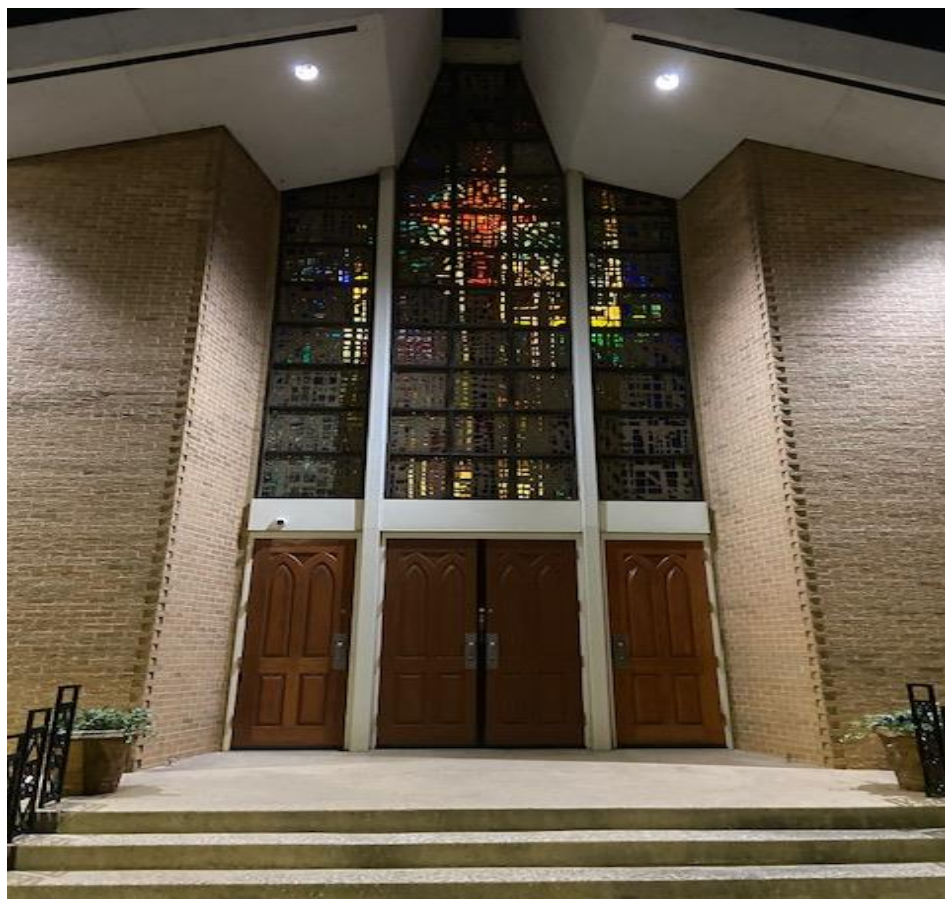
God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Holy Spirit Our Comforter,  
Humankind Our Family

## Saint John AME Church

708 15<sup>th</sup> Street North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

The Reverend Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Pastor || Sister Kim C. Sterling, First Lady



### Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

Sunday, January 28, 2024

**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!**

**The Hymn of Praise..... "How Great Thou Art"  
*Words and Tune: Stuart K. Hine, 1899.***

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed,

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods  
and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds  
sing sweetly in the trees;

When I look down  
from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook  
and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think  
that God, His son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die,  
I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross,  
my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died  
to take away my sin;

When Christ shall come  
with shout of acclamation  
And take me home,  
what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow  
in humble adoration  
And there proclaim,  
my God, how great Thou art!

**The Invocation** ..... **Rev. Xavier Beasley**

**The Choral Response**..... **“We Are One”**

We are one, we are one,  
We are one in the Spirit  
We are one.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!  
We are one in the Spirit  
We are one.

**The Scripture Lesson (s)**

**Old Testament** ..... **Sis. Kim C. Sterling**

Deuteronomy 18:15-22

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or<sup>[a]</sup> who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’ <sup>21</sup>And if you say

in your heart, 'How may we know the word that the LORD has not spoken?'— <sup>22</sup> when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

**New Testament ..... Bro. Floyd Collins**

*(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)*  
Mark 1:21-28

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup> And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup> And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup> "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup> And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup> And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup> And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

**Hymn No. 69 From All That Dwell Below the Skies..... Bro. Floyd Collins**

*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..... Bro. Floyd Collins**

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.*

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

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.*

**The Pastor's Words and Greetings to Visitors**

**The Hymn of Preparation.....Music Ministry**

**The Sermon.....Pastor Sterling**

**The Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

**The Apostles' Creed**

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**

**The Benediction.....Pastor Sterling**