

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

### Mission

Saint John's mission is to "love God and love others" by ministering to the social, spiritual, and physical development of all people.



**Sunday, November 23, 2025**

**Last Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Praise & Worship.....Music Ministry**

**The Doxology**

**AMEC Hymn No. 647 [Tune: Old 100]**

*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 Call to Worship.....Pastor Sterling**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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.**

**Leader:** 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.....“All Hail The Power of Jesus’ Name”**

All Hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Bring for the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,  
Go spread your trophies at His feet,  
And the crown Him Lord of all;  
Go spread your trophies at His feet,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
And a crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng We at  
His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all;  
And crown Him Lord of all.

**The Invocation**

**The Choral Response.....The Saint John AME Choir**

**The Scripture Lesson (s)**

**Old Testament .....Sister Kim Carrell Sterling**

**Psalm 46**

46 God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup> The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

<sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the Lord,  
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

<sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!"

<sup>11</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

**"This is the Word of the Lord."**

**New Testament.....Sister Anne Michel**  
**Colossians 1:11-20**

<sup>11</sup> being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**"The Word of God for the people of God."**

**Gospel .....Sister Deboraha Harris**  
**(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)**  
**Luke 23:33-43**

<sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

**"May the Lord bless the hearers and doers of His Word."**

**The Preface to the Decalogue**

**AMEC Hymn No. 69 From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

*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 Decalogue (Summary)**

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, Amen.*

**Ministry of Stewardship** (Tithes/Offerings/Benevolent)

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

**Announcements and Acknowledgements.....Pastor Sterling**

**The Worship through Music..... The Saint John AME Choir**

**The Message..... 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

**Doxology (Contemporary)**

**Benediction**