

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

## Saint John AME Church

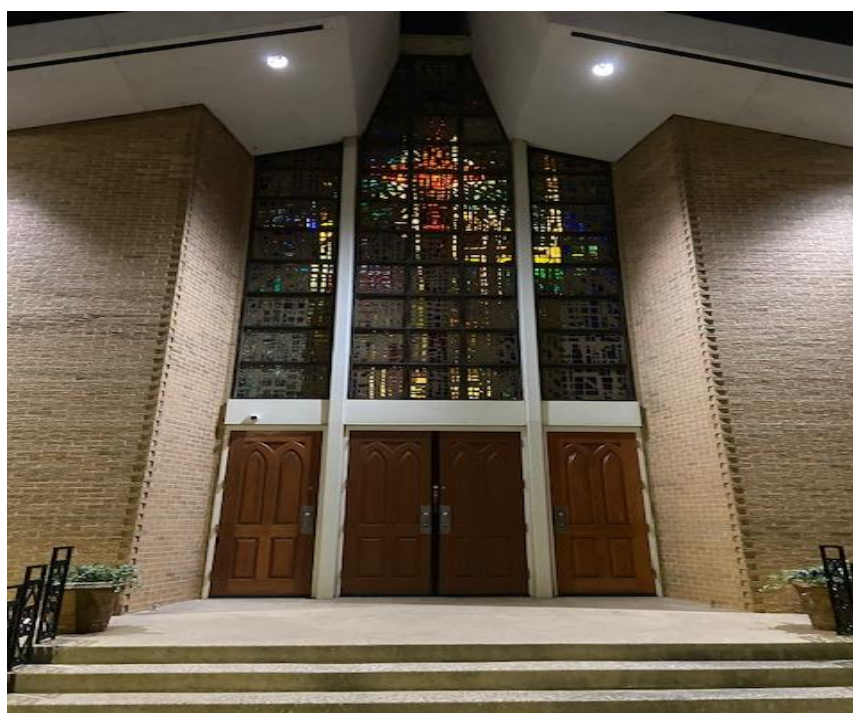
708 15<sup>th</sup> Street North

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, January 11, 2026

### Order of Worship

**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.....“I Once Was Lost In Sin (Have A Little Talk With Jesus)”**

I once was lost and sin,  
But Jesus took me in,  
And then a little light from heaven filled my soul;  
It bathed my heart in love, and wrote my name above,  
And just a little talk with Jesus, made me whole.

**Refrain**

(Now let us)

Have a little talk with Jesus, (let us)  
Tell him all about our troubles (He will)  
Hear our faintest cry, (and He will)  
Answer by and by; (Now when you)  
Feel a little prayer wheel turning, (And you)  
Know a little fire is burning (You will)  
Find a little talk with Jesus makes it right.

Sometimes my path seems drear, without a ray of cheer,  
And then a cloud of doubt may hide the light of day;  
The mists of sin may rise and hide the starry skies,  
But just a little talk with Jesus clears the way.

I may have doubts and fears, my eyes be filled with tears,  
But Jesus is a friend who watches day and night;  
I go to him in prayer, He knows my every care,  
And just a little talk with Jesus makes it right.

**The Invocation**

**The Choral Response.....The Young Adult Choir**

**The Scripture Lesson (s)**

**Old Testament .....Brother Alvin Durant**

**Psalm 29**

29 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.  
<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over many waters.  
<sup>4</sup> The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
<sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.  
<sup>7</sup> The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
<sup>8</sup> The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
<sup>9</sup> The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth  
and strips the forests bare,  
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.  
<sup>11</sup> May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

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

**New Testament.....Sister LaShanna Tripp**  
**Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

**Gospel ..... Sister Coretta Collins**  
**(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)**  
**Matthew 3:13-17**

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

**"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, Acknowledgements and Visitors**

**The Worship through Music..... The Young Adult Choir**

**The Message.....Brother Shaun Barnes**

**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**