

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

Saint John AME Church

708 15th 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, July 5, 2026

Sixth 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....."Yield Not To Temptation"

Yield not to temptation,
For yielding is sin;
Each victory will help you
Some other to win;
Fight manfully onward,
Dark passions subdue;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

Refrain

Ask the Savior to help you,
Comfort, strengthen, and keep you;
He is willing to aid you,
He will carry you through.

Shun evil companions,
Bad language disdain,
God's name hold in reverence,
Not take it in vain;
Be thoughtful and earnest,
Kind hearted and true;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

To him that o'er cometh
God giveth a crown,
Through faith we shall conquer,
Though often cast down;
He, who is our Savior,
Our strength will renew;
Look ever to Jesus,
He will carry you through.

The Invocation

The Choral Response "Lord Keep Me Day by Day"

Lord keep me day by day
In a pure and perfect way.
I want to live, I want to live on
In a building not made by hand.

Lord, keep my body strong
So that I can do no wrong
Lord, give me grace
Just to run this Christian race
To a building not made by hand.

I'm just a stranger here
Traveling through this barren land
Lord, I know, there's a building, a building somewhere
A building not made by hand.

The Scripture Lesson (s)

Old TestamentSister LaTanya Green

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ The LORD is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints shall bless you!

¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,

¹² to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

[The LORD is faithful in all his words
and kind in all his works.]

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

"This is the Word of the Lord."

New Testament.....Rev. Xavier Beasley

Romans 7:15-25

¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh.

For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

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

GospelSister Jackie Wilson
(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)
Matthew 11:16-19

¹⁶ "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷ "'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds."

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

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 (Contemporary)

Minister: Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Honor your father and your mother.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not commit murder.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not commit adultery.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not steal.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not be a false witness.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People: Amen, Lord, have mercy.

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 Saint John AME Church Mass Choir

The Message.....Pastor Sterling

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Communion Hymn.....“There Is a Fountain Filled With Blood”

The Solicitation

The General Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have committed by thought, word, and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

The First Collect

The Second Collect

The Prayer of Adoration

The Prayer of Humiliation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Elements

The Prayer

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..... Pastor Sterling