

**Pastoral Team**

The Reverend Henry F Curtis, IV  
Senior Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Floyd W. Alexander  
Associate Pastor

The Reverend Julio A. Dixon  
Local Elder

The Reverend Calvin D. Montgomery  
Local Elder



**North Ohio Annual Conference**

The Right Rev. Errenous E. McCloud, Jr.  
Bishop

Mrs. Patricia Russell-McCloud  
Episcopal Supervisor



**Cleveland District**

The Reverend Dr. LaCreta M. Clark  
Presiding Elder



**Church Office**

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday through Friday

Secretary: (216) 431-2560

Fax: (216) 431-6164

Senior Pastor: (216) 282-7721



**Email**

[stjohnamechurchclev@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnamechurchclev@gmail.com)

**Website**

<http://stjohnamechurchcle.org/>



**November 27, 2022**

**The First Sunday of Advent**



**ST. JOHN**

**African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
*Established in 1830*

**2261 East 40<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Cleveland, Ohio 44103**

**Sunday Worship**

**10:00 a.m.**

**“We’re Better Together”**

## The Order of Worship

\*The Introit

\*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 Call to Worship

Minister: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord, our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. (Psalm 122:1-2)

People: **For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand, I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.** (Psalm 84:10)

Minister: Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good. (Psalm 122:9)

People: **Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.** (Psalm 92:13)

Minister: Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. Lord, I have loved thy habitation, the place where thy honor dwelleth. (Psalm 26:8)

People: **For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.** (Habakkuk 2:20)

Minister: Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14)

People: **O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord; all the earth sing praises.** (Psalm 98:1, 4)

The Opening Prayer

The Choral Response

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope

\*The Scripture Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44 (RSV)

36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

37 As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man.

38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,

39 and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man.

40 Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.

42 Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

43 But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into.

44 Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

\*The Abridged Decalogue

***From all that dwell below the skies, Let thy Creator's  
praise arise; Let thy Redeemer's name be sung, Through  
every land by every tongue.***

Minister: And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

***Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep  
this law.***

***Nearer my God, to thee! Nearer to thee, E'en though it be  
a cross that raiseth me; Still all my song shall be. Nearer  
my God to thee, Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.***

Minister: Hear what Christ our Savior saith. Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shall 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.***

The Musical Selection

The Sermon

Pastor Henry F Curtis, IV

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

The Ministry of Giving (Givelify digital giving is on the link below).

- <https://www.givelify.com/givenow/1.0/NDA2NDY=/selection>
- You may also send your offering via US Mail to the church office.

\*The Offertory Response

“All Things Come of Thee, O Lord”

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

The Announcements

\*The Closing Song

\*The Benediction

\*The Three-Fold Amen

## St. John at Work

### Online Digital Campus

- Website: <http://stjohnnamechurchcle.org/>
- Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-AME-Church-Cleveland-Rev-Henry-F-Curtis-IV-Pastor-106276354347644/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJn8D4TS5L-COJBjt6C0RaA>
- Conference Line: (267) 807-9659; Access Code:843047#
- Church School, Sunday at 8:45 a.m. in person and on phone.
- Bible Study, Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. via conference call line.

### Midweek Prayer and Meditation (Virtual)

- Wednesday, November 30, 2022
- The premiere will air at 6:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook.
- Access video on our website: <http://stjohnnamechurchcle.org/>.

### Come Visit Santa

- Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Santa will be at St. John AME Church in the Fellowship Hall.
- Donations are being accepted, please see any choir member.
- Thanks to St. John's Choir for sponsoring this event.

### 2023 Calendar Requests

- Please turn in all calendar requests for 2023 to Pastor Curtis by Sunday, December 18, 2022.
- Hard copies of the forms are available in the Overflow and digital versions are available electronically via email.

### Christmas Day Worship

- Sunday, December 25, 2022, worship will be VIRTUAL ONLY via St. John's Facebook and YouTube channels at 10:00 a.m.
- There will be no in-person gathering on Christmas Day.

### GCC Dues Campaign

- Now through the end of the year to expand our capacity to advance our social action mission.
- We ask everyone to pay \$20 (just \$2 per week).

- Use Givelify (there is a special tab for GCC), or place your gift in an offering envelope (note that it is for GCC).
- Checks should be written to St. John with a memo to GCC.

**Justice for Our Children – A GCC Public Hearing**

- To End Abuse of Discretionary Youth Bindovers.
- Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
- Olivet Institutional Baptist Church or via Zoom
- Youth bindovers have negative impacts – on our youth and our whole community.
- Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/December>
- Zoom link opens at 6:30pm; action begins at 7:00pm sharp.
- Join GCC in publicly calling for the end to abusive discretionary youth bindovers.

**ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County**

- Don't suffer in silence. Call for help!
- 24 Hour Hotline: (216) 623-6888; Text "4HELP" to 741741

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