

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

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Email

stjohnamechurchclev@gmail.com

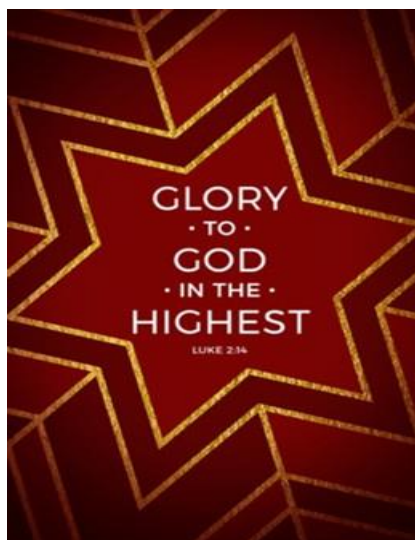
Website

<http://stjohnamechurchcle.org/>



December 25, 2022

Christmas Day



ST. JOHN

African Methodist Episcopal Church
Established in 1830

**2261 East 40th 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 Christmas Candle

*The Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-20 (RSV)

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled.

² This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria.

³ And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,

⁵ to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered.

⁷ And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;

¹¹ for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.

¹⁶ And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

¹⁷ And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child;

¹⁸ and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*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, December 28, 2022
- The premiere will air at 6:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook.
- Access video on our website: <http://stjohnnamechurchcle.org/>.

GCC Dues Campaign

- We're almost there! Pitch in now!
- Through our membership with GCC, St. John has expanded our capacity to advance our social action mission.
- We ask everyone to pay \$20.
- You can:
 - Use Givelify (there is a special tab for GCC), or
 - Put it in an offering envelope (note that it is for GCC).

