

**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

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**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**

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

**Website**

<http://stjohnnamechurchclev.org/>



**March 19, 2023**

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**



**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 Scripture Lesson

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (RSV)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

<sup>2</sup> And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'

<sup>3</sup> And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me him whom I name to you."

<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?"

<sup>5</sup> And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." And he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eli'ab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before him."

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."

<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abin'adab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

<sup>10</sup> And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."

<sup>11</sup> And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he comes here."

<sup>12</sup> And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he."

<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

\*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

***Amen, Amen, 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, March 22, 2023
- The premiere will air at 6:00 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook.
- Access video on our website: <http://stjohnnamechurchcle.org/>.

### Lent Worship Series at St. John

- All services will start at 6:30 p.m.
  - Wednesday, March 22, 2023
  - Wednesday, March 29, 2023
  - Thursday, April 6, 2023 (Maundy Thursday)

**Good Friday Seven Last Words Services**

- Friday, April 7, 2023
- St. John AME Church, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- St. Paul AME Church, 7:00 p.m.
  - 4118 Brookside Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44135
  - Pastor Curtis will preach one of the words.

**GCC’s Delegate Assembly**

- Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom here:
- **Register at the link below:**
- <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAIfu2urzorHt2QdgA0uj4luffxasHfA4u>
- All are welcome to participate in the assembly!

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> Primary Election**

- Registration closes on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 p.m.
- Cuyahoga County Board of Elections contact information:
  - 2925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115
  - Registration Department: (216) 443-3298
  - Website: <https://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov/>
- All Ohio voters may obtain information at the Secretary of State’s website: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/>

**ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County**

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

<b>Notes</b>
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