

Union Bethel

African Methodist Episcopal Church

RELATE - RESCUE - RECHARGE

Service of Holy Communion



Sunday, December 1, 2024

This do in remembrance of Me...
L u k e 2 2 : 1 9

8615 Church Lane | Randallstown, MD 21133 | P 410-922-3286
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Bishop Reginald T. Jackson and Mrs. Christy Davis Jackson, Esq., Episcopal Supervisor/WMS
Second Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Church
Reverend Dr. Jonathan L. Weaver, Presiding Elder, Potomac District
Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr., Pastor

*God Our Father • Christ Our Redeemer
The Holy Spirit Our Comforter • Humankind Our Family*

The Order of Worship and Holy Communion

The First Sunday of Advent • Liturgical Color is White

Worshippers should be in silent meditation upon entering the sanctuary.

WELCOME

Reverend Jerri Edmonds

THE DOXOLOGY

Reverend Jerri Edmonds

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

Reverend Jerri Edmonds

Leader: In this season of prophecy, promise and preparation, we come to be renewed and refreshed.

People: We come to be empowered by the words of the Messiah, who transformed the world and transforms us.

Leader: We come to listen to the words of hope and peace, joy, promise, victory and love, unconditional love.

People: We come with open ears, open minds and open hearts. We come to receive the blessings God has in store for us in this season of expectation.

Leader: Come! Let us worship our God—the one who brings all things to fulfillment.

All: Come let us worship Jesus Christ, our Savior, our King and Blessed Redeemer! O Come let us Adore Him—Christ the Lord!

HYMN OF PRAISE - “Jesus the Light of the World” #112 from the AMEC Hymnal - Reverend Jerri Edmonds

Hark the herald angels sing, Jesus, the light of the world. Glory to the newborn king, Jesus, the light of the world.

Joyful all ye nations rise, Jesus, the light of the world. Join the triumph of the skies, Jesus, the light of the world.

Christ by highest heaven adored, Jesus, the light of the world. Christ the everlasting Lord, Jesus, the light of the world.

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace, Jesus, the light of the world. Hail the Son of righteousness, Jesus, the light of the world.

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright. Shine all around us by day and by night; Jesus, the light of the world.

THE INVOCATION Reverend Dion Jones

THE CHORAL RESPONSE The Choir

THE SCRIPTURE READING Reverend Dr. Romaine Williams (Ret.)
(Sanctuary Worshipers Please Stand) St. Luke 21:25-33

THE INTROIT TO THE 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. Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy word: Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more. Amen

**THE SUMMARY OF
THE DECALOGUE (xxi AME Hymnal)** Reverend Dr. Romaine Williams (Ret.)

Hear what Christ our Savior saith, You shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment, and the second is like it, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

**ADVENT LITANY FOR THE
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – “HOPE”**

Reverend Dr. Romaine Williams (Ret.)

Leader: “The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.”

People: We wait in anticipation for what God will do among us.

Leader: “In those days and at that time” and at that time,” says the Lord, “I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David.”

People: We wait in anticipation for what God will do among us.

Leader: “In those days,” says the Lord, “he will execute justice and righteousness in the land. The people will be saved.”

All: We light a candle of hope today, as we wait in anticipation for what God will do among us. We trust that God is making all things new, and we have hope in the promise of a Savior. We hope, we wait, and our hope is renewed. Amen.

WORSHIP OF MUSIC The Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF VISITORS** Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

MOMENTS OF FELLOWSHIP Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

THE PASTOR’S WORDS Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

OFFERING Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

SERMONIC SELECTION The Choir

THE SERMON Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

INVITATIONAL HYMN The Choir

ALTAR CALL PRAYER Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

THE COMMUNION HYMN “There is a Fountain Filled with Blood”
AMEC Hymnal #255

Words: William Cowper—Tune: Am. Folk Melody- Public Domain

There is a fountain filled with blood Drawn from Emmanuel’s veins; And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains. Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; And sinners plunged beneath that flood Lose all their guilty stains. Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing Thy power to save, when this poor lisping, stammering tongue Lies silent in the grave. Lies silent in the grave, Lies silent in the grave; When this poor lisping, stammering tongue Lies silent in the grave.

THE BIDDING Reverend Dion Jones

You that truly and earnestly repent of your sins and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking hereafter in his holy ways, draw near with faith to receive the holy sacraments, and make your humble confession to almighty God in the presence of his church.

GENERAL CONFESSION Reverend Dion Jones

ALL: 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 the newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS Reverend Dr. Romaine Williams (Ret.)

We do not presume to come to this Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather

crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood that our sinful souls and bodies may be made clean by His death and washed through His blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of Your tender mercy did give Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, who made thereby His oblation of Himself, once offered, a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute and in His holy gospel command us to continue a perpetual memory of that His precious death until His coming again; hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech You, and grant that we, receiving these Your creatures of bread and wine, according to Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood.

Who in the same night that He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying, Take, eat, this is My body which is broken for you. This do in remembrance of Me. Likewise after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them saying, Drink all of it, for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; do this, as often as you shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen. (Matthew 6: 9-13)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

Pastor: Let us profess before God and one another our common faith.

People: 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 at 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 sin, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting, Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

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 BENEDICTION Reverend Raymond F. Edmonds, Jr.

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

The congregation should remain quiet during the extinguishing of the candles.