

Johns Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Reverend Willie White, Jr., Pastor

The Sermon by Pastor Willie White, Jr.

October 4, 2020

“WORSHIP MATTERS!!!”

Hebrews 10: 19-25; verse 19 – “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.”

My Christian brothers and sisters, as believers we embrace communion because communion reminds us of the incredible price that was paid at Calvary. When we think about Calvary, we can't take our relationship with God for granted. Calvary gives us a sense of wonder and reverence toward God. Calvary gives us a sense of joy and peace toward God. Calvary gives us a sense of faith and hope toward God. The truth of the matter, the real deal this morning is we are living in a generation that lacks a sense of wonder, reverence, faith, hope, joy and peace toward God because we haven't revisited Calvary. We are missing the mark because we are trying to bring God down to our level. We are trying to bring God to the commonplace, but as believers we must acknowledge and understand God is bigger than our commonplace and He is higher than our level.

WORSHIP MATTERS!!!

Here in our text this morning, we will pull three points that are designed to show us that **WORSHIP MATTERS**.

1: ACCESS (Acceptance, Availability, Welcome). Verses 19-21: We gain immediate access to God through Jesus Christ. We have significant privileges with our new life in Christ. Jesus replaced the complicated ceremonies and rituals of the past. Aaron had to spend hours preparing himself to meet God. We can approach God anytime. What a privilege! We are offered easier access to God than the high priest of the Old Testament times. We must never forget that God is holy nor let this privilege cause us to approach God carelessly. The way to God has been opened to us by Christ. But easy access to God does not eliminate our need to prepare our hearts for worship. **WORSHIP MATTERS!!!**

Grab, Drop & Go Message – “Grab a Sermon, Drop Offering and Go Home” & Parking Lot Worship in Cars -
Coronavirus Pandemic 2019-2020

2: ACCOUNTABILITY (Consistency, Integrity, Responsibility). Verses 22-23: We will appear alone before God. Each person is accountable to Christ, not to others. The church must be uncompromising in its stand against activities expressly forbidden by scripture (adultery, homosexuality, murder, theft, fornication). The church should not create additional rules and regulations and give them equal standing with God's law. Many times Christians base their moral judgments on opinion, personal dislike, or cultural bias rather than on the word of God. When we do this, we show that our own faith is weak. We do not think God is powerful enough to bring us out. When we stand before God's court of justice, we won't be worried about what our Christian neighbor has done. At this point it's about me, myself and I! **WORSHIP MATTERS!!!**

3: AFFIRMATION (Encouragement, Strength, Support). Verses 24-25: Honest affirmation is important. When we are honest with God, ourselves and with others we are able to recognize our gifts and strengths and are willing to use them as Christ directs. If you are weak, revisit the cross. If you need encouragement, revisit the cross. If you need support, revisit the cross.

WORSHIP MATTERS!!!

I LOVE BEING YOUR PASTOR

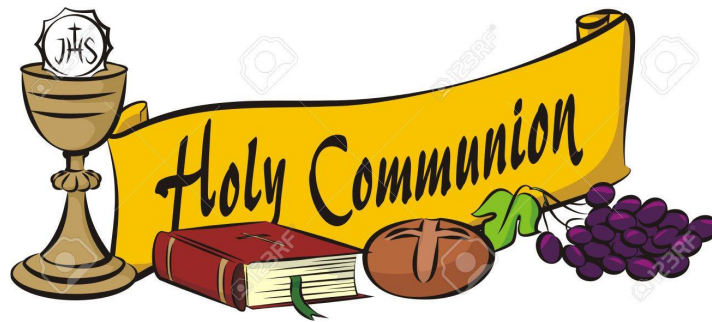
HOT DOG

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ANNOUNCEMENTS –SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020



“Worship Matters”

(Today's Sermon Title)

Welcome Back, Pastor & Mrs. White!

--The 11th Sessions of the SE Alabama Annual Conference and the other five conferences of the 9th Episcopal District have now been added to the history books of the AME Church. We thank God for leading Bishop Seawright to return appoint Pastor White to Johns Chapel for another year! We also thank God for the “creativity and imagination” and the alternate method of holding five annual conferences in four days while being safe during the ongoing Pandemic. To God be the Glory!!

--Pastor White sends his appreciation to all officers and members for prayers and all that you did to assist before and during the Annual Conference. Special thanks to our Delegate, Sister Constance Jones, and our alternate, Brother Jimmy Boykins, who were in their proper places during the SE Alabama Annual Conference. Thanks to members who joined into the sessions via Zoom and Facebook.

--We begin the new conference year with a new Presiding Elder of the Ozark/Troy District: Dr. Willie Eugene Marshall. We welcome Dr. Marshall and his family: Madam Kimberly Huggins Marshall and their son, Joshua Marshall. We welcome the Marshall family and look forward to working with them!

--Please pray for God's continued protection during the ongoing **Coronavirus Pandemic** and His healing across the land. Please stay abreast of the latest directives. www.cdc.gov

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov> www.aarp.org

REMEMBER TO WEAR FACE MASKS IN PUBLIC AT ALL TIMES – CHILDREN TOO! MANDATE OF STATE OF ALABAMA – EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 8, 2020

--Pastor White presents: **"SERMON DASH"**. You may receive a hard copy and/or a CD/DVD of sermons via text, phone call, e-mail or word of mouth, etc., and we will get the sermon to you.

OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP & SERVE THIS WEEK – Check e-mails and text messages for info

--**EACH SUNDAY** – Worship service in cars at **9:00 a.m.** Grab Sermon & Go – **10:45-11:45**; Church School Lesson **12:00 NOON** via conference call. Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936.

--**EACH WEDNESDAY** – JC Bible Study via Zoom and conference call - 7:00 p.m. Watch for Zoom invitation in your e-mail and text. Conference call Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936.

--**TONIGHT, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** - Dr. Marshall presents a Virtual Global Revival Service. Zoom and dial-in info forthcoming via e-mail and text. Sponsored by the Just Staying Positive Ministries.

--**TUESDAY, 6:00-6:30 p.m.** – **PE Marshall will host a Virtual Meet & Greet Gathering via Zoom and Conference Call for clergy and laity of all ages. Zoom and Conference Call info via e-mail and text.**

-- **Enterprise City Schools update:** End of first 9 weeks! Congrats to our students for reaching this milestone during the Pandemic and making major adjustments! Enjoy your fall break starting this Thursday, October 8 through Tuesday, October 13. **REPORT CARDS:** October 14. Pray for our children! More updates forthcoming from Christian Education Director, Marge Simmons.

--**Belk Charity Day Sale** – October 10-11. Pre-sale through Oct 8. See any Pastor White or any WMS member for your ticket—purchase price \$5.00 each and receive \$10 off purchase.

--**Saturday, October 10 – 10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon – 9th District Sons of Allen Virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom.** Message by Bishop Seawright. For more info, please see Brother Roland Allen, JC SOA President, Brother Ricky Britt, Ozark Troy District SOA President, or Brother Franklin Simmons, SE Conference SOA President. Go JC Men!

--**October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month** – Co-sponsors are the Women's Missionary Society, Sister Constance Jones, President; and the Break Every Chain Health Ministry, Sister Nichole Nichols, Chair.

--**October is also National Bullying Prevention Month** – Sponsored by Christian Education Department

--**Our Annual Family & Friends Day Celebration** will be held on Sunday, November 8. We will have a Spirit-filled celebration and a 12 tribes fund raiser. More details from Brother Ed Brown and Sister Debra Fay "Ed" Brown, Chairpersons.

--**JC MEMBERS ARE OBEYING THE LAW AND RESPONDING TO THE CENSUS.** -- Pastor White is asking Class Leaders to please check on all class members to see how they are doing and also inquire if they have completed the Census. If not, please emphasize the importance, and let them know help is available.

Volunteers: LauReen McDaniel 334-470-1816; Franklin Simmons 334-494-2377; & Marge Simmons 334-477-1962.

27 Households reporting! OUTSTANDING! If you have completed the Census and your name is not listed above, or if you have not completed the census, please do so today and let Sister Marge know. Check out the website www.census2020.gov and encourage others to respond.

Last day to respond to the Census is tomorrow, October 5 (recent ruling by a federal judge was overturned) Please encourage family and friends to respond TODAY!