

BETHEL

African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter



The Reverend Brandon L. Thornton, *Pastor*

The Reverend Charles A. Lewis, *Presiding Elder, The Mobile District*

Bishop Julius H. McAllister Jr., *Presiding Prelate, Ninth Episcopal District*

Ministerial Staff

Doctor Olivia Martin, *Itinerant Elder,*

Family, Community & Leadership Development Leader

The Reverend Irmatine Chastang, *Itinerant Elder,*

Congregational Care & Discipleship Leader

The Reverend Pamela Greene-Irby, *Itinerant Deacon,*

Worship & Evangelism Leader

Order of Worship

Worship Leader..... Dr. Olivia Martin

The Doxology.....

“Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow”

THE CALL TO WORSHIP.....Dr. Olivia Martin

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me, “let us go into the house of the Lord.” Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere , I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Leader: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

People: But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Together: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

The Opening Hymn.....Sis. Michele G. Wilson

Hymn # 349 – “Jesus Is All the World to Me.”

Jesus is all the world to me, My life, my joy, my all; He is my strength from day to day,
Without Him I would fall: When I am sad, to Him I go, No other one can cheer me so;
When I am sad, He makes me glad, He’s my friend.

Jesus is all the world to me, My friend in trials sore; I go to Him for blessings and He
Gives them o’er and o’er: He sends the sunshine and the rain, He sends the harvest’s
golden grain; Sunshine and rain, harvest of grain, He’s my friend.

Jesus is all the world to me, And true to Him I’ll be; Oh, how could I this friend deny,
When He’s so true to me? Following Him I know I’m right, He watches o’er me day and
night; Following Him by day and night, He’s my friend.

Jesus is all the world to me, I want no better friend; I trust Him now, I’ll trust Him when
Life’s fleeting days shall end: Beautiful life with such a friend, Beautiful life that has
no end; Eternal life, eternal joy, He’s my friend.

THE INVOCATION.....Rev. Pamela G. Irby

Ministry of Music.....Voices of Praise

THE SCRIPTURE READING.....Bro. Gregory McGlasker

John (Gospel) 20:19-31 KJV

19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Ministry of Music.....Voices of Praise

Acknowledgement of Visitors and Announcements

Ministry of Music.....Voices of Praise

Bringing of the Tithes and Offering.....Bro. Charles Wills, Sr.

THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

This is my seed. It shall meet all my needs.

I give it today, because I obey – my God and His command.

My tithe is out of obedience and love. My offering is my sacrifice.

My return shall be magnified, because I've learned to give right.

I'm the head and not the tail, a lender and not a borrower, on top and not beneath.

Because I give, I am blessed – in the city and in the field.
I'm blessed because I give my God my best.
Today and every day, I am blessed.

Ministry of Music.....Voices of Praise

Sermon.....Rev. Brandon Thornton

Invitation to Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

THE DOXOLOGY

SERMON APPLICATION

HEARING GOD'S WORD IN THE SERMON

Since we forget 90% of what we hear, it has been suggested that note-taking will double the percentage of what we may receive during the hearing of God's Word.

PARTICIPATE IN THE SERMON

SERMON SCRIPTURE: _____

SERMON TITLE: _____

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES: _____

THE OUTLINE OF THE MAIN POINTS:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WHAT WAS GOD SAYING SPECIFICALLY TO ME DURING THE SERMON?