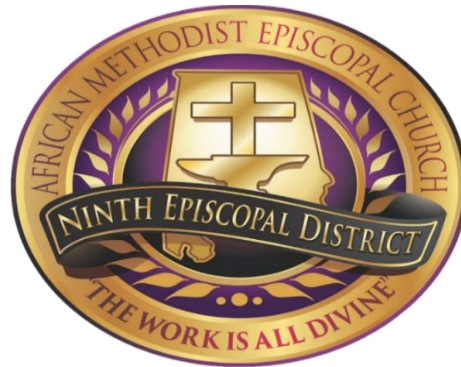


**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT**

**SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE  
ALABAMA RIVER REGION  
ALABAMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*Annual Conference Theme:*  
*Always Moving Forward with Excellence Philippians 3:13-14*  
*Quadrennial Theme:*  
*The Work Is All Divine Romans 8:28*



***The Mid-Day Worship Service***  
***Women In Ministry ~ Hour of Power***  
***Thursday, August 21, 2025***  
***Noon***

**Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Jr.**  
*Presiding Prelate*

**Mrs. Deana Young McAllister**  
*Episcopal Supervisor*

*Convening with*  
***Saint John's African Methodist Episcopal Church***  
***807 Madison Avenue***  
***Montgomery, AL 36104***

***The Reverend Roosevelt and The Reverend Shelia Williams, III***  
***Host Pastors***

***The Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn L. Denson***  
***Host Presiding Elder***  
***Montgomery-Selma District***

# ***The Mid-Day Worship Service***

## ***Women In Ministry ~ Hour of Power***

Thursday, August 21, 2025

12:00 p.m.

***The Reverend Yvonne Howze, Worship Leader***

### **The Musical Prelude**

### **The Doxology**

### **The Call to Worship**

**The Reverend Lenise Wright-Stanton**

**Leader:** I was glad when they said to 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.

**All:** O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things.  
I will sing of loyalty and justice to you, Oh Lord, I will sing.

### **The Hymn of Praise**

**The Reverend Brenda Robinson-Burns**

**Women in Ministry Choir  
and Congregation**

**Hymn No. 364  
My Hope Is Built**

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain*  
*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;*  
*All other ground is sinking sand,*  
*All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.  
*Refrain*

His oath, His covenant, His blood,  
Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.  
*Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found!  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne!  
*Refrain*

**The Invocation**

**The Reverend Cynthia Jones**

**The Choral Response**

**Women in Ministry Choir  
and Congregation**

**"Somebody Prayed for Me"**  
Somebody prayed for me, had me on their mind, took the time to pray for me.  
I'm so glad they prayed, I'm so glad they prayed,  
I'm so glad they prayed for me.

**The Scripture Reading**

**The Reverend Valtoria Jackson**

**The Worship Through Music**

**Women in Ministry Choir**

**The Presentation of the Bishop**

**The Reverend Dr. Carmen Walker Ellerbee**  
*President, Ninth Episcopal District*  
*Women In Ministry*

**The Presentation of the Preacher**

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

**The Worship Through Music**

**Women in Ministry Choir**

**The Sermon**

**The Reverend Shelia Williams**  
*Saint John's African Methodist*  
*Episcopal Church*  
*Montgomery, Alabama*

**The Invitation  
to Christian Discipleship**

**Presiding Elder Dr. Jacquelyn L. Denson**

***"Come to Jesus, Just Now"***

Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus,  
Just now, Just now.

Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus just now.

He will save you, He will save you, He will save you  
Just now, Just now.

He will save you, He will save you just now.

**Remarks**

**The Reverend Dr. Carmen Walker Ellerbee**  
*Ninth Episcopal District President,*  
*Women In Ministry*

**Remarks from the Bishop**

**Bishop Julius Harrison McAllister, Jr.**  
*Presiding Prelate of the*  
*Ninth Episcopal District*

**The Worship Through Giving**

**The Stewardship Committee**

**The Response**

*All things come of Thee, O Lord; And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.*

**The Announcements**

**The Reverend Roosevelt Williams, III**

**The Benediction**

**Reverend Shelia Williams**



*The Reverend Shelia Dowdell Williams*  
*Saint John's African Methodist*  
*Episcopal Church,*  
*Montgomery, Alabama*

Reverend Shelia Dowdell Williams was born and grew up in Birmingham, Alabama. She is married to Reverend Roosevelt Williams, III who is the Senior Pastor at St. John's AME Church in Montgomery, Alabama and they have one daughter, Dr. Christian Renee' Williams Harper and a son-in-law, Malcolm Harper. Shelia previously served as Pastor of St. Mark AME Church in Dora, Alabama for over eight years, and currently pastors St. John's AME Church with her husband. She answered the call to ministry in 1992 and was ordained in the African Methodist Episcopal Church as a deacon in 1997 and as an Itinerant Elder in 2000.

Shelia graduated from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa with a BSW and MSW degree in Social Work. She has worked as a Psychiatric Social Worker, Director of Social Services, Assistant Administrator of Clinical Services and Program Administrator of Adult and Young Adult Services at Hill Crest Psychiatric Hospital. She was also a therapist in private practice with Alabama Psychiatric Services and worked as the Employee Assistance Program Coordinator at Birmingham City Schools for 25 years. Shelia also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the School of Social Work for over ten years. She has her license and certification to practice social work in the State of Alabama.

While serving in the Birmingham-Florence-Tuscaloosa District of the Ninth Episcopal District, Shelia held the position of Director of Evangelism and Outreach for many years. Additionally, she has served for several years as the Chairperson of the Prayer Ministry in the Alabama River Region.

Shelia is a co-founder of Restoration Ministry, a Christian organization dedicated to challenging, encouraging, and inspiring the Body of Christ to pursue deeper intimacy with God. She believes that God is returning for a church without spot or blemish. Her mission extends beyond simply calling believers to salvation—it compels them to be passionate for God, seeking Him above all else, even above themselves.