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ISRAEL AME CHURCH 391 Hamilton Street - Albany, New York 12210

The Rev. Harold L. Rutherford, Host Pastor The Rev. Ernestine M. Ward, Host Presiding Elder Mrs. M. Joan Cousin, District Supervisor Philip R. Cousin, Presiding Bishop

District Theme: "The Family, God's Greatest Resource"

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Monday, May 8, 2000 Evangelists - All Day

Tuesday, May 9, 2000 Western New York Annual Conference Women's Missionary Society's Annual Day

7:30 a.m. Annual Meeting

11 a.m. Worship Service Missionary Sermon: The Rev. Isabel Johnson

1:00 p.m. Recess

2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Business Meeting

7:30 p.m. Missionary Involvement Night

WESTERN NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE Wednesday, May 10, 2000

8:00 a.m. Devotions: Conference Evangelists

8:30 a.m. Roll Call and Organization Committee Appointments

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Annual Sermon The Rev. Norvel Goff, Sr.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Wednesday, May 10, 2000 - 10:00 a.m.



THE REV. ERNESTINE M. WARD Worship Leader

ORGAN PRELUDE ...

INTROIT ...

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the word. From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed: Yet saints their watch are keeping, Their cry goes up, "How long? And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war, She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore; Till with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest, And the great Church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God, the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won_ O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee. * DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 647 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

> 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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Harold Rutherford

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.

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.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, Lord, I have loved Thy habitation, the place where Thy honor dwelleth.

For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

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.

* HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Micah D. Chadler AME Hymn No. 304 *"And Are We Yet Aye"*

> And are we yet alive, And see each other's face? Glory and praise to Jesus give For His redeeming grace.

Preserved by power divine To full salvation here, Again in Jesus' praise we join, And in His sight appear.

What troubles have we seen, What conflicts have we passed, Fightings without, and fears within, Since we assembled last.

But out of all the Lord Hath brought us by His love; And still He doth His help afford, And hides our life above.

Then let us make our boast Of his redeeming power, Which saves us to the uttermost, Till we can sin no more.

Let us take up the cross Till we the crown obtain; And gladly reckon all things loss, So we may Jesus gain.

INVOCATION The Rev. Lorraine F. Bradey

- ** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Israel AME Church Choir SCRIPTURE ... The Old Testament The Rev. Kemperal Hensley The New Testament The Rev. Percy Jores
- * PREFACE

TO THE DECALOGUE "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

- * DECALOGUE The Rev. Richard A. Stenhouse
- * GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be To The Fath er"

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.

* WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Israel AME Church Choir
GIFTS FOR MISSIONS The Rev. Harold L. Rutherford
* WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Israel AME Church Choir

* THE LITANY The Rev. Robert Reynolds

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, from whom every good and perfect gift has come, we remember Thy loving kindness and Thy tender mercies and with grateful hearts we raise our voices in praise and thanksgiving unto Thee.

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD.

For the work we have done, for the truths we have learned and for all of those things in life which have lifted our hopes and aspirations and directed us toward Thee;

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD.

For the order and constancy of nature and the beauty and bounty of the world; for day and night, for summer and winter, for seedtime and harvest and for the varied gifts of loveliness and use that every season brings;

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD.

For the comforts of life: our homes, our friends, shared love, sympathy and for the general good will of all humankind;

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD.

For the gift of Thy Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and for the helps and hopes that come to us as His disciples;

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD.

For all the discipline of life; for the tasks and trials and troubles by which we are moved to patience, self-knowledge and self-conquest, and brought into closer sympathy with our more oppressed brothers and sisters; for those difficulties which have lifted us and have drawn us into deeper fellowship with Jesus Christ;

WE PRAISE AND THANK THEE, O GOD. Amen.

** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Israel AME Church Choir

PRESENTATION OF

THE BISHOP The Rev. Ernestine M. Ward

PRESENTATION OF THE PREACHER Bishop Philip R. Cousin

** SERMONIC HYMN The Rev. William C. Cobbs, Jr. "I've A Message from the Lord" AME Hymn No. 215

> I've a message from the Lord, Hallelujah! The message unto you I'll give; 'Tis recorded in His word, Hallelujah! It is only that you "look and live."

(Refrain)

"Look and live," my brother, live, Look to Jesus now and live; "Tis recorded in His word, Hallelujah! It is only that you "look and live."

I've a message full of love, Hallelujah! A message, O my friend, for you; 'Tis a message from above, Hallelujah! Jesus said it, and I know 'tis true. Life is offered unto you, Hallelujah! Eternal life thy soul shall have, If you'll only look to Him, Hallelujah! Look to Jesus, who alone can save.

I will tell you how I came, Hallelujah! To Jesus when He made me whole: 'Twas believing on His name, Hallelujah! I trusted, and He saved my soul.

** SERMON The Rev. Norvel Goff, Sr.

** INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP The Rev. Norvel Goff, Sr.

** THE OFFERING ...

* THE OFFERTORY PRAYER ...

** INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS ...

** THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION HYMN AME Hymn No. 255 "There Is a Fountain Filled With Blood"

SERVICE OF COMMUNION Bishop Philip R. Cousin Chief Celebrant

Assisted by Visiting Presiding Elders

HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP AME Hymn No. 525 "What A Fellowship"

** DOXOLOGY

* BENEDICTION The Rev. Norvell Goff, Sr

* Stand ** Let the People Enter

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2000 **Afternoon and Evening** Schedule

1:00 p.m. - Recess

2:45 p.m. Devotions: The Department of Evangelism

> 3:00 p.m. **Business Session**

5:30 p.m. - Recess

7:30 p.m. Lay Organization and Commitment Service

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2000 Morning Schedule

8:00 a.m. Devotions: The Department of Evangelism

> 8:15 a.m. Conference Institute

9:00 a.m. **Business Session**

12 Noon HOUR OF POWER

8

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Thursday, May 11, 2000 - 12 Noon



REV. ELLA BRANDON Worship Leader

* DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 647 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. George L. Larkins

From the rising of the sun unto the going down Of the same, the Lord's name be praised.

The hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers Shall worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

We have come into the presence of the Lord with Singing, thanksgiving and praise.

Let us all worship and praise the Lord together.

** HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Samuel L. Bell AME Hymn No. 88

"Rejoice the Lord is King"

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph evermore: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior, reigns, The God of truth and love; When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, And take His servants up to their eternal home: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

INVOCATION ...

CHORAL RESPONSE ...

** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON The Rev. Anne Hargrave-Pinn

* GLORIA PATRI ...

PRESENTATION OF

THE PREACHER Bishop Philip R. Cousin

** SERMONIC HYMN The Rev. Rosalyan Baugh AME Hymn No. 210 *"More About Jesus"*

> More about Jesus would I know, More of His grace to others show; More of His saving fulness see, More of His love who died for me.

(Refrain)

More, more about Jesus, More, more about Jesus; More of His saving fulness see, More of His love who died for me.

More about Jesus let me learn, More of His holy will discern; Spirit of God, my teacher be, Showing the things of Christ to me.

More about Jesus on His throne, Riches in glory all His own; More of His kingdom's sure increase; More of His coming, Prince of Peace. ** SERMON ...

* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP ...

THE OFFERING ...

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

** ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

* DOXOLOGY ...

* BENEDICTION ...

* Stand ** Let the People Enter

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2000 Afternoon Schedule

1:00 p.m. - Recess

2:45 p.m. Devotions: The Department of Evangelism

3:00 p.m. - Business Session

5:30 p.m. - Recess

7:30 p.m. YOUTH NIGHT Under the Sponsorship of The Department of Christian Education

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2000

8:30 a.m. Devotions: The Department of Evangelism

> 9:00 a.m. Business Session

11:00 a.m. Memorial Service

12 Noon Special Event

2:30 p.m. - Recess

4:00 p.m. The Church At Study

12

The Church at Study

The Conference Church-School Superintendent will conduct a model Church-School at the seat of the Annual Conference. All superintendents and teachers are expected to be present for this "once a year" experience.

Church-SchoolMr. Joseph Thomas

Background Scripture II Corinthians 4 Printed Text II Corinthians 4:5-18 Golden Text II Corinthians 4:8,9

GOLDEN TEXT:

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." II Corinthians 4:8,9.

> 5:30 p.m. Recess

7:30 p.m. CLOSING AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Friday, May 12, 2000 - 7:30 p.m.



THE REV. ERNESTINE WARD Worship Leader

ORGAN PRELUDE ...

* PROCESSIONAL AME Hymn No. 5 "God of Our Fathers"

> God of our fathers, whose almighty hand Leads forth in beauty all the starry band Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past; In this free land by Thee our lot is cast; Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay, Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense; Thy true religion in our hearts increase, Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way; Lead us from night to never-ending day; Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

* DOXOLOGY AME Hymn No. 6 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

> 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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Harold Rutherford

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.

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.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, Lord, I have loved Thy habitation, the place where Thy honor dwelleth.

For the Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him.

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

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.

** HYMN OF PRAISE The Rev. Linda VanAlmtyne "Guide Me. O Thou Great Jehovah" AME Hymn No. 52

> Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty, Hold me with Thy powerful hand; Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through; Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side; Songs of praises, Songs of praises I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

INVOCATION The Rev. Richard Stenhouse

** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Chor

SCRIPTURE LESSONS ...

* PREFACE TO THE DECALOGUE AME Hymn No. 69 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

> From all that dwell below the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise; Let the Redeemer's name be sung, Through every land by every tongue.

- * DECALOGUE (Summary) The Rev. Robert Reynold S
- * GLORIA PATRI "Glory Be To The Father > -

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.

** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Choir
GIFTS FOR MISSIONS The Rev. Isabel Johnson
** WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC The Annual Conference Choir
PRESENTATION OF THE BISHOP The Rev. Ernestine M. Ward
** SERMONIC HYMN The Rev. Lorraine F. Bradley <i>"O Thou, In Whose Presence"</i> AME Hymn No. 83
O Thou, in whose presence my soul takes delight, On whom in affliction I call, My comfort by day and my song in the night, My hope, my salvation, my all!
Where dost Thou, dear Shepherd, resort with Thy sheep, To feed them in pastures of love? Say, why in the valley of death should I weep, Or alone in this wilderness rove?
O why should I wander, an alien from Thee, Or cry in the dessert for bread? Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see, And smile at the tears I have shed.
Dear Shepherd, I hear, and will follow Thy call; I know the sweet sound of Thy voice. Restore and defend me, for Thou art my all, And in Thee I will ever rejoice.
SERMONBishop Philip R. Cous in Presiding Prelate, First Episcopal Distri ct African Methodist Episcopal Church
** INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Bishop Philip R. Cous n
THE OFFERING
17

* OFFERTORY PRAYER ...

** INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS ...

** SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS ...

** ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

The Commissioning

A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify, A never dying soul to save And fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age, My calling to fulfill; O may it all my powers engage To do my Master's will!

Help me to watch and pray, And on Thyself rely Assured, if I my trust betray, I shall forever die.

THE GIVING OF CERTIFICATES TO CONFERENCE OFFICERS ...

** HYMN OF COMMISSION AME Hymn No . : "Go Preach My Gospel"

> "Go, preach My gospel," saith the Lord, "Bid the whole earth My grace receive. Explain to them My sacred word; Bid them believe, obey, and live."

"I'll make My great commission known, And ye shall prove My gospel true By all the works that I have done And all the wonders ye shall do."

"While thus ye follow My commands I'm with you till the world shall end; All power is trusted in My hands; I can destroy and can defend." PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE

** THE READING OF APPOINTMENTS Bishop Philip R. Cousin

* THE CLOSING HYMN AME Hymn No. 45 "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

> God be with you till we meet again; By His counsels guide, uphold you, With His sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

* DOXOLOGY ...

* BENEDICTION Bishop Philip R. Cousin

* Stand ** Let The People Enter