

We Sing Praise Unto the Lord

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
& ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP Rev. Lee Gray

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Elizabeth Rodden

CALL TO WORSHIP Elizabeth Rodden

LEADER: Let us be fully present before the Lord.

PEOPLE: **May we trust our deepest selves to God as little children.**

LEADER: Let us worship God this morning,

ALL: **So that we may serve God this afternoon.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE Christians, We Have Met to Worship
Chalice Hymnal No. 277 HOLY MANNA

We Hear the Word of the Lord

SPOKEN MEDITATION Lily Wilkerson

Not everybody can be famous, but everybody can be great, because greatness is determined by service.

Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace—a soul generated by love.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

SONG OF RESPONSE Youth Choir

Word of God speak

Would you pour down like rain—

washing my eyes to see Your majesty?

To be still and know that You're in this place,

please let me stay and rest in Your holiness.

Word of God speak.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Mark 9:33-37 Kirby Bragg

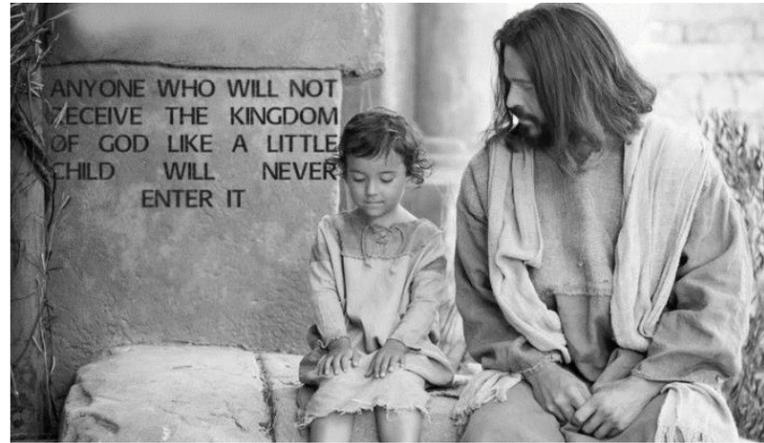
Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

LEADER: This is the written word of God for the people of God.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Kirby Bragg & Trey Spence



SONG OF RESPONSE Youth & Congregation

Word of God speak

Would you pour down like rain—

washing my eyes to see Your majesty?

To be still and know that You're in this place,

please let me stay and rest in Your holiness.

Word of God speak.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Joshua Sealey

Our Father, who 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Concerns

Betty Crenshaw – CMC Northeast

Joe Ehrenberger, Cathy Hartsell, Carmen Howard,

Chuck Jones, Jan Kerley, Brad Sifford & Dee Turner – home

Sympathy to Martha Fowler on the death of her sister, Doty Daniell;

to Nhuuh Ksor on the death of his brother-in-law, Tuel Roan;

and to Hom Ksor on death of his son, Ne Rocham

*HYMN OF SERVICE I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
Chalice Hymnal No. 614, verses 1, 2 & 4 I'M GONNA LIVE

I'm gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna live so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

I'm gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna work so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere.
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anytime and anywhere.

We Listen and Respond

SERMONS *Who Is the Greatest?* David Benton
Samuel Bond

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Rev. Lee Gray

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry
Chalice Hymnal No. 75 WATERLIFE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Youth Choir
He Reigns Peter Furler & Steve Taylor

*DOXOLOGY
Chalice Hymnal No. 46 OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

YOUTH SIGNING OF THE BIBLE

*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY Dr. Foust

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH Dr. Foust

*CHORAL BENEDICTION Youth & Congregation

I'll say yes, Lord, yes to Your will and to Your way.
Yes, Lord, yes; I will trust You and obey.
When Your Spirit speaks to me, with my whole heart I'll agree,
and my answer will be yes, Lord, yes.

*POSTLUDE J. Noel Lance

As you depart the sanctuary, youth will be at the exits to receive your gifts to the Souper Bowl of Caring. This year's offering will be split between the Urban Ministry Center and Hope Chapel.



*Invites the congregation to stand.

Copies of worship bulletins and sermon manuscripts are available on the St. John's website:
www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Souper Bowl of Caring

At the conclusion of worship this morning, youth will be at all exits to the sanctuary to collect for the Souper Bowl of Caring. This year's offering will be split between Urban Ministry Center and Hope Chapel.

Welcome George Williamson!

On Sunday, February 11, we invite you to join us in welcoming George Williamson, former Vassar professor, pastor and chaplain (and brother-in-law of Wanny Hogewood) as he comes to share with us in worship and in readings from his memoir. George's own self-description is that he was born "on the wrong side of every moral social issue of the twentieth century." His memoir tells of the ways he has been addressing those moral social issues through his life and career. George, along with others, was instrumental in starting the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America/Bautistas Por La Paz (which has its offices housed in our building); BPFNA published his book and LeDayne Polaski, the Executive Director of BPFNA, will join us on that day. Join us for worship, and then lunch and discussion with George. Call or email the church office **by February 5** to make your reservation for lunch (required), but those who do not want lunch can join the conversation without making a reservation.

Loaves & Fishes

During February, the MT25 focus is on the Hunger Team. We will be doing our Food Drive for Loaves & Fishes! Stay tuned for details and start buying extra non-perishables at the grocery store!

VBS Registration Is Open!

A Year in the Church: St. John's/St. Martins VBS 2018 - June 11-15 from 9 am-12 noon each day - For children aged 4 - rising 6th Graders - \$15/Child - We'll be learning about the life of Jesus as we walk through the seasons of the church year together with stories and art. We do have a maximum number of children we can care for at VBS, so don't wait to sign up!

Basketball Sunday

We are inviting all the St. John's basketball teams and their families to join us for worship on Sunday morning, February 11, before they head uptown to attend the Hornets vs. Raptors game at the Spectrum Center. Teams will sit together down front and be recognized during worship; then they will enjoy lunch in Broach Hall before the game. Coaches have received information from Lee Gray about this special day. Tickets to the game will be \$16, and lunch will be \$10 for youth/adults and \$5 for children ages 10 and under. For more information, or if you are not on a basketball team but would like to come, please email Lee Gray at lgray@sjcharlotte.org with the number of tickets and number of lunch reservations that you would like to purchase.

Chili Cook-off

Save the Date! Sunday, February 25. Prizes will be given for some very interesting and often questionable entries.

Heritage Sunday - March 18

This year's theme is "Making a Difference." What comes to mind when you think about how St. John's presence at Fifth and Hawthorne has made a difference during the past 96 years? Please let us know your answer by contacting Jacquelyn in the church office or Fredda Kimball.

Congratulations

Hannah Caroline Harmon was born on Wednesday, January 31, to parents Ben and Sarah Harmon. Congratulations to super proud grandmother Cindy McIntyre too.

Have you included St. John's in your estate planning?

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

February 11 – Transfiguration of Our Lord
Guest Proclaimer: Rev. George Williamson
Sermon: *Fat Tuesday and a Piety of Play*

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Feb. 4	8:15 am	Safety & Security Task Force (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship/Youth Sunday (Sanctuary)
	6:00 pm	Youth Super Bowl Party (Smith home)
Monday, Feb. 5	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	6:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	7:00 pm	CrownsGate HOA (Lounge)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Feb. 6	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Room 209)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	Men's Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Feb. 7	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Feb. 8	10:00 am	Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
Friday, Feb. 9	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Feb. 10	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Basketball games (Gym)

Membership and Ministry

If you would like information on how you can become a member of St. John's, please call the church office (704.333.5428) or fill out one of the "For Our Guests" cards found on the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate. One of our ministers will be happy to reach out to you and answer any questions you may have. Visit our website to find out more information regarding the many ministry opportunities available in the life of St. John's.

Ministers

Every participant in God's Servant Church

Equipping Ministers

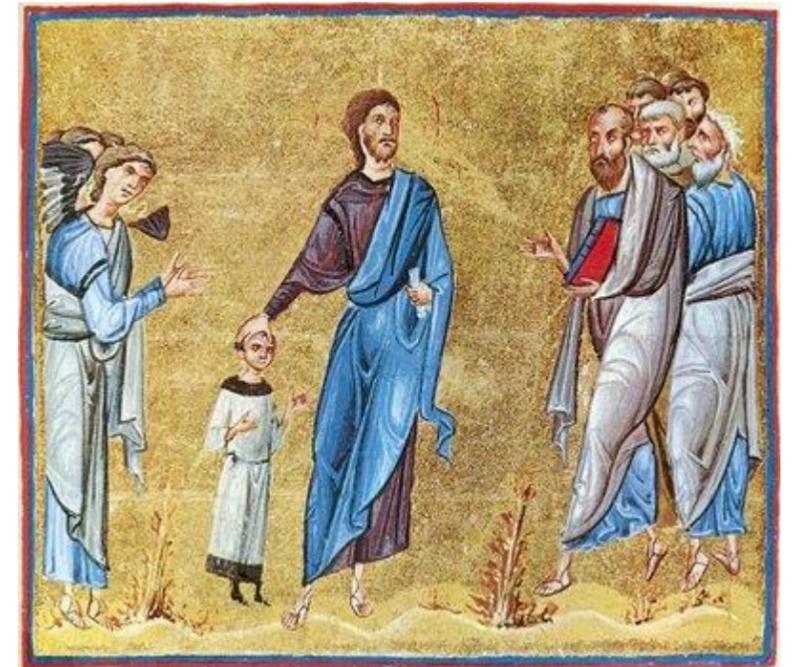
Senior Minister.....	Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Associate Minister.....	Rev. Martha Kearsse, DMin
Minister for Children and Their Families.....	Rev. Allison Benfield
Minister for Worship and Music.....	J. Kevin Gray
Minister for Youth and Young Adults.....	Rev. Lee Gray

Church Staff

Administrative Assistant.....	Jacquelyn McAbee
Church Accountant.....	Elaine Johnson
Church Administrator.....	Sandra Rogers
Graded Choirs Director.....	Anna Ball
Weekday School Director.....	Lydia Olmsted
Organist.....	J. Noel Lance
Custodians.....	James Ford, Chris Mullis, Debora Thon

The Worship of God

72nd Annual
Youth Sunday



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA