

We Lift Our Voices in Praise

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE	J. Noel Lance
WORDS OF GREETING	Rev. Lee Gray
A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP	Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
PRAYER OF SUBMISSION	Rev. Gray
CALL TO WORSHIP	J. Kevin Gray

LEADER: Rejoice! Christ is in our midst.

PEOPLE: Feed us and fill us with Your hope.

LEADER: Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.

ALL: We sing for joy, for God gathers up the pieces of our lives, that nothing may be lost. Thanks be to God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE	God Is Here!
Chalice Hymnal No. 280	ABBOT'S LEIGH

Speak, Lord, We Are Listening

READING OF THE GOSPEL	John 6:1-12	Meredith Sorrell
-----------------------	-------------	------------------



After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.

SONG OF RESPONSE	by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
------------------	-----------------------------

Far from the town, the crowds pressed in on Jesus' prayer retreat. He healed their sick, then told his own, "You give them food to eat!" Five loaves of bread and two small fish were all they found to share, Yet thousands ate the meal he blessed, with baskets left to spare.

John 6:28-35

Rev. Gray

Then they said to Jesus, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry."

SONG OF RESPONSE	by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
------------------	-----------------------------

Lord, we see your wondrous signs and know through faith-filled eyes:
You are new wine that brings us joy, true bread that satisfies.
You give clear vision to your church, you make the wounded whole.
You give us hope, when seas are rough; for you are in control!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER	Dr. Foust
----------------------	-----------

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

Camille Green - CMC Pineville Rehab; Betty Crenshaw, Carmen Howard,
Chuck Jones, Janie Kendrick & Brad Sifford - home

We Are Blessed to Be a Blessing

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." (Mark 14:22)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD	Brotherhood of the Biscuit
---------------------------	----------------------------

SONG OF REFLECTION	Chancel Choir
--------------------	---------------

Living Bread from heaven, how well You feed Your guests!
The gifts that You have given have filled our hearts with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, oh, cup that heals our woes!
Our hearts, this gift possessing, with praises overflow.

Our Lord, You have led us within Your holiest place,
and here Yourself have fed us with treasures of Your grace;
for You have freely given what earth could never buy,
the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

You gave us all we wanted; this food can death destroy,
and You have freely granted the cup of endless joy.
Our Lord, we do not merit the favor You have shown,
and all our souls and spirits bow down before Your throne.

READING	Dr. Foust
---------	-----------

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life, whosoever comes to me will never be hungry." (John 6:35)

*SONG OF RESPONSE	Break Thou the Bread of Life
Chalice Hymnal No. 321, verses 1 & 2	BREAD OF LIFE

MESSAGE	Blessed	Dr. Foust
---------	---------	-----------

Make Me a Blessing
Congregation join when prompted

Make me a blessing, make me a blessing,
out of my life may Jesus shine;
make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray,
make me a blessing to someone today.

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP	As Grain on Scattered Hillsides
Chalice Hymnal No. 491, verses 1 & 4	MERLE'S TUNE

OFFERTORY PRAYER	Carol Injaychock, Deacon
------------------	--------------------------

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY	J. Noel Lance
-----------	---------------

*DOXOLOGY	OLD HUNDREDTH
Chalice Hymnal No. 46	

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.

Send Us Forth to Be Blessings

*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE	Dr. Foust
--	-----------

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

*POSTLUDE	J. Noel Lance
-----------	---------------

Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Bill Kimball by Fredda Kimball, Jimmy Kimball, Shanna Bailey, Sam Kimball, and Whitney Magendie.

*Invites the congregation to stand.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Living in the World as the Body of Christ

Experiencing the Season of Lent in St. John's - This year, on each of the six Sundays during Lent, we will experience the symbolism of bread as 'the body of Christ.' We will explore how we live in the world as the body of Christ using worship themes of 'Kneaded and Needed,' 'Transformed,' 'Taken,' 'Blessed,' 'Broken' and 'Given.' On Wednesdays at noon during Lent, we will serve as the host site for the Elizabeth Communities of Faith ecumenical worship services.

Heritage Sunday, March 18 – *Making a Difference*

St. John's has had a presence on the corner of Fifth and Hawthorne for over 96 years.

- How have we made a difference in the lives of over 8500 members?
- How have we made a difference in the greater community?
- How has living out our covenant made a difference?

Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies are a long-standing tradition and are loved by many — except those who are allergic to them and always miss Easter Sunday at church or sit uncomfortably in church while breathing the pollen-laden air. This year, we would like to offer an alternative, Calla Lilies, to reduce the pollen and help everyone enjoy this glorious Sunday at St. John's. The cost this year will be \$18, and order forms are available in the Family News and the church office. Proceeds from the Easter flowers are used to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.

Easter Outfits for “A Child’s Place”

Needed: Sizes 5-14 Boys & Girls (new or gently used) with sock and underwear. Place on rack outside sanctuary or at main entrance by March 18.

Elizabeth 8K – Volunteers Needed

Once again, St. John's is a sponsor for Charlotte's oldest road race. The 32nd Annual Elizabeth 8K Road Race is Saturday, March 24. We need four volunteers to assist at our St. John's Sponsor Table from 8:00 to 10:30 a.m. Please call the church office at 704.333.5428 and speak with Jacquelyn to volunteer or for more information or email jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org.

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!

Youth

- **February 4** – Regular Sunday Night Live from 5:00-7:30 pm. (Basketball Banquet for children's teams take place from 4-5 pm. There is no banquet for youth teams.)

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

Investing in the Future Task Force

Members of this task force would like to here from you. Please consider the following questions and be prepared to participate in conversations.

- Here are the Questions for Listening Sessions:
- How can we use this money to further the mission of St. John's?
- What does St. John's need to do to assure its future?
- What do we need to do to attract more new members, especially young people, while continuing to be true to our identity and mission at St. John's?
- Why should St. John's exist in 10, 20, or 100 years from now?
- What should be the mission of St. John's?
- How can we use these monies to propel us to larger visions of our future?
- If money were no object, what would you like to see us do?
- What is our ultimate aim as a church in Charlotte today?

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

March 18 – Heritage Sunday/Fifth Sunday in Lent

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series: Living in the World as the Body of Christ

Sermon: *Broken*

Scripture: Leviticus 2:4-6; Mark 14:22

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, March 11	8:00 am	Administrative Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School/Missions 101 (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Godly Play (Room 221)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lasater Hall)
Monday, March 12	4:00 pm	Basketball banquet (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)
	9:30 am	Mental Health America (Lounge)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	6:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
Tuesday, March 13	6:30 pm	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	9:00 am	HeadStart (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	1:00 pm	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
Wed., March 14	6:00 pm	NAMI Support Groups (Room 114 & 116)
	6:30 pm	Elizabeth Community Association (Broach Hall)
	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	12:00 pm	ECOF Ash Wednesday service (Sanctuary)
	12:30 pm	ECOF Soup lunch (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)	
Thurs., March 15	11:00 am	Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
	12:30 am	Novant Monthly Managers meeting (Broach Hall)
Friday, March 16	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	5:30 pm	Volunteers serve dinner at Uptown Men's Shelter
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, March 17	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (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

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
Senior Minister.....Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

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.....Chris Mullis, Debora Thon

The Worship of God



Fourth Sunday in Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

**ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**