

Praise the Lord Who Gathers Us

Please turn off all electronic devices

GATHERING MUSIC

J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

& ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Dr. Foust

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP

Congregation

PRAYERFUL CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Allison Benfield

ONE: Lord, we pray for You to teach us how to be a servant people.

ALL: Give us eyes to see opportunities for ministry and ears to hear the cries of those in need. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near
AZMON

O God, unseen yet ever near, reveal Thy presence now, while we, in love that hath no fear, before Thy glory bow.

Here may Thy faithful people know the blessings of Thy love. the streams that thro' the desert flow, the manna from above.

We dwell beside this stream awhile, to know this love of Thine; then go rejoicing, on our way, renewed with strength divine.

The Lord Speaks to Us Through Word and Prayer

READING OF THE EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-12

Ken Benton

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rev. Lee Gray

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

Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, & Jeck Warren; Parker Jackson, military

HYMN OF ORDINATION

Chalice Hymnal No. 453, verse 1

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

We Invest in the Lord's Love

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Carol Injaychock, Deacon

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Chancel Choir
arr. Jack Schrader

*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.

SONG OF HOSPITALITY

All Are Welcome

Congregation
Marty Haugen



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and
3. Let us build a house where love is found in
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
dare to seek to dream God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, and live the Word they've
taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re -
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bear the
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
sym - bol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the
vealed in time and space, As we share in Christ the
im - age of God's face, Let us bring an end to
faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:
faith of Je - sus; } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
feast that frees us;
fear and dan - ger:
floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come in this place.

The Lord Teaches Us How to Serve

LITANY OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Jason Benton,
Incoming Chair of Diaconate

ONE: Living God, as an act of our worship of You on this Lord's Day, we set apart these deacons to be servant leaders in the life and ministries of St. John's Baptist Church.

ALL: We thank You for them and ask You to bless them with clarity of vision, breadth of wisdom, and pathways of servant leadership as they guide us in the ways of Jesus.

DEACONS: As part of our commitment to God, we dedicate ourselves to pursue the spiritual health and ministry vitality of St. John's, as we devote our lives to leading by example.

PEOPLE: As the people of St. John's, we promise to co-labor with our leadership and support them as they invest themselves in the mission of Christ's Church.

ALL: We offer this prayer to God, through Jesus Christ, who is the head of the Church. Amen.

SOLO

The Call

Jarvis Miller
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a Way, as gives us breath; such a Truth, as ends all strife; such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a Light, as shows a feast; such a Feast, as mends in length; such a Strength, as makes His guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a Joy, as none can move; such a Love, as none can part; such a Heart, as joys in love.

MESSAGE

The God Who Welcomes All

Dr. Foust

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

Dr. Foust

ORDINATION

Congregation



Those seated on the organ side will lay hands on the deacons in your section. Those seated on the piano side will lay hands on the deacons in your section. Those seated in the center section will lay hands on the deacons in your section. Those in the balcony may choose any section.

Deacons Being Ordained

Treva Bridges, Alan Dietz, Paula Foust, Deacon Jones, Durning Moore, Casey Perkins, David Sherrill, & Mindy Vergakis

Deacons Previously Ordained Being Installed

Kim Allen, Jeff Almond, Kevin Benton, Ryan Crowder, Nancy Fuller, James Laney, Ashley Maready, & Sally Young

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP**

Go, Celebrate the Call of God
ALIDA'S TUNE

Go, celebrate the call of God that wakens and renews, and chooses from us, for our good, the bringers of good news. The Spirit's blessing all ordains to show what God has done yet brings to focus and contains the many in the one.

Great Spirit give us word and breath in Christ to live and speak and shield against the powers of death, the outcast and the weak, our flag of faith, above defeats, in heaven's breeze unfurled, as all our deepest gladness meets the hunger of the world.

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH**

Dr. Foust

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!

***POSTLUDE**

J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand*

Copies of worship bulletins are available at www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women of the Church Luncheon

All women of the church are invited to the annual Women of the Church luncheon on Sunday, September 15 from 11:45am-1:00pm in Broach Hall. This year, our speaker is the Rev. Kheresa Harmon from the School of Divinity Admissions Office at Gardner-Webb University. The menu includes turkey croissants, potato salad, and cookies from Carolina Confections. The cost is \$10 at the door but you need to **reserve your spot by today!**

Faith Journey Book Study

An eventful beginning for the Faith Journey Book Study is planned. Rev. Dr. Martha Kearsse will be here on Monday, September 9 to discuss her book, *The Sun Is Up*. The group would like to invite the congregation to join them in welcoming Martha on the 9th from 11:45am-1:00pm in the Lounge with light refreshments.

Queen Esther and the Journey to the Authentic Self

All women are invited to join us for the annual Women of the Church Retreat from November 1-3 in Blowing Rock, NC. We will stay at the Blowing Rock Conference Center. Registration is due by September 15. Janet L. Jones, M.Ed., LPC is our presenter.

Join the Handbell Choir

Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 11 from 6-7 pm. If you are interested in joining this fun group that plays in worship several times a year, please contact Jacquelyn McAbee for more information (jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org or 704-333-5428 ext. 20). No previous experience is necessary, and you don't even have to read music to learn to play bells.

Save the Date for Open Table!

Join us on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 in Broach Hall @ 5:50pm for our first Open Table meal and fellowship of this school year. We are planning a Trivia Night! We will have great food and team up for challenging but fun trivia for all ages! Sign up with Mallory OR follow this link to register online: <https://forms.gle/Qne5S9tPFNAazVxP8>

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

September 15 – The Covenant-Making God
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon: *Covenant: Something on Which We Can Agree*
Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:16-19 and Matthew 28:18-20

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 8	8:00 am	Church Council (Lounge)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	9:15 am	Deacon Orientation (Lounge)
	10:30 am	Worship/Deacon Ordination (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Listening Session-Search Task Force (Lounge)
	3:00 pm	CROP (Lasater Hall)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live & Parent Meeting (Broach Hall)
Monday, Sept. 9	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	5:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	6:30 pm	Administrative Deacon Panel (Broach Hall)
	7:30 pm	All Deacons' Meeting (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Sept. 10	6:30 am	Primary Election (Broach Hall)
	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	12:00 pm	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	NAMI Support Groups (Rooms 114 & 116)
Wed., Sept. 11	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	7:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thurs., Sept. 12	10:00 am	Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
	4:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing/Jubilee Store (Room 305)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Sept 13	10:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, Sept. 14	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	Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Church Staff

Administrative Assistant.....	Mallory Brown
Church Administrator.....	Jacquelyn McAbee
Custodians.....	Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
Graded Choir Director.....	Anna Ball
Organist.....	J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director	Lydia Olmsted

The Worship of God



ACTIVELY FAITHFUL, FAITHFULLY ACTIVE LIVING
LEARNING TO LIVE BY CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S SPIRIT OF LOVE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA