

Praise to the God Who is Speaking Still

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

**WORDS OF GREETING
& ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE** Rev. Martha Kearse

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Kearse

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 119:105; Hebrews 4:12 Rev. Kearse

LEADER: Lord, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

PEOPLE: Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow;

ALL: The Living word of God is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** How Firm a Foundation.
Chalice Hymnal No. 618 verses 1, 2 & 3 FOUNDATION

CELEBRATION OF FAMILY LIFE & DEDICATION Rev. Allison Benfield

Alexander Michael Norris

Born April 17, 2016

Son of Russell and Stacey Norris, brother of Addison

Minister: (To the parents)

Russell and Stacey, do you covenant together to raise Alex in an environment of Christian love, harmony and peace?

Parents:

We do.

Minister: (To the parents)

And do you covenant together to grant Alex the benefits of communal fellowship by nurturing him within the church, the corporate body of Christ?

Parents:

We do.

Minister: (To the congregation)

St. John's, do you covenant together as the larger family of God to create an atmosphere of support, discipline and guidance whereby Alex can come to know and serve the Lord Jesus Christ?

Congregation:

We do.

Minister: (To the congregation)

Do you pledge to make your witness of such quality as to instruct Alex and his family in Christian discipleship?

Congregation:

We do.

Minister:

Then recognizing the covenant accepted this day by Russell and Stacey and by the congregation, I offer a certificate acknowledging this formal introduction to this family of God.

PRESENTATION & PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

SONG OF DEDICATION

Chancel Choir

Alex, Alex, God claims you; God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be.

Congregation

Alex, Alex, God claims you; God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto Our Feet

READING OF THE GOSPEL

Matthew 7:21-29

Gail Sifford



mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!” Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

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

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE

Congregation

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, and think I've lost my way, still, you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear for as long as you are near; please be near me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.



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, Martha Brown, James Carnes, Carol Drye,
Ethel Harris, Cathy Hartsell & Monty Kearse - home

*HYMN OF PROCLAMATION

Chalice Hymnal No. 323, verses 1 & 2

Wonderful Words of Life

WORDS OF LIFE

You, O God, Are the Light unto Our Path

SERMON

“The Bible: Reading to Hear the Living Word of God”

Dr. Foust

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

Chalice Hymnal No. 450, verses 1 & 2

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

HYFRYDOL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Foust

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bless the Lord

Chancel Choir

Ludwig van Beethoven, Arr. Hal Hopson

Bless the Lord, O bless the Lord, my soul. With all my being, bless, bless God's holy name. All our days are blest, our youth is restored like eagles flying high above. O bless the Lord, my soul. Bless the Lord, O bless the Lord, my soul. With all my being, bless, bless God's holy name. God is slow to anger, and always kind and gracious. God bring justice, life, and joy. O bless the Lord, my soul. Our days, like grass are gone, but God's great love endures for ever. Bless the Lord, O bless the Lord, my soul. With all my being, bless, bless God's holy name.

*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.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY

Dr. Foust

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

*POSTLUDE

J. Noel Lance

** Invites the congregation to stand*

Copies of Worship Bulletins and Sermon Manuscripts are available at www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's 101

The Membership Resource Team is pleased to offer the St. John's 101 course to guests, prospective members and current members who just want a refresher. The classes will be held in the lounge on October 30 and November 6, 13, and 20 during the Sunday School hour.

Community Conversation at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

FMBC will host the third of its community conversations, "Strengthening the Bonds of Trust," today at 4:30 pm. The effort of these conversations has been to offer a chance for discussion of issues of race, discrimination and violence and to attempt to work toward actions which can help our community. Anyone interested is welcome to come to Friendship Missionary Baptist this afternoon.

QC Family Tree Community Meal

You are invited to attend the QC Family Tree Community Meal on Friday, November 4, from 5:30-7:00 pm. The Community Meal is very informal, and you are welcome to bring children, spouses, and friends if you like. The meal will be held at the home of Greg and Helms Jarrell, 2910 Parkway Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28208. Please come out and bring a side dish large enough to share.

Women of the Church One-Day Retreat

"Called to Nourish" Retreat will be held on Saturday, November 5, from 9 am - 3 pm at the Bragg Family Farm - 16030 McAuley Road, Huntersville. Leaders will be Sara Vavra and Lia Benton. Lunch will be provided; dress for comfort. Contact Donna Scott or Kimberly Follis regarding carpooling or with any questions.

Charlotte City Challenge

When you enter a coffee shop or restaurant, find SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW of a DIFFERENT RACE, CULTURE OR ETHNICITY and choose between 4 action options: 1) pay for their meal; 2) pay for their coffee; 3) find out 3 things about them and share 3 things about yourself; or 4) simply ask their name and let them know you will be praying for them. Once you have participated, ask the person you have approached to participate in the Charlotte City Challenge by paying it forward within 48 hours by serving and challenging someone else. You might even post your pictures with the person or couple you served. After you participate, post your picture with the hashtag: #CharlotteCityChallenge.

Crossroads Coffee Hour

It's here! It's up and running! And it's really good coffee! Plus dabo, the Sudanese answer to donuts! Plus scones! TELL YOUR SS TO MEET IN LASATER HALL! BRING THE KIDS! Open from 8:45-10:30 am. See you there!

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

Holiday Painting Party

Hosted by Women of the Church on Thursday, November 10, from 5:30-9:00 pm in Lasater Hall. Led by our own artist - Jan Kerley. Cost: \$25 (includes all supplies) must be paid in advance (make checks payable to Jan Kerley). Registration deadline is Sunday, November 6! Space is limited, so sign up today in the church office.

Handmade Holiday Market

November 13, 12:30 - 3:00 pm - The Third Place - 1609 E. 5th Street
Sponsored by QC Family Tree & The Third Place

Upcoming Youth Events

- **Today** - Normal 5:00 pm schedule with recreation, choir and dinner. At 6:10 we will leave to go to Scarowinds (which opens at 7 pm). Most St. John's people will return to the church at 10:00 pm.
- Youth are on Regular 5:00-7:30 pm Sunday Evening Schedule on 11/6, 11/20, & 11/27
- **November 6** – 6th Grade Discipleship Kick-off (5:00-7:30 pm) This is during the regular Sunday evening time, but separate from 7th-12th grade youth.
- **November 13** - Fellowship and Panthers game with QC Family Tree (after morning worship until 4pm)

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH

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

THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT

November 6 - All Saints' Sunday

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series: LORD OF THE HARVEST

Sermon: *Active Faith: A Declaration of Interdependence*

Scripture: Psalm 139:23-24; Romans 12:1-11

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Oct. 30	9:15 am	St. John's 101 (Lounge)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
Monday, Oct. 31	5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)
	10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:45 pm	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	7:00 pm	Zumba (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Nov. 1	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	HeadStart Parents Meeting (Room 114)
	11:00 am	Co-ed Bible Study (Room 209)
	4:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:30 pm	Basketball clinic-8 & under (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Zumba class (Lasater Hall)
Wed., Nov. 2	6:30 pm	Basketball clinic-9 & over (Gym)
	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga class (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
Thursday, Nov. 3	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Novant Community Cancer Event (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Charlotte Memory Center (Lasater Hall)
	6:30 pm	Technology group (Lounge)
Friday, Nov. 4	5:00 pm	Parson/Paquette wedding rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	5:30 pm	QC Family Tree Community Meal
Saturday, Nov. 5	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Women of the Church Retreat (Bragg Farm)
	5:00 pm	Parson/Paquette wedding (Sanctuary)

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.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Associate MinisterRev. Martha Kears
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Allison Benfield
Minister for Worship and MusicJ. Kevin Gray
Minister for Youth and Young Adults.....Rev. Lee Gray

Church Staff

Administrative AssistantJacquelyn McAbee
Church Accountant.....Elaine Johnson
Church AdministratorSandra Rogers
Organist.....J. Noel Lance
Graded Choirs Director.....Sandy Holland
Custodians Paul Pugh, Chris Mullis
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted

The Worship of God



Lord of the Harvest

A Season of Spiritual Renewal

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2016

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA