

Take Our Lives, and Let Them Be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING
& ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE Rev. Lee Gray

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

CALL TO WORSHIP J. Kevin Gray

LEADER: Take our lives, and let them be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

PEOPLE: **Take our moments and our days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

LEADER: Take our hands, and let them move at the impulse of Your love.

PEOPLE: **Take our lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.**

LEADER: Take our hearts, they are Thine own; they shall be Thy royal throne.

PEOPLE: **Take our silver and our gold, not a mite would we withhold.**

ALL: **Take our lives, and let them be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
Chalice Hymnal No. 718 ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Gray

Take Our Moments and Our Days; Let Them Flow in Ceaseless Praise

READING OF THE EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 Keith Towery



The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

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

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

SONG OF RESPONSE J. Kevin Gray

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take Our Silver and Our Gold, Not a Mite Would We Withhold

PASTORAL AND DISCIPLE'S PRAYER Rev. Martha Kearse

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 - home

MEDITATION AND MOVEMENT Maddie Phillips & Samuel Bonds

I Will Rise Up

Andra Day

You're broken down and tired of living life on a merry-go-round;
and you can't find the fighter, but I see it in you, so we gonna walk it out
and move mountains.

Refrain: And I'll rise up; I'll rise like the day.

I'll rise up; I'll rise unafraid.

I'll rise up, and I'll do it a thousand times again.

And I'll rise up high like the waves;

I'll rise up in spite of the ache.

I'll rise up, and I'll do it a thousand times again for you.

When the silence isn't quiet, and it feels like it's getting hard to breathe;
and I know you feel like dying, but I promise we'll take the world to its feet
and move mountains. We'll take it to its feet and move mountains

Refrain

SONG OF RESPONSE Congregation

LEADER: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You

PEOPLE: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You

COMMITMENT WALK Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD



*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING
Chalice Hymnal No. 715

Now Thank We All Our God
NUN DANKET

HOMILY Dr. Foust

"The Harvest of Your Righteousness"

Take Us Lord, and We Will Be Ever, Only, All for Thee

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT Lord Thou Lov'st a Cheerful Giver
BEACH SPRING

Verse 1. Lord, Thou lov'st the cheerful giver, who with open heart and hand
blesses freely, as a river that refreshes all the land.
Grant us then the grace of giving with a spirit large and free,
that our life and all our living we may consecrate to Thee.

Verse 2. We are Thine, Thy mercy sought us, found us in death's dreadful way,
to the fold in safety brought us, nevermore from Thee to stray.
Thine own life Thou freely gavest as an offering on the cross
for each sinner whom Thou savest from eternal shame and loss.

Verse 3. Savior, Thou hast freely given all the blessings we enjoy.
Earthly store and bread of heaven, love and peace without alloy;
humbly now we bow before Thee, and our all to Thee resign;
for the kingdom, pow'r and glory, are, O Lord, forever Thine.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Dr. Foust

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
With a Voice of Singing Martin Shaw

*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 PRAYER FOR CUBA MISSION TEAM
Stan Dotson, Steven and Kimberly Follis, Lia Benton,
Lydia Olmsted, Jimmy Kimball and Martha Kearse

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

*POSTLUDE J. Noel Lance
Now Thank We All Our God J. S. Bach/Virgil Fox

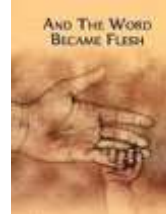
** Invites the congregation to stand*

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



ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
 300 Hawthorne Lane
 Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
 704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT
 Sunday, November 27, 2016 - First Sunday of Advent
 Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD



Homily: *Before the Beginning*
 Scripture: John 1:1-5

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Nov. 20	9:15 am	St. John's 101 (Lounge)
	9:15 am	Sunday School/Worship 101 (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:45 am	Youth Resource Team (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3 rd Floor)
Monday, Nov. 21	10:30 am	Church Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:45 pm	Faith Journey Book Study Group (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Endowment Campaign Task Force (Lounge)
	4:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Tuesday, Nov. 22	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)
	12:00 pm	Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library/Lounge)
	5:15 pm	Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Zumba Class (Lasater Hall)
Wed., Nov. 23	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Thursday, Nov. 24		Church offices closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, Nov. 25		Church offices closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, Nov. 26	7:00 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	10:00 am	Communion Task Force (Conference Room)

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 Kearse
 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 Assistant Jacquelyn McAbee
 Church Accountant..... Elaine Johnson
 Church Administrator Sandra Rogers
 Organist..... J. Noel Lance
 Graded Choirs Director Sandy Holland
 Custodians Paul Pugh, Chris Mullis
 Weekday School Director..... Lydia Olmsted

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sowing Seeds for Next Year's Harvest - Stewardship Campaign 2017

Today is Financial Commitment Sunday. Commitments will be received over the next few weeks. If you have questions, please contact Sandra Rogers in the business administrator's office.

41st Annual Community Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 22, at 7:00 pm at Providence Baptist Church - Sponsored by MeckMIN, A Network of 100+ Houses of Faith. This year's theme is "...*let it begin with me*" -- Acknowledging Charlotte's Recent Unrest & Expressing Gratitude for the Opportunity to Gather & Grow.

Terrific Tuesday Book Club

Tuesday, November 22, at 12:00 noon (Library) - Bring a sandwich!
 This month's book: *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant (*New York Times* bestseller!)

The Stocking Are Coming!

Get in touch with your inner Santa and prepare a Salvation Army stocking for a child in need this Holiday Season. Stockings are available at the Gym Entrance under the green tent. Stockings must be returned by **December 1** to arrive on time at Santa's workshop. Questions? Contact Resident Elf, Janet Wade.

Women of the Church Advent Yoga

Monday, December 5, at 7 pm in the Lounge - Sara Vavra, yoga instructor
 Go calmly in the Advent season with breathing technique and warm thoughts. Any ability of yoga is welcome to come. Chairs will be provided if you need a chair. Or bring a mat if you prefer. Please call the church office and make a reservation for this class. SPACE IS LIMITED. Class will run about an hour and light refreshments will be served.

Charlotte Lessons & Carols from St. John's

WDAV's live holiday broadcast returns on Tuesday, December 6, at 7 pm with a program of beloved carols and holiday music illuminated by scripture readings.

Upcoming Youth Events

- **November 20 & 27** - Regular Sunday Evening Schedule (5:00-7:30 pm)
- **December 4** - Lunch and Delivery of Poinsettias to Neighbors (after Hanging of the Green service until 2 pm)

The Worship of God



**LORD OF THE HARVEST
 HARVEST SUNDAY**

We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us, contributing our financial support for the Church and its ministries and offering ourselves for God's work in the world.
 ~ Covenant of St. John's Baptist Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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