

Praise to the God Who Speaks and Shares

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

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

*EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION J. Kevin Gray

CALL TO WORSHIP J. K. Gray

LEADER: God has set before us life and prosperity, death and adversity.

PEOPLE: **If we obey the commandments of the Lord our God, by loving the Lord our God and walking in God's ways, then we shall be alive and prosper.**

LEADER: But if we turn away and refuse to hear, or if we are led astray to bow down to other masters and serve them, then we shall perish and not experience the life God offers.

ALL: **We worship our God who requires of us that we do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God as Lord of our living. Let it be so!** ¹

*HYMN OF PRAISE O God of Vision
Chalice Hymnal No. 288, verses 1, 2 & 5 LOBEN DEN HERREN

Scripture and Prayer

READING OF THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Psalm 119:1-9 Nancy Burgess

Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD. Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways. You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances. I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me. How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

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

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

SUNG MEDITATION Congregation

Turn to God in All Things

Arr. David Glasgow

- 1. Solo
- 2. Congregation



THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Rev. Martha Kearsse

Prayer Concerns

Ethel Harris - Carolinas Continue CARE-Pineville; Joe Ehrenberger - Asbury;
Gearlene Hoffman - surgery Monday
James Carnes and Dot Propst - home

READING OF THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 2:7-3:3 Rev. Kearsse

But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ. And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh.

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

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE Have Thine Own Way, Lord!
Chalice Hymnal No. 588, verses 1 & 4 ADELAIDE

HOMILY Dr. Foust

Can You Know God's Will for You?

SONG OF THE CHURCH One Bread, One Body
Chalice Hymnal No. 393, verses 1 & 2 ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Communion

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Dr. Foust

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING Dr. Foust
A Wee Worship Book



LEADER: Lord Jesus Christ, You have put Your life into our hands; now we put our lives into Yours.

PEOPLE: **Take us, renew and remake us.**

LEADER: What we have been is past, what we shall be through You still awaits us.

ALL: **Lead us on. Take us with You. Amen.**

CHRIST'S CHURCH IS SERVED COMMUNION

SERVING THE BREAD Rev. Kearsse
1st Corinthians 11:23-24

SERVING THE CUP J. Kevin Gray
1st Corinthians 11:25-26

Commitment

A CALL TO COMMITMENT

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHP Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
Chalice Hymnal No. 589, verse 1 (repeat unaccompanied) I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
The Majesty and Glory of His Name Tom Fetteke

*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.

*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY Dr. Foust

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS Fredda Kimball

David & Gwen Rhodes *Tim Gibson* *Nick Gattis*
Deb Black *Wes Watts* *Chris Lavender*
Cathy Doheny *Betty Crenshaw*

Covenant

READING OF THE CHURCH COVENANT

United in the faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, revealed in history, disclosed in the Scriptures, and experienced in human life, we do solemnly and joyfully make this Covenant together:

We will be faithful to the public worship of God, gathering with the family of the church to celebrate his glory and remember his grace.

We will take seriously the responsibility and privilege of personal Christian growth, diligently seeking to establish and maintain a Christian atmosphere in our homes.

We will love and encourage each other in the family of the Church, and admonish each other as occasion may require. Our differences will not separate us but rather increase our understanding and strengthen the bonds of Christian love.

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.

We will, with God's help, so live our lives that others, seeing the joy of Christian living, may seek to know Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will be a servant Church, recognizing the infinite worth of every person and believing that Christ has called us to active involvement in behalf of human brotherhood.

In the spirit of this covenant, we pray together:

Almighty God, Father of us all, witness this Covenant which we make with each other and with Thee. Guide us as we try to do that which pleases Thee, to the glory of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER**
Chalice Hymnal No. 307

The Lord's Prayer
Albert Malotte

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.

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

** Invites the congregation to stand.*

¹Call to Worship based upon Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Micah 6:8.

Copies of Worship Bulletins and Sermon Manuscripts are available on the St. John's website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Loaves and Fishes

We need everyone's help for the Loaves & Fishes Food Drive during the month of February as we partner with the pantry at Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Look for special grocery bags and the collection carts in the Broach Hall and Main Entrance lobbies.

Church Conference & Luncheon

Sunday, February 19, after worship. Lunch by Anderson Catering - \$10 adults/\$5 children. We will discuss various items of church life, including updates from Deacon Panels and 2017 budget discussion.

Concert

Join us next Friday, February 17, for an evening of music with Steve and Leslie Gretz! Guitar, banjo, mandolin, harmony—great music and desserts at this FREE EVENT with donations accepted for LOAVES & FISHES! Bring your friends for a nice evening out—7pm at St. John's Baptist in Lasater Hall.

Power of Song Concert

Mark your calendars for a very special event to be held on March 5 at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary of St. John's. Our church will be hosting a *Power of Song* concert featuring the Chancel Choir of St. John's, the Winthrop University Chorale and Chamber Singers, as well as other community artists. The concert is free and will showcase a wide variety of music.

Heritage Sunday - March 19

"Celebrating the Music Heritage of St. John's - Telling Our Story One Note at a Time." Mark your calendar for a celebration during worship followed by reception.

Youth Mission Auction - March 26

This auction will help support four mission trips - 2 middle school local mission trips, 1 high school mission trip to New York City, and 1 Habitat build. Please make plans to attend and bid generously. If you have an item that you are able to donate to this auction, contact Lia Benton at liabenton@outlook.com or Kim Ray at kim.ray14@gmail.com.

Upcoming Youth Events

- February 12 – No Sunday Night Live (ski trip weekend)
- February 19 - Fun Outing Sunday - Middle School Youth will go Sky High after worship; High School Youth will participate in Exit Strategy that evening.

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 19 - Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Sermon: *The Audacity to Live Mercifully*
Scripture: Matthew 5:38-48

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Feb. 12	8:15 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School/Mission 101/2 nd Sunday (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Godly Play (Room 221)
	11:45 am	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	11:45 am	Interiors Focus Group (Lounge)
Monday, Feb. 13	10:30 am	Staff meetings (Conference Room)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	6:30 pm	Administrative Deacon Panel (Broach Hall)
	6:30 pm	Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	All Deacons Meeting (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Tuesday, Feb. 14	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)
	1:00 pm	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	4:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Zumba class (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	NAMI Support Groups (Rooms 114 & 116)
	7:30 pm	NAMI Educational Forum (Lounge)
Wed., Feb. 15	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	8:00 am	Novant Super User Group (Broach Hall)
	1:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Membership Task Force (Lounge)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Feb. 16	11:00 am	Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Novant Health Managers' Meeting (Broach Hall)
	4:45 pm	Queen City Unlimited (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Zumba (Lasater Hall)
Friday, Feb. 17	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit
	10:00 am	Living Waters (Broach Hall)
	4:00 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Broach Hall)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	5:30 pm	Volunteers served dinner at Uptown Men's Shelter
	7:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes concert (Lasater Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, Feb. 18	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Basketball games (Gym/Lounge)
	4:00 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas Cabaret (Broach Hall)

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
Associate Minister	Rev. Martha Kearse
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

The Worship of God



WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP**

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