

# You Are Our God and We Are Your People

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE Chip Mays

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

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Allison Benfield

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Benfield  
(Based on John 13, Ephesians 4, and Romans 12)

LEADER: Beloved, Jesus gave you a new commandment. He said, “*Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*”

PEOPLE: **Our love for one another is our public witness in the world. As obedient learners of Jesus, we live in humility, with gentleness and patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

LEADER: Love is not a commodity to which you turn when needed. Love is the Spirit of God flowing in you and through you into the life of the world as compassionate relationships and ministries of service.

PEOPLE: **As we love one another the way Jesus loved, we refuse to be conformed to the ways of this world. We are being transformed by the love of God. We mature in love and are no longer children, tossed around and blown about by every breeze of new thought or trickery or scheming.**

ALL: **Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God. Let us bow down before The Living God who is revealed in three persons, blessed Trinity. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Chalice Hymnal No. 4 NICAIA

## Speak, and We Will Listen

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN J. Kevin Gray

John 13:1-12

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you



going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you?”

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Rev. Martha Kearse, DMin

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

Judy Sanford – CMC Pineville  
Byron Bullard, Bill Finger, Ethel Harris, Carmen Howard,  
Christa Lynch & Tracey Poteat - home

HYMN OF RESPONSE They’ll Know We Are Christians  
Chalice Hymnal No. 494, verses 1 & 2 ST. BRENDAN’S

READING FROM 1 JOHN 1 John 4:7-21 Rev. Benfield



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. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the Day of Judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF RESPONSE They’ll Know We Are Christians  
Chalice Hymnal No. 494, verses 3 & 4 ST. BRENDAN’S

## They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

SERMON Dr. Foust

*Labor of Love*

MOMENT OF REFLECTION Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service  
Chalice Hymnal No. 461 BEACH SPRING

OFFERTORY PRAYER Dr. Foust

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir  
*O Spirit, Who from Jesus Came* Marguerite Harvey



O Spirit, who from Jesus came the people of Thy world to bless, our hearts adore Thee and proclaim the beauty of Thy holiness.

Upon Thy people, faithful people, shed Thy cooling peace; Thy pardon kind that we, by grace and mercy led, may serve Thee with a quiet mind.

With Thee in calm, with Thee in strife, we climb the path our Savior trod and build into our common life the true nobility of God.

\*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 OF ALL PEOPLE

\*POSTLUDE Chip Mays

*\*Invites the congregation to stand.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Flood Assistance**

Those persons desiring to send financial assistance to help flood victims in Texas, due to Hurricane Harvey, can give through Baptist World Aid of the Baptist World Alliance. As a Global Partner Congregation, gifts can be made to St. John's and sent on to Baptist World Aid, online at [www.bwanet.org/online-giving](http://www.bwanet.org/online-giving), or sent directly to Baptist World Aid, c/o Baptist World Alliance, 405 North Washington Street, Falls Church, VA 22046.

**Deacon Ordination**

Deacon Ordination and Installation will be on Sunday, September 10, during the morning worship service. The following will be ordained as new deacons: Judy Godsey, Chuck Howard, Jeff LeVie, Gail Sifford, Laura Sorrell and Lindsay Wilson. The first All Deacons' Meeting will be held on Monday, September 25, at 7:00 pm in Broach Hall.

**Women of the Church Luncheon – Sunday, September 10, at 11:45 am**

RSVP to reserve your place by responding to your invite or calling Jacquelyn in the church office. Come and bring a daughter, mother, sister, aunt, friend! We look forward to seeing you there!

**Youth Kick-off**

On Sunday, September 10, there will be a youth and parent meeting from 5:00-7:00 pm in Broach Hall to kick off the Sunday evening youth schedule. The meeting will include recreation, dinner, a brief worship service and a time of intergenerational discussion. Please bring \$5 per person to help offset the cost of dinner.

**Immigration and the Charlotte Community - An Educational Forum**

Monday, September 18, from 6:30-8:00 pm - Join us for a forum on immigration led by Maureen Abell, Staff Attorney with the Immigrant Justice Program of Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont. Light refreshments and drinks will be provided.

**Women of the Church Retreat – *Breathe – Experience the Presence of God***

This year's retreat is November 3-5 at Blowing Rock Conference Center and will be led by Rev. Mandy England Cole. Remember to invite you friends! A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with a completed Registration Form no later than Sunday, September 10 (brochures available in Sunday School rooms and church office). Contact Teri Franklin or Donna Scott with any questions.

**Terrific Tuesday Book Club**

Stop by the church office to pick up a copy of September's book *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly. Then join the Terrific Tuesday Book Club discussion on Tuesday, September 26, at 12 noon in the church library.

**Heart Math Tutoring**

Heart Math is recruiting tutors for weekly one-hour sessions with students in grades 1-5. Heart makes tutoring math easy by providing targeted lessons, on-site staff support and a choice of schools convenient to your work or home. If you have any interest or questions, reach out to Ken or Lucy Raynor or check out Heart Math's website: <http://hearttutoring.org/>

**MT25**

On Sunday, September 24, we will officially begin MT25 as our program for service here at St. John's. On that day, we invite each person at St. John's to pick one of our seven areas of service to connect with—at least for that day. After we celebrate worship together, then join your service team for lunch. Lunch will be free and will be served at different places throughout the building. Childcare will be provided by professional care-givers, and older children and youth will be invited to share their ideas first, then go to the gym for some fun inflatable play! Our meetings will finish by 1 pm.

**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](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

**The St. John's Pulpit**

September 10 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
Ordination and Installation of Deacons

**This Week at St. John's**

Sunday, Sept. 3	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
Monday, Sept. 4		Church offices closed (Labor Day)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Tuesday, Sept. 5	7:00 am	King's College Orientation (Broach Hall)
	11:00 am	Co-ed Bible Study (Room 209)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Zumba class (Gym)
Wed., Sept. 6	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	3:30 pm	King's College (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Queen City Diamonds (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Sept. 7	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Zumba Class (Gym)
Friday, Sept. 8	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, Sept. 9	7:00 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Girls Basketball (Gym)
	1:00 pm	Queen City Diamonds (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**

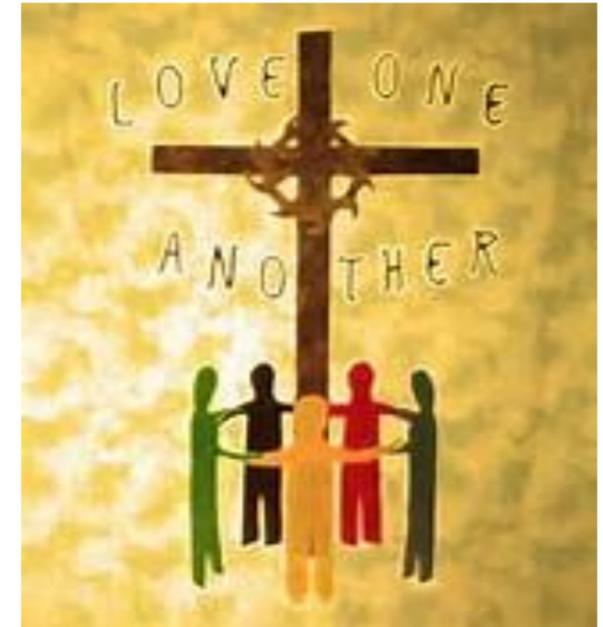
Senior Minister.....Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
Associate Minister .....Rev. Martha Kearse, DMin  
Minister for Children and Their Families ..... Rev. Allison Benfield  
Minister for Worship and Music .....J. Kevin Gray  
Minister for Youth and Young Adults.....Rev. Lee Gray

**Church Staff**

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

Copies of worship bulletins and sermon manuscripts are available on the St. John's website: [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

The Worship of God



*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017**

**10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

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