

Sing Praise Unto the Lord

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Martha Kearse, DMin
& ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Kearse

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Kearse

LEADER: Creating God, we gather to worship You.

PEOPLE: We give thanks that there is a spark of You within us.

ALL: Kindle this spark into a flame of love and service.

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

We Worship Through Word and Prayer

READING FROM EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 3:17-4:10 Wanny Hogewood



Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers,

to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

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

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF THE SERVANT CHURCH

Back cover of hymnal, verses 1-3

A Servant Church
ST. THEODULPH

ABRIDGED COVENANT OF ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH Dr. Foust

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...

We will take seriously the responsibility and privilege of personal Christian growth...

We will love and encourage each other in the family of the Church...

We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us...

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...

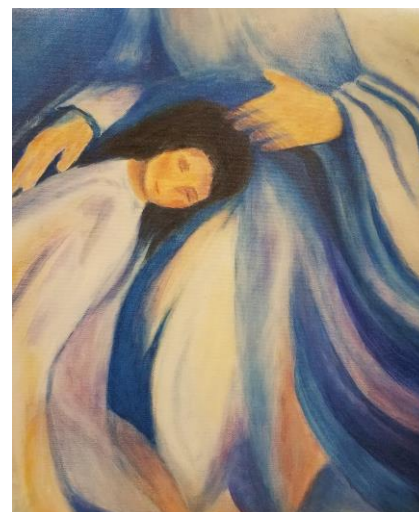
OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In This Very Room

Chancel Choir
Ron & Carol Harris



Painting by Gearlene Hoffman

In this very room, there's quite enough love for one like me. And in this very room, there's quite enough joy for one like me; and there's quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.

In this very room, there's quite enough love for all the world. And in this very room there's quite enough joy for all the world; and there's quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.

*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.

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

Joe Ehrenberger – Asbury; Betty Crenshaw – Pineville Rehab & Living Center
Joyce Ehrenberger, Cathy Hartsell, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones,
Jan Kerley & Betty Taylor – home
Sympathy to the family of Libby Collier

READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURE Psalm 139:1-6 J. Kevin Gray

LEADER: O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

PEOPLE: You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thoughts afar off.

LEADER: You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

PEOPLE: For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O Lord, You know it altogether.

ALL: You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Search Me, O God
MAORI

Search me, O God, and know my heart today,
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.

MOMENTS OF MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE SERVANT CHURCH

Back cover of hymnal, verses 4 & 5

A Servant Church
ST. THEODULPH

Seeking to Serve

SERMON *Can Our Kind of Church Serve Our Kind of World?* Dr. Foust

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP All Who Love and Serve Your City
Chalice Hymnal No. 670 CHARLESTOWN

*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY Dr. Foust

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH Dr. Foust

*POSTLUDE J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

Copies of worship bulletins and sermon manuscripts and audio are available on the St. John's website: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Stewardship Commitment Campaign 2018

Offering Ourselves for God's Work in the World

Budget Pledge Report: Amount Received: \$864,206 - Commitments Received: 178

If you have not turned in your Pledge Card to the church office, please do so as soon as possible.

Art • Poetry • Music: Celebrating Charlotte's Black Culture

January 15, at 7:00 pm at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Art • Poetry • Music: Celebrating Charlotte's Black Culture and the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a powerful, collaborative concert by Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Firebird Arts Alliance's Power of Song Project, Quentin Talley's OnQ Productions and Opera Carolina. Three-time Emmy Award winner Bluz, of Slam Charlotte, will perform along with the incredible Ocie Davis Quartet and the combined choirs of Opera Carolina Chorus, Winthrop University Chamber Singers, semi-professional choir VOX, the Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Choir. APM fuses music, spoken word and visual art with readings of Dr. King's iconic speeches. Join us for this community celebration of Dr. King's legacy, and Charlotte's African-American community.

To All College Age Members of St. John's:

The Martha Miller and J.P. Hackney Trust Fund was created through the will of Mildred Hackney Smith, and provides grant money for St. John's members (or children of St. John's members) who plan to attend Furman University, Wake Forest University, or Wingate University. The deadline for application is March 1. For more information, contact the Chair of the Hackney Committee, Ken Raynor, at Ken@Raynorlawfirm.com.

Youth

- **Sunday, January 14** - Sunday Night Live - Youth are on regular evening schedule from 5:00-7:30 pm. During choir, they will work on songs they will sing on Youth Sunday worship service on February 4. During our program time, we will continue to watch and reflect upon the PBS documentary "A Class Divided."
- **Monday, January 15** - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Service Project - Meet at the church at 10 am to go over to Hope Chapel to do a service project and serve hot dogs. If the weather is agreeable, we will finish putting the pavers down beside the outdoor walkway. If we have inclement weather, we will fix a closet door and do some painting inside Hope Chapel. We will return to the church at 1 pm.
- **January 19-21** - Youth ski trip to Winterplace

St. John's Winter Weather Closing Policy

Weekdays: When the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools cancel school because of bad weather, all church activities, including meetings and Weekday School, will be canceled and the church office will be closed.

Sundays: In the case of extreme weather conditions affecting Sundays, we will announce alterations/closings no later than 7:00 am Sunday through the following media: Automated greeting on church phone (704.333.5428); church web site; Facebook and Twitter; e-mail to St. John's Family News list; local TV stations (WBTV, WCNC, WSOC and Channel 14 News).

Heritage Sunday - March 18

This year's theme is "Making a Difference." What comes to mind when you think about how St. John's presence at Fifth and Hawthorne has made a difference during the past 96 years? Please let us know your answer by contacting Jacquelyn in the church office or Fredda Kimball.

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

January 21 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon: *Leading by Following*

Scripture: Matthew 4:18-22, 10:1-7

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Jan. 14	9:15 am	Sunday School/Missions 101 (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Godly Play (Room 221)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Youth Ski Trip meeting (Chapel)
	5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Night Live (Lounge, Gym, Chapel, 3 rd Floor)
Monday, Jan. 15		Church Offices Closed
	10:00 am	Youth Service Project
	7:00 pm	CrownsGate HOA (Lounge)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Jan. 16	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Room 209)
	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	Men's Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Jan. 17	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	7:30 am	CROP (Lounge)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Membership Task Force (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Jan. 18	11:00 am	Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Novant Monthly Managers' meeting (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Investing in the Future Task Force (Lounge)
Friday, Jan. 19	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	5:30 pm	Volunteers serve dinner at Uptown Men's Shelter
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Jan. 20	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	8:00 am	King's College Scholarship Day (Broach, Lasater, 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.....	Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Associate Minister.....	Rev. Martha Kears, 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.....	Anna Ball
Weekday School Director.....	Lydia Olmsted
Organist.....	J. Noel Lance
Custodians.....	James Ford, Chris Mullis, Debora Thon

The Worship of God



Second Sunday after Epiphany

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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