

We Sing Praise Unto the Lord

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE J. Noel Lance

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

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

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Kearse

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Kearse

LEADER: Come and see that the Lord is good.

PEOPLE: May we have eyes to behold the Lamb of God,

ALL: And in our beholding, we become leaders of others by following Jesus.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Chalice Hymnal No. 90 MADRID

We Listen

SILENT MEDITATION



Christ comes to us as one unknown, without a name, as of old by the lakeside He came to those who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: “Come and see; follow me,” and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery they shall learn in their own experience who He is. - Albert Schweitzer

HYMN OF PRAYER God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us WELLESLEY

God who made us, Christ who calls us, Breath who guides us in the Way, hear the humble words we whisper as we dare to bow and pray:

“Live your Light within and through us, dawn in us eternal day. Tell us, as we brave the darkness, when to speak and what to say.

“Give us courage, humble courage. Give us faith that will not fail. Give us love with no exceptions. Through us let your peace prevail.”

God who made us, Christ who calls us, Breath who guides from deep within, may our lives of mumbled praying end with Heaven’s clear “Amen.”

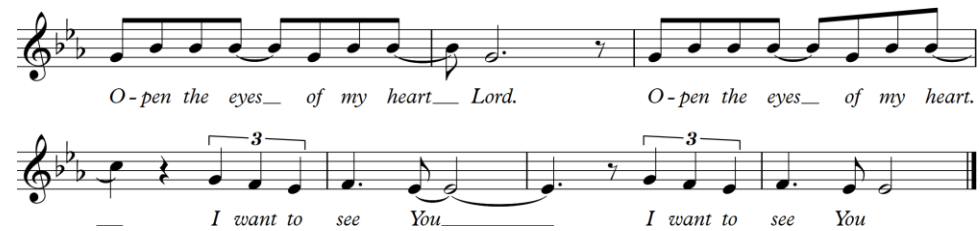
THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Rev. Allison Benfield

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

Betty Crenshaw, Joe Ehrenberger, Cathy Hartsell, Carmen Howard, Chuck Jones, Jan Kerley, Brad Sifford & Dee Turner – home Sympathy to Margaret Falls on death of her brother and stepson

HYMN OF RESPONSE Ken & Donna Scott



We Offer Ourselves and All that We Have

OFFERTORY PRAYER Ken Scott

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Kum Ba Yab arr. Ed Logeski

***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.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL John 1:35-46 Bobbie Hinson

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter). The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son

of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

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

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** Just a Closer Walk with Thee
CLOSER WALK
Will Lee, saxophone

I am weak, but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain: Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea, daily walking close to Thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

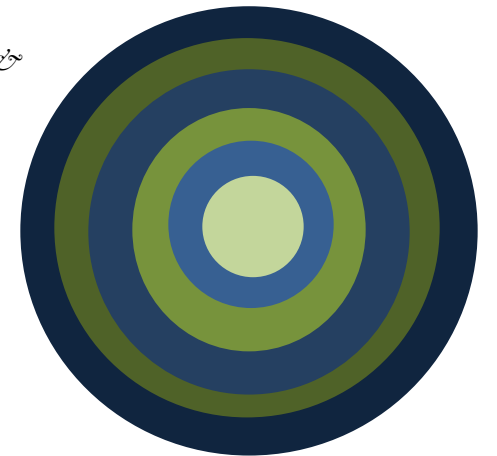
Lord, You guide me day by day, teaching me to never stray; help me lead all, Lord I pray, to Your way, dear Lord, to Your way. Refrain

As We Follow Jesus, We See New Visions

SERMON Come and See Dr. Foust

Applying God's Good News in My Life & Sharing God's Gospel with Others

- Self
- Family & Relatives
- Close Friends
- Neighbors/Work Associates
- Acquaintances
- Other



OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMITMENT

***SONG OF RELATIONAL WITNESS** J. Kevin Gray, Tarsha Williams
My World Needs You Kirk Franklin

***CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY** Dr. Foust

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH** Dr. Foust

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** Congregation
Go, My Children, with My Blessing AR HYD Y NOS

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone; waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own; in my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever, go, my children, with my blessing you are my own.

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

*Invites the congregation to stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Financial Stewardship Commitment Campaign 2018

Offering Ourselves for God's Work in the World

Budget Pledge Report: Amount Received: \$871,046 - Commitments Received: 179

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

Welcome George Williamson!

On Sunday, February 11, we invite you to join us in welcoming George Williamson, former Vassar professor, pastor and chaplain (and brother-in-law of Wanny Hogewood) as he comes to share with us in worship and in readings from his memoir. George's own self-description is that he was born "on the wrong side of every moral social issue of the twentieth century." His memoir tells of the ways he has been addressing those moral social issues through his life and career. George, along with others, was instrumental in starting the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America/Bautistas Por La Paz (which has its offices housed in our building); BPFNA published his book and LeDayne Polaski, the Executive Director of BPFNA, will join us on that day. Join us for worship, and then lunch and discussion with George—he is lots of fun and will keep us all entertained as well as informed! Call or email the church office to make your reservation for lunch (required), but those who do not want lunch can join the conversation without making a reservation.

VBS Registration Is Open!

A Year in the Church: St. John's/St. Martins VBS 2018 - June 11-15 from 9 am-12 noon each day - For children aged 4 - rising 6th Graders - \$15/Child - We'll be learning about the life of Jesus as we walk through the seasons of the church year together with stories and art. We do have a maximum number of children we can care for at VBS, so don't wait to sign up!

Youth

- **January 28** – Sunday Night Live from 5:00-7:30 pm. During youth time Carl & Nina Phillips, Phillips Bragg, and Martha Kearsse will share about what a commitment of faith and being a member of St. John's means to them.
- **February 4** – Youth Sunday (Youth lead most of the 10:30 am worship service) & Super Bowl Party at the Smith's.
- **February 11** – Hornets Game after church (1:00 pm). You will be contacted by your basketball coaches or Lee Gray to sign up.

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 (WBT, 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?

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

February 4 – Youth Sunday

Theme: *Who Is the Greatest?*

Scripture: Mark 9:33-37

Proclaimers: David Benton, Samuel Bond

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Jan. 28	8:00 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:00 am	5 th /6 th Grade Discipleship (Room 305)
	9:00 am	11 th /12 th Grade Discipleship (Room 116)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:45 am	Peacebuilding Team (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Youth Sunday Night Live (Lounge, Gym, Chapel, 3 rd Floor)
Monday, Jan. 29	9:00 am	Ministry Staff Planning Day (Room 222)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	6:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Jan. 30	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Room 209)
	9:00 am	Ministry Staff planning (Room 222)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	CROP Recognition Dinner (Broach Hall)
Wed., Jan. 31	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	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, Feb. 1	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
Friday, Feb. 2	4:30 pm	HS Youth serve dinner for Room in the Inn
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Feb. 3	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Basketball games (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 MinisterRev. Martha Kearsse, 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



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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