

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE J. Noel Lance
Crown Him with Many Crowns Jason D. Payne

INTROIT Wesley Watts
Why Seek Ye the Living Among the Dead? James Kevin Gray

CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir
An Easter Chant Gordon Young

† **ENTRANCE OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** Nora Frances Benton

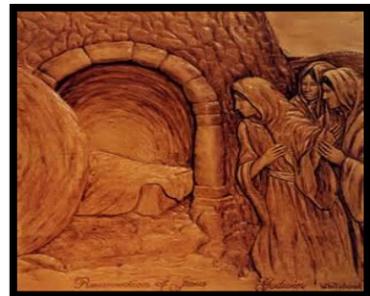
***HYMN OF PROCLAMATION** Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Chalice Hymnal No. 216 EASTER HYMN

RESURRECTION PROCLAMATION Nora Frances Benton

ONE VOICE: Christ is risen!
ALL VOICES: He is risen indeed!
ONE VOICE: Christ is risen!
ALL VOICES: He is risen indeed!
ONE VOICE: Christ is risen!
ALL VOICES: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH Dr. Foust



Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the

men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

ONE VOICE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.
ALL VOICES: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***HYMN OF RESURRECTION** Christ Arose!
Chalice Hymnal No. 224 CHRIST AROSE

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

Joe Ehrenberger, Camille Green, Carmen Howard, Polly Hull, Chuck Jones, Janie Kendrick, Elizabeth Laney, Tom Peacock, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson & Doris Tedder – home
Sympathy to the family of Jim & Linda Nash on the death of her father, and to Melissa Nash on the death of her grandfather, Early Hannah

SONG OF RESPONSE Chancel Choir
Hear Our Prayer, O Lord George Whelpton

A LITANY BASED ON COLOSSIANS 3:1-17 Mike Miller

ONE VOICE: If you are serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things which Christ desires to instill within you. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up and be alert to what is going on in the world because of Christ. That's what really matters. See things from his perspective.

ALL VOICES: Our old life is dead. We have been raised with Christ who is our real life with God. Christ is the one who gives us life with purpose and hope. He is our life. To pursue the life of Christ within us, we must remove from our lives everything connected with the way of death: sexual promiscuity, impurity, lust, doing whatever we feel like whenever we feel like it, and grabbing whatever attracts our fancy. That life is shaped by things and feelings instead of by God. It wasn't long ago that we were doing all that stuff and not knowing any better. But we know better now, so let us make sure it's all gone for good: bad temper, irritability, meanness, profanity, dirty talk. And, we must not lie to one another.

ONE VOICE: You're done with that old life. It's like a filthy set of ill-fitting clothes you've stripped off and put in the fire. Now you're dressed in a new wardrobe, with every item custom-made for you by the Creator, with God's label on it. And words like Jewish and non-Jewish, religious and irreligious, insider and outsider, civilized and uncouth, slave and free, mean nothing. From now on EVERYONE is defined by Christ; EACH OF YOU is included in Christ.

ALL VOICES: So, we are the beloved of God, set apart for this new life of compassion. We will dress in the wardrobe God has chosen for us: kindness, humility, quiet strength and discipline. We will be even-tempered, content with second place and quick to forgive an offense. And regardless of what else we put on, we will wear love. It is our basic, all-purpose garment. We will wear love every day.

ONE VOICE: Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with God and in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Living Message of God—have full control of your life. Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, thanking God the Father every step of the way.



OFFERTORY PRAYER Jason Benton

OFFERTORY J. Noel Lance
Love Medley Marylinn Ham

***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.

SONG OF WITNESS Aluel Nyuon, Chancel Choir
This Little Light of Mine Ken Berg

SERMON *Mindfulness and Jesus' Resurrection* Dr. Foust

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP**
Congregation stand and sing verse 3 when directed

1. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
2. Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Set your hearts on things a - bove:
3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high!

sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
there in all the Fa - ther's glo - ry lives and reigns our King of love;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who has gained the vic - to - ry!

he who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
once he died, and once was bur - ied: now he lives for - ev - er - more,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!

Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
Je - sus Christ the world's Re - deem - er, whom we wor - ship and a - dore.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia to the Tri - une Maj - es - ty!

CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE Dr. Foust

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** “Hallelujah” Chorus from *Messiah* George F. Handel

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance
“Toccatà” from *Organ Symphony V* C. M. Widor

* Invites the congregation to stand.

† The Christ light enters the sanctuary today symbolizing the proclamation of Christ's resurrection. God's light, as revealed in Christ, cannot be extinguished. Christ continues to penetrate darkness. The Christ candle is carried by Nora Frances Benton, who, through her commitment and baptism, proclaims the light which continues from generation to generation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday

The church offices will be closed on Monday, April 2, for the Easter holiday.

Gay Men’s Chorus of Charlotte

Next Sunday, April 8, we will welcome the Gay Men’s Chorus of Charlotte to assist in leading worship. The GMCC will be singing several songs during the service, concluding with a group number by GMCC and the St. John’s Chancel choir.

New Choir Robes

As many of you witnessed last Sunday, the choir has been outfitted with new robes that add a burst of beautiful blue into the chancel area. These robes were purchased through a generous gift by one of our choir families. The robes that the choir formerly wore will continue to be used by the youth choir for events such as Hanging of the Green. This is a marvelous gift that will add to our worship for years to come!

The St. John’s Pulpit

This Spring, the St. John’s Pulpit will respond to the resurrection of Jesus and this new life we share in Christ. We will explore *Adapting to God’s Light: New Ways of Seeing*. The risen Christ offered new ways of seeing to Mary Magdalene, Cleopas, Didymus, Simon Peter and others in the early Jesus Movement. Like them, we are adapting to God’s light revealed through an empty tomb.

April

8: **Interrobang Moments?** John 20:1-15a

15: **Talking the Walk?** Luke 24:13-35

22: **Genetics of Faith?** John 20:19-31

29: **Love, a Slippery Word?** John 21:1-17

May

6: **Why Church, Why?** Matthew 28:18-20

13: **Home Making?** Joshua 24 and John 6

20: **Winds of Change?** Acts 2:1-11

27: **Legacy Living?** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

On Sunday, June 3, we will recognize our graduates. Through the summer, messages will retell core biblical stories from both the Hebrew scriptures and the Christian scriptures around the theme *Stories in Which You Find Yourself*.

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.

Investing in the Future

Members of the Investing in the Future task force have now met with every Sunday School class, and we appreciate the time, thoughtfulness, and ideas the congregation shared with us. But it's not too late! If you were not part of any discussion and have thoughts for us, please contact any member of the task force - David Allen, Bill Claytor, Bill Hartsell, Bobbi Sherrill, Randy Brantley, Charlie Harper, Wannu Hogewood, Fredda Kimball, Russell Norris, Meredith Sorrell, Sara Vavra, or Sally Young - and let us know what you think!

Terrific Tuesday Book Club

Tuesday, April 24, 12 noon, Library - This month’s book: The Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood. Books are available in the church office.

Youth

- **April 1 & 8** - Youth will not meet on Sunday evenings (CMS Spring Break)
- **April 15** - Youth will play Paintball. Meet at the church at 2:30 and return 6:15. Cost will be \$20. Details will be emailed to youth and parents.

Have you included St. John’s in your estate planning?

Open Table

On Wednesdays, April 25 and May 23, we have scheduled intergenerational fellowship dinners from 6-7 pm in Broach Hall. Mark your calendars. More details to come.

St. John’s Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428

www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John’s Pulpit

April 8 - Second Sunday of Easter

Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Foust

Sermon Series: *Adapting to God’s Light: New Ways of Seeing*

Sermon: *Interrobang Moments?*

Scripture: John 20:1-15a

This Week at St. John’s

Sunday, April 1	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
Monday, April 2		Church offices closed
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men’s Basketball (Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, April 3	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men’s Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	1:00 pm	QC Family Tree (Gym)
Wed., April 4	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thurs., April 5	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
Friday, April 6	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, April 7	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (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

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
Senior Minister.....Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Church Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Jacquelyn McAbee
Church Accountant.....Elaine Johnson
Church Administrator.....Sandra Rogers
Custodians.....Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
Graded Choirs Director.....Anna Ball
Organist.....J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted

*Christ is Risen,
Indeed!*



SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018
EASTER SUNDAY
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP

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