

The Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

PRELUDE	J. Noel Lance
WORDS OF GREETING	Rev. Lee Gray
*EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP	Congregation
A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP	Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
PRAYER OF SUBMISSION	Dr. Foust
CALL TO WORSHIP	Rev. Gray

ONE VOICE: Where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus,

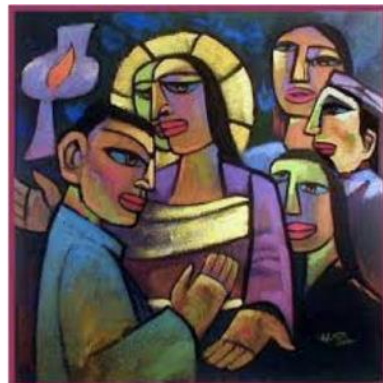
ALL VOICES: Christ is there.

ONE VOICE: Jesus is always faithful. This faithfulness is true no matter how we feel or what we think. Through the corridors of time, God is present, in Christ, loving us and redeeming us.

ALL VOICES: Christ lives and is among us! Let us worship God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Chalice Hymnal No. 233	HYFRYDOL

READING OF THE GOSPEL	John 20:19-31	Tom Blackmon
	Marc Cardella, Judy Sanford	



When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the

sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you. Thomas, put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

ONE VOICE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.

ALL VOICES: Thanks be to God!

SONG OF RESPONSE

By Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

When Thomas Heard from Jesus

AURELIA

When crowds began to murmur and leaders raised their cry,
brave Thomas spoke out firmly, "Let's go with him and die."
He ate at Jesus' table, partaking wine and bread;
yet later with the others, he saw the cross and fled.

What joy on Easter evening when many saw the Lord!
Yet Thomas was not with them and would not trust their word.
When Christ appeared before him, his doubts were quickly gone;
he gladly knew that evening the joy of Easter dawn.

CALL TO SERVICE

Community & State Mission Offering

Bert Green

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Bert Green, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY

With a Voice of Singing

Chancel Choir

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia.
The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honor of His name,
make His praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Alleluia.
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

*DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal No. 46

OLD HUNDREDETH

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.

REFLECTION

We should pray by fixing our mind upon some pressing need, desiring it with all earnestness, and then exercise faith and confidence toward God in the matter, never doubting that we have been heard. St. Bernard said, "Dear brothers, you should never double your prayer, thinking that it might have been in vain, for I tell you truly that before you have uttered the words, the prayer is already recorded in heaven. Therefore you should confidently expect from God one of two things: either that your prayer will be granted, or, that if it is not granted, the granting of it would not be good for you."

~ Martin Luther (1483-1546) in his writing *Table Talk*

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rev. 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, Camille Green, Polly Hull, Janie Kendrick,
Elizabeth Laney, Laura McGuire, Brad Sifford & Carole Ann Simpson – home
Sympathy to the family of Jean Canady

*HYMN

Chalice Hymnal No. 576

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

SERMON

Genetics of Faith?

Dr. Foust

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

Chalice Hymnal No. 484, verses 1, 2 & 4

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

MESSAGE

*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

Dr. Foust

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

*POSTLUDE

J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

Copies of worship bulletins are available on the St. John's website: stjohnsbaptistchurch.org



THE INCREDULITY OF SAINT THOMAS

by R.L. Barden

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You

to Nick Gattis for serving as our worship leader today as Kevin Gray takes a time of vacation. Kevin has been in Seattle this week for a West Coast debut of the Jazz Mass written by himself and Rick Bean.

Open Table: Intergenerational Evenings with Purposeful Play

To strengthen opportunities for our multiple generations to interact and learn from one another and play together, we are scheduling 5 or 6 Wednesday evenings per year. Our first OPEN TABLE is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25. The menu will be barbecue chicken, rice consommé, smothered green beans and chocolate brownies. Please email or call Jacquelyn McAbee in the church office **TODAY** as the final count will be reported on Monday morning (jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org or 704.333.5428, ext. 11). Meal costs will be \$10/adults and \$6/child under 12 with a maximum of \$30 per household. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:50 and will continue to be served until 6:30. We will gather in Broach Hall and dismiss by 7:00 pm. All generations will be together for this time as we enjoy intergenerational table games, storytelling, conversations, etc.



VBS Volunteers Needed

St. John's/St. Martins VBS 2018: A Year in the Church

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. To volunteer, contact Allison Benfield. VBS can't happen without you!

Terrific Tuesday Book Club

Tuesday, April 24, 12 noon, Library - This month's book: *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. Bring a sandwich and continue the conversation over lunch in the conference room.

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

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

Youth

- **April 22** - Youth on regular Sunday Night Live 5:00-7:30. The evening will include a walking scavenger hunt, in and around the church, dinner, and Bert Green will share with us about Habitat for Humanity at 6:30.
- **May 6** – Youth Banquet
- **May 20** – Paintball (make-up date)

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

April 29 – Fifth Sunday in Eastertide

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

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

Sermon: *Love, a Slippery Word?*

Scripture: John 21:1-17

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, April 22	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Habitat trip meeting (Conference Room)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym/Lounge/3rd Floor)
	6:30 pm	Baptist News Global (Room 222)
Monday, April 23	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
	8:30 am	Baptist News Global (Lounge/Rooms 220, 222, 226)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 209)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Investing in the Future Task Force (Conf. Room)
	6:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	7:00 pm	Baptist News Global (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Tuesday, April 24	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	8:30 am	Baptist News Global (Lounge/Rooms 220, 222, 226)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library/Conf. Room)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Memory Center Charlotte (Broach Hall)
Wed., April 25	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	8:30 am	Baptist News Global (Room 222)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	5:30 pm	Open Table (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
	6:30 pm	Charlotte Nets AAU (Gym)
	7:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thurs., April 26	5:00 pm	HeadStart Parent Advocacy gathering (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Women of the Church Board meeting (Lounge)
Friday, April 27	8:00 pm	AA (Room 114)
Saturday, April 28	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

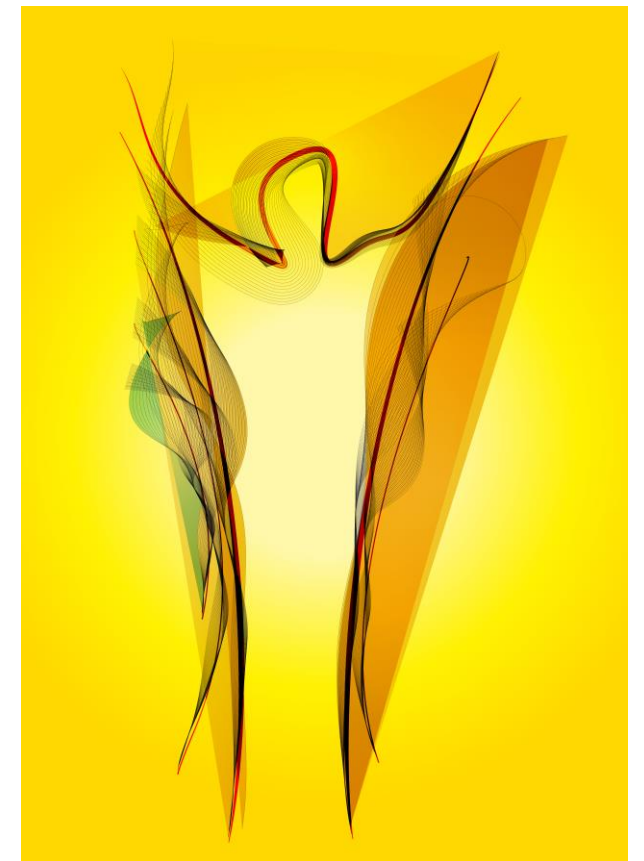
Equipping Ministers

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

The Worship of God



Fourth Sunday in Eastertide

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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