

Morning Has Broken, Like the First Morning

Please turn off all electronic devices

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

*EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP Congregation

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP Dr. Foust

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Dr. Foust

ONE: Creator of all that gives life and nurtures love, we gather in sacred space to be present to Your PRESENCE. We worship You by responding to Your call for us to be partners with You in creation and redemption.

ALL: Wherever there is darkness, let us bring Your light; wherever chaos has control, lead us to bring Your vision of order; wherever there is a formless void, show us how to create life-redeeming significance! Create Your mission within us so we become more actively faithful faithfully active. AMEN!

*HYMN OF PRAISE Morning Has Broken
Chalice Hymnal No. 53 BUNESSAN

TELLING OF THE CREATION STORY Based Upon Genesis 1:1-2:3 Phil & Sara Vavra



What is the best gift you ever received? Some gifts are so big, it can be difficult to recognize they are gifts. Many gifts you enjoy were already here when you joined this party we call life.

In the beginning when God began creating the heavens and the earth, the earth was a

shapeless, chaotic mass of nothing; a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “*Let there be light*”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

On the second day, God said, “*Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters to separate the waters above from the waters below.*” So, God made the dome and separated the waters. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning.

On the third day, God said, “*Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into oceans and let dry land appear.*” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and God called the large waters Seas. And God was pleased. Then God said, “*Let the earth sprout.*” And the earth burst forth with every kind of grass and seed-bearing plant and fruit trees with seed inside the fruit to continue creation. Once again, God was very much pleased. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

* Invites the congregation to stand

On the fourth day, God said, “*Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to give light to earth and to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years. This will provide a way for the creation to be renewed each day.*” And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light God called the sun to rule the day – and the lesser light God called the moon to rule the night—and the stars. God set these lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

On the fifth day, God said, “*Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.*” So God created the great sea animals and every living creature that moves in the seas and birds that fly in the sky. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “*Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the waters with living creatures and let birds multiply on the earth.*” And it was so. And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

On the sixth day, God spoke again saying, “*Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.*” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground – reptiles and crawling critters of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “*Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them be caretakers over the earth, and over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.*” So, God created humankind in God’s image, male and female God created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “*Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and be in charge of caring for creation; and nurture the health of the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every living thing that moves upon the earth.*” God said, “*See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.*” And so it was that God looked to see everything God had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Then the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.

On the seventh day God rested from the work that God had done. God then declared the seventh day to be a holy day. Today, we remember all of God’s gifts and we remember The Giver.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

OFFERTORY PRAYER James Laney, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
God So Loved the World John Stainer

*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.

*HYMN OF PRAYERFUL STEWARDSHIP Creator God, Creating Still
Chalice Hymnal No. 62 ST. ANNE

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 – Asbury; Nancy Burgess, Bill Claytor, Harold Funderburk, Camille Green, Genice Harper, Polly Hull, Lee Hutchison, Dale Johnson, Pat Lloyd, Johnnie Morcock, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson & Dee Turner - home

Praise in the Singing! Praise in the Morning!

*HYMN OF WONDER When, in Awe of God’s Creation
Chalice Hymnal No. 688, verses 1 & 2 HYFRYDOL

HOMILY *You Are Invited to the Party* Dr. Foust

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT O God of Every Shining Constellation
Chalice Hymnal No. 55 VICAR

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

COMMISSIONING OF 2018 HABITAT MISSION TEAM Dr. Foust

LEADER: The church has long consecrated believers for the task of sharing the love and grace of God through both word and deed in places near and far. Are you willing to be set aside for the purpose of sharing the Gospel in word and deed?

TEAM: We present ourselves as living sacrifices to God.

LEADER: The church has long utilized a variety of means to communicate the power of Life. Are you willing to commit your gifts and talents to the service of God?

TEAM: We offer ourselves as servants of love, hope, joy, and peace.

LEADER: Congregations have long supported endeavors of outreach to help establish the Kingdom of God here on earth. Do you pledge your prayers to these who are willing to be sent?

PEOPLE: We do.

LEADER: Do you pledge your love and resources?

PEOPLE: We do.

LEADER: Having heard the encouragement of your church family, do you accept the role of missionaries and servants through St. John’s Baptist Church?

TEAM: Yes, we are servants of Christ.

LEADER: Then we send you with our blessing to James Island, South Carolina, in fulfillment of Christ’s Great Commission.

ALL: Our Lord, we are a servant church. We seek to be obedient to Your command, beginning in our own city. We take Your Gospel to the ends of the earth, knowing that You are with us always. Bless us and the offering of our resources that we might bless others. Amen.

*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

*POSTLUDE J. Noel Lance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Mission Trip with Sea Island Habitat

We are excited about the opportunity to build out 10th Habitat House this year with Sea Island Habitat during our High School Mission Trip this week (June 17-23). There will be 22 youth and 16 adults working throughout the week. The team will depart for John's Island following this morning's worship and lunch at the church. They will return around 3:00 pm on Saturday, June 23. Watch for photos of the work this week on Facebook and in the Family News.

Stories to Help Us Grow: *For the Bible Tells Us So*

A St. John's Summer Series

From June 10-August 19, we will have an Intergenerational Summer Sunday School in Lasater Hall. We'll gather together and learn about some of the most important stories of our faith. We have a lot to learn from each other! During these weeks, this will be the only option for families with children during the Sunday School hour. (We will offer worship care for the Nursery/2s Class and the PreK/K Class from 10:15-11:30 each week of Summer Sunday School.) Come join the circle as we wonder together about the stories of faith! These stories will continue in worship each week.

Global Missions Offering

Goal - \$15,000—Received \$1370

Benefitting The Nyarweng Primary School, South Sudan

Senior Adult Picnic – Sunday, June 24, at 11:45 am in Broach Hall

Sponsored by Women of the Church - Fried chicken, baked beans and potato salad. Call Jacquelyn in the church office (704-333-5428 ext. 11) to RSVP by June 20th.

Freedom School

Freedom School Staff and Interns moved into our space this week and classes begin tomorrow! A few weeks ago, our Education Team worked to get their classrooms ready and provide each Intern with a few supplies for their rooms and some fun things to help get their summer started. Freedom School Partners is a 501(c)(3) that promotes the long-term success of children by preventing summer learning loss through igniting a passion for reading and inspiring a love of learning. They provide quality summer programming for students in grades K-8 at 16 locations across Charlotte. If you would like to volunteer with Freedom School, go to <http://qcfamilytree.freedomsschoolpartners.volunteerhub.com/events/indexv1> and check out all the volunteer opportunities offered with Freedom School this summer!

Naturalization Workshop Ministry Opportunities!

Todd Stillerman has been working through the Bank of America Legal Department with the Latin America Coalition to staff naturalization workshops in Mecklenburg County. These workshops provide free legal advice to immigrants with permanent resident status on how to fill out their N-400 forms to apply for naturalized U.S. citizenship. One of these workshops will be held in Broach Hall on Saturday, July 14, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please consider being involved in this important ministry to members of our community who are seeking to become naturalized citizens! Check out this coming week's Family News for volunteer opportunities and contact information.

2018 Charlotte Pride

Save the dates! This year's Festival is Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19, with the 2018 Bank of America Charlotte Pride Parade starting at 1 pm on Sunday, August 19. The Pride Interfaith Service will be held at St. John's on Sunday, August 12, at 4 pm. If you would like to volunteer to do more than march in the parade, e-mail Todd Stillerman at stillerman@gmail.com or text Mattie Stillerman at 704-362-6743.

Men's Softball

This week's games: Monday, 6/18 at 6 pm vs Hawthorne Lane and Wednesday, 6/20 at 6 pm vs St. Martin's. All games will be played at Providence Baptist Church (4921 Randolph Road).

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, June 24 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series: Stories to Help Us Grow: *For the Bible Tells Us So*

Sermon: *Journey of Listening*

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, June 17	9:15 am	Summer Sunday School (Lasater Hall/Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Youth lunch (Lounge)
	1:00 pm	South Sudanese worship (Chapel)
Monday, June 18	8:00 am	Freedom School begins
	6:30 pm	Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble (Sanctuary)
	6:30 pm	Leadership Task Force (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, June 19	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	9:00 am	Queen City Unlimited (Gym)
	10:00 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	10:30 am	CROP (Lounge)
	12:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	4:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Safety & Security Task Force (Lounge)
Wed., June 20	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Queen City Unlimited (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:30 pm	Charlotte Nets (Gym)
Thurs., June 21	9:00 am	Queen City Unlimited (Gym)
	11:00 am	Uptown Ladies (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Novant Monthly Managers' Meeting (Broach Hall)
Friday, June 22	6:00 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, June 23	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	3:00 pm	Young Voices/Raleigh Boychoir concert (Sanctuary)

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

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

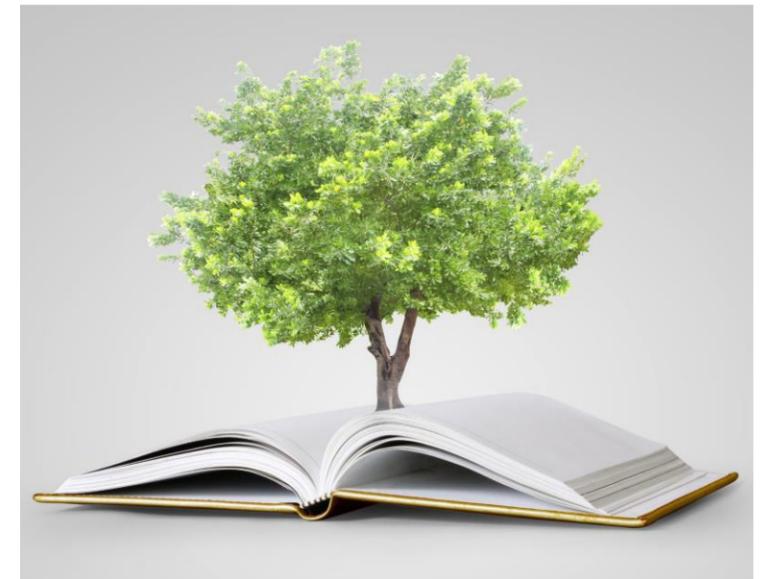
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Allison Benfield
Minister for Worship and Music.....J. Kevin Gray
Minister for Youth and Young Adults.....Rev. Lee Gray
Senior Minister.....Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Church Staff

Administrative Assistant..... Jacquelyn McAbee
Custodians Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
Graded Choir Director..... Anna Ball
Organist..... J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director..... Lydia Olmsted

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

The Worship of God



Stories to Help Us Grow:
For the Bible Tells Us So

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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