

# We Gather as God's Church

Please turn off all electronic devices

**PRELUDE** Kathy Alexander  
*Beautiful Savior* Charles Ore

**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: God of a thousand faces, who sees through all pretenses to that silent, secret space within where we are true spirit sojourners,

**ALL: Prune away the duplicities that mask our best intentions and all those quick defenses that disguise who we really are.**

ONE: Open us up to You and to all who would touch the truth of our being;

**ALL: So that we may see the integrity of the lives given over to You now and forever. Amen.** - Miriam Theresa Winter

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service  
Chalice Hymnal No. 461, verses 1, 3 & 4 BEACH SPRING

## May We Be Hearers and Doers

**READING OF THE EPISTLE** James 1:17-27 Ryan Crowder



Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted

word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN OF TRANSFORMATION** O Lord, May All We Say and Do  
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette/J. Kevin Gray VENI EMMANUEL

O Lord, may all we say and do reflect the faith we have in You; For faith is meant to change the way we live our lives from day to day. O Lord, O Lord, teach us to hear Your call and send us forth to minister to all.

God, may we open wide the door and welcome people who are poor; And may we share with them our bread, for faith without good works is dead. O Lord, O Lord, teach us to hear Your call and send us forth to minister to all.

**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

Larry Batts – CMC

Martha Brown, Nancy Burgess, Matt Collins, Bill Finger, Bert Green, McLain Hall, Gene Poole, Dot Propst, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson & Dee Turner – home Sympathy to Kevin Turner and family in the death of his mother

**\*SPIRIT SONG** There's a Sprit in the Air  
Chalice Hymnal No. 257, verse 1 LAUDS

**ANTHEM** Chancel Choir  
*Witness* Roger Emerson

**MESSAGE** *Religious Labor* Dr. Foust

## We Offer Ourselves in God's Service

**\*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** The Voice of God Is Calling  
Chalice Hymnal No. 666, verses 1 & 2 MEIRIONYDD

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** James Laney, Deacon

**WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Kathy Alexander  
*Near the Cross* John Carter

**\*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.

# We Are Called to Be God's People in the World

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

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION** Congregation  
*Send Us Forth* J. Kevin Gray

*rall. - mf*

Lord you call us as your peo-ple to be light to

8 those in need. We are called to be a bles -sing to all peo -ple that we

*f*

12 meet.. Send us forth, send us forth, send us forth in - to the

16 world. Send us forth, send us forth, sha-ving your great love for

20 all. Send us forth, send us forth, let your light shine through our

*mf*

24 lives. We are called to be, we are called to be,

*mp*

28 we are called to be God's peo-ple in this world.

**\*POSTLUDE** Kathy Alexander  
*Built on the Rock* Robert Hobby

*\*Invites the congregation to stand.*

Copies of worship bulletins are available on the St. John's website: [stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Deacon Ordination

Deacon Ordination and Installation will be next Sunday, September 9, during morning worship. The following will be ordained as new deacons: Allene Cooley, Tim Gibson, Clara Howell, Libby LeVie, Keith Towery, Kathy Turner, and Wesley Watts. The first All Deacons' Meeting of the new year will be held on Monday, September 10, at 7:30 pm in Broach Hall.

### School Uniform Drive

We had a wonderful collection this year. We collected 162 uniform pieces! Thanks to everyone who brought uniforms or supplies.

### Global Missions Offering

**Goal - \$15,000—Received \$13,845**

Please participate in our Global Mission Offering by giving and by writing a letter to a student, a teacher, or a parent. What do you want to share with your friends in Nyarweng? A part of yourself? An encouraging word? Your favorite bible verse? A picture of your family?

### 10th Annual Women of the Church Luncheon

Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – Broach Hall – 11:45-1:30 pm  
Tara Brown, comedian and friend of Julie Scoggins, has agreed to join us for a fun-filled celebration of the Women of the Church. All women are invited! Last chance to reserve your place at the table! Reply to your Evite invitation or call the church office by Monday, September 3. Cost is \$10 per person.

### New Administrative Assistant

The Personnel Resource Team is pleased to announce the hiring of our new Administrative Assistant, Mallory Brown. She will begin her new role with us this Tuesday, September 4. Stop by the office to welcome her to St. John's when you are at the church!

### Faith Journey Book Study

The Faith Journey Book Study will begin the new session on Monday, September 10, in Room 209. This group of ladies meets Monday mornings, from 11:45 am - 1:00 pm for sharing, prayer, and study (join us on your lunch break). Our study begins with the book BOUNDLESS COMPASSION by Joyce Rupp. We would love to have you journey with us as we explore our faith. Please contact Gail Sifford at [gsifford@aol.com](mailto:gsifford@aol.com) if you have questions.

### Bible Work Bench resumes September 4

We invite you to join others as we begin a new session of Bible Work Bench on Tuesday, September 4, at 11:00 am. We meet for one hour in Room 209. We begin our weekly meetings with the study of Mark, chapter 7. Contact Steve Hoffman (704-604-9634 or [sghoffmans4@gmail.com](mailto:sghoffmans4@gmail.com)) for more information.

### Craft & Bake Sale

Sunday, October 21 - Sponsored by The Craft & Needle Ministry  
We need your help to donate handmade crafts and baked goods! All proceeds will be used to reduce hunger in the Charlotte region! Contact Ruth Jackson or the church office to volunteer or for more information.

### New Sanctuary Sound System Installed

Our new sound system in the sanctuary is a step forward. However, we want to hear from you as we adjust settings on microphones to allow for the best acoustics in the room. Bringing clarity of sound to a variety of hearers and hearing devices in a large room always presents challenges. Please be patient with us as we respond to your reports. Last Sunday, we received numerous positive reports and some reports of concerns. Please share your reports with Kevin Gray or any staff member.

## St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204  
704.333.5428 - [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

### The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, September 2 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series: *Actively Faithful Faithfully Active Living*

Message: *Seeing with Eyes Closed*

Scripture: James 2:1-13

### This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 2	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	1:00 pm	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
Monday, Sept. 3		Church office closed (Labor Day holiday)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Sept. 4	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	9:30 am	Staff meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Work Bench (Room 209)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
Wed., Sept. 5	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 116)
	1:00 pm	Architectural Selection Task Force (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Sept. 6	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
Friday, Sept. 7	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Sept. 8	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)

**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.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

#### Church Staff

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

# The Worship of God

But be **DOERS** of  
the word, and  
not **HEARERS** only.  
*James 1:22*

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2018**

**10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

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