

Praise

Please turn off all electronic devices

GATHERING MUSIC J. Noel Lance

PRELUDE J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Dylan Redding

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP Rev. Allison Benfield

***EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP** Congregation

CALL TO WORSHIP Emery Hinson

ONE: We gather as God's beloved children,

ALL: However glad we are, however out of sorts we are.

ONE: We come together as a people whom Jesus calls into community –

ALL: So, this becomes a place where all are welcome.

ONE: We have come to give thanks, to pray and sing, to be with each other –

ALL: Let us worship God.

-Beth Merrill Neel

***HYMN OF PRAISE** O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Chalice Hymnal No. 5 AZMON

Listen

READING OF THE GOSPEL Mark 10:13-16 Wyatt Sweet

People were bringing children to Jesus so that he would bless them. But the disciples scolded them. When Jesus saw this, he grew angry and said to them, "Allow the children to come to me. Don't forbid them, because God's kingdom belongs to people like these children. I assure you that whoever doesn't welcome God's kingdom like a child will never enter it." Then he hugged the children and blessed them.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!



SONG Christ You Teach Us of Your Kingdom
By Carolyn Winfrey Gillette W ZLOBIE LEZY

Christ, You teach us of Your Kingdom and the common life we share.
You remind us, "Be like children!" So, we offer You our prayer:
Make us gentle, make us humble, may we cause no one to stumble,
sheltered in Your church's care.

May we seek Your will together, bound together by rebirth.
May we care for one another, knowing every person's worth.
Two or three united praying; two or three Your love obeying,
are Your voice and hands on earth.

Give

A WORD ABOUT STEWARDSHIP Natalie Turner

OFFERTORY PRAYER Jayden Mullis

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
I Believe Mark Miller

I believe in the sun, even when it is not shining.
I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God, even when He is silent.

***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.

Pray

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Hutch Benton

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

Bill Finger, Asbury; Larry Batts, Martha Brown, Nancy Burgess,
McLain Hall, Paul Huffman, Linda Maready, Martha Moore,
Rob Peacock, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson,
Elma Thomas & Dee Turner – home

Learn

ANTHEM Grace Notes
You Are Welcome Here Mark Burrows

Am I welcome here? Am I safe to sing or laugh or shed a tear? Will I be loved the way I am? Will friends be near? Am I welcome here? Am I welcome here?

You are welcome here. You are safe to sing or laugh or shed a tear. We love you just the way you are. So, have no fear. You are welcome here. You are welcome here.

This is a place of peace and grace, where all God's children have a home. God's reign will come. God's will be done. When all are loved, and no one stands alone.

All are welcome here. All are safe to sing or laugh or shed a tear. God loves us just the way we are. So, have no fear. All are welcome here. I am welcome here.

SHARING GOD'S STORY TOGETHER Rev. Benfield, Tallon Cardella,
Clinton Dietz Gabe Perkins, Emmitt Vergakis

The Parable of the Mustard Seed



HYMN Seek Ye First
Chalice Hymnal No. 354 SEEK YE FIRST

MESSAGE Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Jesus, the Child Advocate

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD'S CHILDREN Dr. Foust

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

Go

***HYMN OF WITNESS** This Little Light of Mine

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...
3. Even when I'm afraid, I'm gonna let it shine...
4. This little light of mine...

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Basketball at St. John's

The St. John's Basketball Ministry will be starting up again soon. The last younger children's clinic, ages 8 and under and 6 and under, will take place this Monday, November 5 at 5:30PM in the gym. The 10 and under group will meet at 6:30 on the same evening. All basketball teams begin practicing in mid-November. If you are interested in playing on one of our teams, please contact Lee Gray at lgray@sjcharlotte.org.

Veterans' Day

For Veteran's Day on November 11, the Women of the Church are compiling a list of people in our congregation who have served or presently serve in the United States Armed Forces. Please contact Mallory in the church office, giving her your name and the branch of service in which you or someone you know served or serve. There will be a reception after the service to honor veterans in Lasater Hall.

Vision Sunday and Commitment Sunday

The next two Sundays are exceedingly important in the life and ministries of St. John's. Please plan to be present next Sunday, November 11th, as Dr. Foust offers a message pointing us toward our second century of ministry. At the end of worship, we will honor the 30 veterans we have identified in our congregation and enjoy a brief reception in Lasater Hall. Sunday, November 18th, is Commitment Sunday. We will make our financial commitments for the 2019 financial ministry plan and celebrate baptism with new disciples during morning worship. You will receive a commitment card and letter from our Stewardship Resource Team this week.

Winthrop University Concert: A Gateway Experience

Come enjoy our annual Winthrop University Chorale fall concert on Sunday, November 18, at 4PM in the Sanctuary. The theme that afternoon centers around loving your neighbor and allowing your own love to be heard by all others. They will be performing works by Brahms, Runestad, Dello Joio, and Rheinberger. A premiere of a new work by Winthrop alumna and our Minister for Worship & Music, James Kevin Gray, will also be featured. The event is free! Bring a friend along as this is a great way to introduce folks to the life of St. John's.

All Deacons' Meeting

The next All Deacons' Meeting is Monday, November 19, at 7:30PM in Broach Hall. All deacon panels will meet prior to this meeting at 6:30PM in various locations. The Ministries Panel meets in the Conference Room; the Administrative Panel meets in Broach Hall; the Pastoral Panel meets in the Lounge. We hope all deacons will be in attendance.

Advent Devotionals

As we make our way toward Advent, Kevin invites all those who find writing as way to express God's graciousness to join him in working on our Advent devotional book. Each devotional does not need to be any longer than a few paragraphs. First, let Kevin know of your intention to write a devotional. Next, submit your devotional by email to kgray@sjcharlotte.org and mbrown@sjcharlotte.org by November 20th. The topics for each week of Advent are as follows: hope, peace, joy, and love. One might consider these topics in the writing process.

Senior Adult Christmas Gathering

This event will take place on Thursday, December 13, from 11:30am until 1:30pm. More information is coming soon!

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, November 11

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Sermon Series: The Love that Christ Revealed

Message: *A Vision Worth a Risk*

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Nov. 4	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	9:15 am	St. John's 101 (Conference Room)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Youth Lunch (Lounge)
	12:00 pm	Youth Stream Clean-Up
	1:00 pm	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
	2:00 pm	Hardin Minor Performance (Broach Hall)
Monday, Nov. 5	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	SJ Basketball Clinic (Gym)
	5:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Women of the Church Board Meeting (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	SJ Basketball Clinic (Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Nov. 6	6:30 am	General Election (Broach Hall)
	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 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., Nov. 7	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Nov. 8	10:00 am	Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Nov. 9	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Nov. 10	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.....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

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

The Worship of God



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA