

Praise the Lord, Creator of All

Please turn off all electronic devices

GATHERING MUSIC

J. Noel Lance

ONE: This is the day that the Lord hath made.

ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

INTROIT

J. Noel Lance

Now Thank We All Our God

James Pethel

WORDS OF GREETING

Rev. Lee Gray

*EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP

Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

Rev. Allison Benfield

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We give You thanks, O God, for all that You have done for us in Jesus Christ.

CHOIR: In Christ, You have shown us the length and breadth and depth and height of Your great love for us;

ALL: We are thankful that, in Christ, You open to us a new and living way into Your presence. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Chalice Hymnal No. 86

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Speak to Us, O Lord

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Mark 15:33-39

Kevin Turner



When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Accept Our Gifts and Prayers, O Lord

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Allene Cooley, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY

We Gather Together

J. Noel Lance

James Pethel

*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.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 24:13-16, 28-31

Rev. Gray



Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him... As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

ANTHEM

O Love

Chancel Choir

Elaine Hagenberg/George Matheson

Oh love, that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee. I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller

MESSAGE

Where We See God

Rev. Gray

Communion

SONG OF PREPARATION

Chalice Hymnal No. 424 (Verse 1, Solo)

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

WELCOME TABLE

COMMUNION PRAYER

Rev. Benfield

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Gray

CHRIST'S CHURCH IS SERVED COMMUNION

SERVING THE BREAD

1 Corinthians 11:23-24

Rev. Benfield

SERVING THE CUP

1 Corinthians 11:25-26

Rev. Gray

*HYMN OF JOYFUL DISCIPLESHIP

Chalice Hymnal No. 477

Pass It On

PASS IT ON

This hymn is in memory of its composer Kurt Kaiser, who passed on Nov 12, 2018.

Covenant

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Todd Stillerman

Claude Bragg, Jacob Callaway, Miller Ray

READING OF THE CHURCH COVENANT

United in the faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, revealed in history, disclosed in the Scriptures, and experienced in human life, we do solemnly and joyfully make this Covenant together:

We will be faithful to the public worship of God, gathering with the family of the church to celebrate His glory and remember His grace.

We will take seriously the responsibility and privilege of personal Christian growth, diligently seeking to establish and maintain a Christian atmosphere in our homes.

We will love and encourage each other in the family of the Church and admonish each other as occasion may require. Our differences will not separate us but rather increase our understanding and strengthen the bonds of Christian love.

We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us, contributing our financial support for the Church and its ministries and offering ourselves for God's work in the world.

We will, with God's help, so live our lives that others, seeing the joy of Christian living, may seek to know Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will be a servant Church, recognizing the infinite worth of every person and believing that Christ has called us to active involvement in behalf of human brotherhood. In the spirit of this covenant, we pray together:

Almighty God, Father of us all, witness this Covenant which we make with each other and with Thee. Guide us as we try to do that which pleases Thee, to the glory of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Chalice Hymnal No. 307

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Malotte

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.

*POSTLUDE

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

J. Noel Lance

Dennis Eliot

As you depart the sanctuary, our deacons will be at the exits to receive your gifts to the Fellowship Fund. These funds are used to assist with crisis ministry needs among our church family. If you know of someone who is experiencing a crisis, please contact a ministry staff member.

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

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

Prayer Concerns

Bill Finger, Asbury; Larry Batts, Nancy Burgess, McLain Hall, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Rob Peacock, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner – home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Cards for Neighbors

Starting today the mailboxes for Christmas Card for Neighbors are available near the Main Entrance. Anyone is invited to write and/or decorate a Christmas card for one or several of our members who cannot easily come to church services anymore. The list of those receiving cards will be on the table near the mailboxes. So, bring your own card or use one here at the church and put them in one of the mailboxes starting today! The mailboxes will be open until Sunday, December 16 so that deacons have time to deliver them.

Stewardship Update

At this time, 144 financial commitments have been received, totaling \$683,864 pledged for the upcoming year. If you have not turned your pledge cards in to Jacquelyn in the office, please do so as soon as possible.

Hanging of the Green Service

On Sunday, December 2, at 10:30AM in the Sanctuary, we will gather for our special Hanging of the Green worship service to prepare our sanctuary for Advent and Christmastide. During this service, music from our Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Handbells, and Children's Choir will be featured. We hope all plan to attend. There will be a guest reception at 9:15 in the parlor.

Room in the Inn

For the 2018-2019 season, St. John's and Caldwell Presbyterian Church volunteers will again collaborate to house 12 homeless neighbors, vetted by the Urban Ministry Center, each Friday night from December 7 through March 29. To sign up for any of the varied tasks in serving our homeless neighbors on Friday evenings please use our 2018-2019 RITI Signup Genius form, which is accessed at the following website: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaae2eaafb6-room9>. There will be a training session for RITI volunteers from 2:00-4:00PM in the church lounge on Sunday, November 25. If you have any questions, please contact Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or Alice Wirz at 704-377-6189.

Jubilee Store

This year St. John's will be providing space in Broach Hall on December 8 and 9 for the annual Jubilee Store sponsored by Charlotte Family Housing. Clients in the program can shop for Christmas gifts at discounted prices. Here is how you can help: Check the small Christmas trees at the Main Entrance and pick a leaf from the tree showing a specific toy, purchase it and return it to St. John's by December 2. On Sundays, you may leave the gift in the collection bin at the Main Entrance. During the week, please leave the gift with Mallory. Volunteer with the setup, hospitality, or day of the event support. Contact Clara Howell at 704-578-8153 or clarahowell92@gmail.com.

December Christmas Outing

On Sunday, December 9, at 4:00pm, join a group from St. John's for an outing to the Knight Theater to see the *Singing Christmas Tree: Big Band Bash!* The 64th Annual Singing Christmas Tree will be accompanied by Charlotte's hottest all-star Big Band. This new twist into their 64th consecutive season will feature swinging arrangements of favorite Christmas classics, Miller Street Dance Academy, and special guests. To join the group from St. John's attending this year's show or for more information, please contact Jacquelyn McAbee, a singing ornament on the singing Christmas tree, at jmcabee@sicharlotte.org or 704-333-5428, ext. 20 as soon as possible.

St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, December 2, Hanging of the Green
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Worship Theme: God, in Christ, Brings Hope to Stay
Message: *Hope Inspired Action*
Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Nov. 25	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	1:00 am	Room in the Inn Training (Gym)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, Chapel)
Monday, Nov. 26	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Media & Messaging Task Force (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Nov. 27	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Work Bench (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Terrific Tuesday Book Club (Library & Lounge)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Youth Resource Team (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Spiritual Formation Resource Team (Broach Hall)
Wed., Nov. 28	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	1:30 pm	Learning Charms (Room 116)
	2:00 pm	Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Membership Resource Team (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	6:30 pm	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Nov. 29	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Nov. 30	5:00 pm	High School Youth Serve QC Family Tree
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Dec. 1	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Basketball Practice (Gym)
	1:00 pm	St. Jude Holiday Party (Broach Hall)

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



Communion Sunday

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA