

# LESSONS & CAROLS



## GOD, IN CHRIST, BRINGS JOY TO STAY

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December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

Ten Thirty in the Morning

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### \*CHORAL INTROIT

Rejoice and Sing  
J.S. Bach

*Chancel Choir*

Rejoice and sing, rejoice and sing, Your gracious King as man is born, and lays aside his glory.  
He is adored as Christ and Lord and every tongue repeats the wondrous story.

### WORDS OF GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

### A BLESSING OF JOY

Dr. Foust

ONE: The joy of the Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

Dr. Foust

### \*ADVENT HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus  
HYFRYDOL

Come, Thou long expected Jesus born to set Thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## \*THE ADVENT CANDLES

Janet Jones & Patti Klein

ONE: What is your wish for Christmas?

**ALL: We seek happiness, but happiness can be temporary and difficult to sustain.**

ONE: Joy is much more than happiness. Joy comes when we invite God's Spirit to fill our souls, starting from the bottom until it overflows from us and into the lives of others.

**ALL: May joy be our gift from God to those in our path who are hurting and in need—that will be the true spirit of Christmas.**

ONE: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us and we are His. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture."

**ALL: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

## \*SONG OF RESPONSE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*Chalice Hymnal No. 119, verses 1 & 4*

**O** come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**O** Come, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease, fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

## HEARING THE STORY

Phil & Sara Vavra

## GETTING READY

Comfort Ye and Every Valley, from *Messiah*

George F. Handel

*Wesley Watts, soloist*

**C**omfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord: make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40:1-3)

## CHORAL ANTHEM

And the Glory of the Lord, from *Messiah*  
George F. Handel

*Chancel Choir*

**A**nd the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40:5)

## SOLO

Thus Saith the Lord & Who May Abide the Day of His Coming,  
from *Messiah*  
George F. Handel

*John Fortson, soloist*

**T**hus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come. But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. (*Malachi 3: 1-2*)

## BETHLEHEM

O Little Town of Bethlehem  
ST. LOUIS

*Chalice Hymnal No. 144, verses 1 & 3*

**O** little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the joys of highest heaven.  
No ear may hear Christ coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

## MESSAGE

*We Know What Happened to Sin*  
Zephaniah 3:14-20

Dr. Foust

## NO ROOM

Away in a Manger  
CRADLE SONG

*Comgregation*

Way in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay, the little lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me Lord, Jesus I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with You there.

## THE MANGER

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright?  
Howard Helvey

*Chancel Choir*

What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?  
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.

'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed."  
And lo! the eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.

While outward signs the star displays, an inward light the Lord conveys  
and urges them, with tender might, to seek the giver of the light.

O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek your face,  
let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of your light to use.

## THE SHEPHERDS

Festival Gloria  
Craig Courtney

*Chancel Choir*

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and goodwill to men. We praise Thee and  
Worship Thee. Glory!

## POETIC OFFERTORY

Pauline Carter

ONE: What can I give Him, poor as I am?

ALL: **If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part.**

ONE: Yet what can we give Him?

ALL: **We will give Him our hearts.**

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

### OFFERTORY

Go Where I Send Thee

Andre Thomas

*Chancel Choir*

Children go where I send thee. How shall I send thee? I'm gonna send thee one by one. One for the little bitty baby. He was born! Born! Born in Bethlehem. I'm gonna send thee one by one. One for the little bitty baby. Two by two, two for Paul and Silas. Three was the Hebrew children. Born, born, born in Bethlehem. Four came knocking at the door; four came knocking at the door. Somebody's knocking at the door. Somebody's knocking at the door. Four was the four that came knocking at the door. Oh sinner, why don't you answer? Somebody's knocking at your door. I shall send thee five by five. Five for the gospel preacher. I shall send thee six by six. Six was the six that couldn't get fixed. Seven went up to heaven. Eight was the eight that stood at the gate. Nine was the nine that got left behind. Ten by ten cause ten was the ten commandments. Go where I send thee, how shall I send thee. Born, born, born in Bethlehem.

### \*PRESENTATION

**O** come, let us adore Him; **O** come, let us adore Him;  
**O** come, let us adore Him; Christ the Lord.

### CELEBRATIONS & PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Dr. Foust

*Please come forward for prayers, to profess your faith in Christ, or to become a member of St. John's.*

**O**ur 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, Buck Gray, Asbury; Larry Batts, Nancy Burgess, McLain Hall,  
Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Ken Hungate, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford,  
Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, and Dee Turner—home

## COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

### \*POSTLUDE

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Chorale and Fugue  
Stanley Saxton

*J. Noel Lance*

*\* Invites the congregation to stand*

*We are thankful to have the following musicians join us for worship today:  
Linda Whitesitt & Diana Stone, Violin; Elda Franklin, Viola; Kim Pfleger, Cello*



## **Announcements**

### **Financial Stewardship Commitment Campaign 2019**

As of this week, we have received 173 commitments at a total of \$845,351. If you have not turned in your commitment card to the church office, please do so as soon as possible.

### **Architectural Task Force Session Today**

The Architectural Review Task Force wants to hear suggestions from anyone who has ideas to share. Today, following worship, members of the task force will be in the Chapel to listen. All comments and suggestions are welcome, and your input will greatly help the planning as we go forward. If you are unable to stop by on the 16th, feel free to present your ideas to any Task Force member.

### **Christmas Cards for Neighbors**

Today is the last day to include cards in the mailboxes for our neighbors. The mailboxes are in the Main Entrance and the lists of those receiving cards are on the table with the mailboxes.

### **Christmas Ornaments**

Christmas Ornaments from the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sanctuary are available in the office or from Fredda Kimball. If you would like to purchase one, they are \$10 per ornament.

### **Advent Yoga**

Advent Yoga will meet again this year on Tuesday, December 18, at 7pm in Room 114 with Sara Vavra as instructor. Any ability of yoga is welcome. Chairs will be provided if needed or bring a mat if you prefer. Please call the church office and make a reservation by December 14 for this class as space is limited. Class will run about an hour and light refreshments will be served.

### **WDAV Charlotte Lessons & Carols from St. John's**

If you missed WDAV's live holiday broadcast or would like to listen to it again, tune into WDAV 89.9FM on December 25 at 3PM for a full-length re-broadcast.

### **Charlie Brown Movie and Cocoa**

On Sunday, December 23, during the Sunday school hour (9:15-10:15), there will be a gathering of all ages in Broach Hall to watch the Charlie Brown Christmas movie and enjoy hot cocoa together on the eve of Christmas Eve.

### **Christmas Eve Service of Communion and Candlelight**

We will worship together in the Sanctuary at 5PM on Monday, December 24 for a Christmas Eve service of communion and candlelight. There will be no nursery care during this service. We hope to see you there!

### **From the Finance Office**

All allowable tax donations must be received (and checks dated) by December 31, 2018. If mailed, please ensure that the envelope is postmarked 2018. Any monies received after December 2018 will count towards your 2019 pledge.

# St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane

Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

704-333-5428 - [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## This Week's Events

### Sunday, December 16

9:15 ..... Sunday School (Classrooms)  
10:30..... Worship (Sanctuary)  
1:00 ..... South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)  
5:00 ..... HS Youth Mission and Party (Offsite)

### Monday, December 17

8:00 ..... Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)  
11:45..... Faith Journey Book Study & lunch (Broach Hall)  
8:00 ..... AA (Room 114)

### Tuesday, December 18

7:00 ..... Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lasater Hall)  
10:00..... Staff Meeting (Conference Room)  
11:00..... Bible Workbench (Room 209)  
6:15 ..... Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)  
7:00 ..... Advent Yoga (Room 114)

### Wednesday, December 19

6:30 ..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
9:00 ..... Weekday School Winter Festival (Broach Hall)  
9:30 ..... Yoga Class (Room 114)  
6:00 ..... AA (Room 114)  
7:15 ..... Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, December 20

11:00..... Uptown Ladies (Lounge)  
7:30 ..... CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)

### Friday, December 21

6:30 ..... Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)  
11:00..... King's College Graduation (Sanctuary)  
5:00 ..... Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)  
5:30 ..... Volunteer's Serve Dinner at Shelter  
7:00 ..... Adventure Class Party  
8:00 ..... AA (Lasater Hall)

### Saturday, December 22

7:00 ..... Benton Basketball (Gym)  
10:00..... Basketball Games (Gym)

Complete calendar online:  
[www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## **The St. John's Pulpit**

December 23 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Proclaimer: Dr. Dennis W. Foust

Sermon: *Strength to Love*

Scripture: Micah 5:2-5a & Luke 1:39-55

## **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

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

### Church Staff

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