

# Gathering as God's People

Please turn off all electronic devices.

**THE GATHERING** J. Noel Lance

**WORDS OF GREETING** Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

**INTRODUCING OUR COMMUNITY & STATE MISSION OFFERING** Bert Green

**INTROIT** J. Noel Lance

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Dr. Foust

ONE: We are God's people walking together.  
**ALL: Let us choose the way of the Lord and live.**  
ONE: We are God's servants working together.  
**ALL: It is the Lord who makes us live and grow.**  
ONE: People are listening for a message of compassion.  
**ALL: God gives us a voice and honors our perseverance as we share the message.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** God of Grace and God of Glory  
Chalice Hymnal No. 464, verses 1, 2, & 3 CWM RHONDDA

**PRAYER OF SUBMISSION** Rev. Lee Gray

## Speak to Us, Lord

**READING FROM THE EPISTLE & SONG OF RESPONSE** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Shannon Rodden  
Chalice Hymnal No. 526 The Gift of Love  
O WALY WALY

*Reading*

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing.

***Song of Response***  
**Though we may speak with bravest fire and have the gifts to all inspire and have not love, our words are vain as sounding brass and hopeless gain.**

*Reading*

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

***Song of Response***  
**Though we may give all we possess and striving so, our love profess, but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.**

*Reading*

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless. When I was a child, I

spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

***Song of Response***  
**Come Spirit, come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed by this we worship and are freed.**

ONE: This is the written and sung word of God for the people of God.  
**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

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

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** Bert Green, Deacon

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Chancel Choir  
*Write Your Blessed Name* K. Lee Scott

Write Your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved; that no prosperity, that no adversity, shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress; and a faithful Guide to the courts of heav'n to the courts of heaven, trough the many temptations and dangers of this life. O Jesu, my only Savior! Write Your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved; that no prosperity, that no adversity, shall ever move me from your love.

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER** Rev. Gray

**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

Larry Batts, Al Bridges, Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Parker Jackson, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Jerry Stephens, Elma Thomas & Dee Turner- home  
Sympathy to the Rob, Annie, and Elizabeth Peacock in the death of his wife and their mother, Sarah, on Saturday, February 2, 2019; Sympathy to Bryan Thorn in the death of his brother, Rex

## With Visions in Our Minds

**A GIFT OF MUSIC** Together in Christ Congregation

*Tell Em Thanki* (Krio language)  
*Thank You, Lord for What You've Done for Us* (English)  
Led by Annie Sam

**\*DOXOLOGY** Chalice Hymnal No. 46 OLD HUNDREDTH

**P**raise 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** Rev. Brickson Sam  
Luke 4:21-30



*Photo of family escaping the Dust Bowl*

**T**hen he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

ONE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.  
**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**LITANY OF CONFESSION**

ONE: Lord, we confess that we, like the people in this reading, have found what You say hard to believe. And when we do believe, we are often too afraid to act. We ask that You help us in ways we cannot help ourselves. You know our every strength and nurture us by Your Spirit. You also know our every weakness, yet You do not give up on us.

**ALL: Give us the faith not to give up ourselves, languishing in the apathy of fear and self-doubt. Grant us courage, for the facing of this hour and all the hours to come. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** God of Grace and God of Glory  
Chalice Hymnal No. 464, verses 4&5 CWM RHONDDA

## Fill the World with Love

**MESSAGE** *When Home is No Longer Home* Dr. Foust

**\*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** Fill the World with Love  
Chalice Hymnal No. 467 COMPASSION

Verse 1 - Choir  
Verse 2, 3, & 4 - All

**\*CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY** Dr. Foust

**A PRAYER OF PARTNERSHIP WITH TOGETHER IN CHRIST INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES** Dr. Foust

**\*COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH**

**\*POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

*\*Invites the congregation to stand*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Important Church Conference & Lunch**

On Sunday, February 17 in Broach Hall following worship, we will convene for Church Conference. A salad lunch from Hawthorne's Pizza will be served at \$5/person and \$20 max per family. The purposes of this congregational meeting will be to vote on the 2019 Financial Ministry Plan, hear an update from our Architectural Design Task Force and participate with our Staffing Our Future Task Force in an open conversation about visions.

**State and Community Missions Offering 2019**

St. John's includes in our annual missions budget an allocation of funds to support organizations that are committed to address the needs of the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the sick, and the powerless. To extend our support beyond these allocations we participate in two special annual offerings. Our Global Missions offering takes place during the fall. Today we launch our annual State and Community Missions Offering. Recipients of this year's offering, selected by the Mission Resource Team, are two of the local ministries with which we partner: Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministries. Today, Bert Green will share some words about Habitat, and on March 10, Katie Church will be with us to talk about the services provided by Urban Ministries. For many years, both youth and adults from St. John's have served as volunteers with Habitat to build an affordable house. Through programs sponsored by Urban Ministries we serve directly to address issues of homelessness and hunger. Our offering this year will give essential financial support to both these programs. The special emphasis for the offering, with a goal of \$5000, will conclude on March 31.

**Loaves & Fishes Food Drive 2019**

The blue barrels are back in the main and Broach Hall entrances as collection points for the Loaves & Fishes food drive throughout the month of February. Did you get your grocery bag and shopping list? As you shop, remember the majority of clients are women, mothers and workers who have little time to prepare complicated meals. But they, like us, want to feed their families nutritious and filling meals. Go forth and shop. . .wisely!

**Open Table**

Join us for Open Table on Wednesday, February 27 from 5:50-7:00pm in Broach Hall for dinner and a program. The menu is as follows: baked pasta (meat and vegetarian), salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Dinner costs \$6/child and \$10/adult with a maximum cost of \$30/family. Call or email Mallory to sign up by Friday, February 22 or use this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/kBWnDY4AAmyMbY3C3>

**Youth Mission Auction**

Join us on Sunday, March 17 after worship in Broach Hall for the Youth Mission Auction. This single auction will fund four important projects for our middle and high school students as they are a significant opportunity for our youth to become actively involved in not just learning about missions but doing missions! Please come out and support the youth. Want to donate to the auction? Please contact Lia Benton at [liabenton@outlook.com](mailto:liabenton@outlook.com).

**Heritage Sunday**

This year Heritage Sunday is celebrated on March 17 and focuses on the youth ministries of St. John's. Invite anyone who has been a part of the youth ministry of St. John's to join us for worship this day. We also need pictures of past Youth Sundays, Youth Auctions, and Youth Activities or Trips. We will scan these and return them to you. If you have photos or memories, written or typed, share those with Fredda Kimball, Linda Crowder, or Mallory in the church office.

**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**

February 17, 2019

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Theme: Tell of the God Whose Message is Radical

Scripture: Luke 6:12-26

Message: *Discipleship=Blessed and in Trouble*

**This Week at St. John's**

Sunday, Feb. 10	8:00 am	Staffing Our Future Task Force (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Listening Session on Budget (Chapel)
	9:15 am	Sunday School & Missions 101 (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Godly Play (Room 221)
	11:30 am	Joy Class (Lounge)
	11:30 am	Interiors Focus Group (Parlor)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Chapel, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Lounge, Gym)
Monday, Feb. 11	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	5:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Feb. 12	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	NAMI Support Groups (Rooms 114 & 116)
	6:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305 and Youth Lounge)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)
Wed., Feb. 13	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	10:00 am	HeadStart (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	8:15 pm	Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Feb. 14	10:00 am	Craft & Needles Ministry (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy (Broach Hall)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Feb. 15	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Feb. 16	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Basketball Games (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, Debora Thon, Sonny Ross  
Organist.....J. Noel Lance  
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted

The Worship of God



Worship Theme: Tell of the God  
Who Creates New Community

Sunday, February 10, 2019  
10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA