

# Praise the Lord, Creator of All

Please turn off all electronic devices

**THE GATHERING** J. Noel Lance

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

**INTROIT** J. Noel Lance and Maureen Howell  
*"Praise" from Suite Sunday* Emma Lou Diemer

**PRAYER OF SUBMISSION** Rev. Allison Benfield

## CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Let us love one another, as God has loved us.

**ALL: Let us bless others, as we have been blessed.**

ONE: Let us serve one another, as God has served us.

**ALL: We do this in the remembrance of Christ, and in his mighty acts of grace.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** Rejoice, You Pure in Heart  
Chalice Hymnal No. 15 MARION

## Speak to Us, O Lord

**READING FROM THE GOSPEL** Luke 6:12-26 Clara Howell

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."



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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*Blessed Are They*

Chancel Choir  
David Haas

## Accept Our Gifts and Prayers, O Lord

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** James Laney, Deacon

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

**OFFERTORY** J. Noel Lance & Maureen Howell  
*Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. Mark Hayes, Marvin Gaspard

**\*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.

**\*HYMN OF GOD'S VISION** O For A World  
Chalice Hymnal No. 683 AZMON

**MESSAGE** *Discipleship=Blessed and in Trouble* Dr. Foust

## Communion



**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE** Dr. Foust

**MEDITATION** J. Noel Lance

Blessed are you who trust in the Lord, for you shall be sustained by God's presence.

## CHRIST'S CHURCH IS SERVED COMMUNION

**SERVING THE BREAD** Rev. Benfield  
1 Corinthians 11:23-24

**SERVING THE CUP** Rev. Benfield  
1 Corinthians 11:25-26

**COMMUNION PRAYER** Dr. Foust

**\*HYMN OF JOYFUL DISCIPLESHIP** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me  
Chalice Hymnal No. 614 I'M GONNA LIVE

Verse 1, Solo  
Verse 2, All: I'm gonna work...  
Verse 3, All: I'm gonna pray  
Verse 4, All: I'm gonna sing

## Covenant

**PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS** Todd Stillerman

*Molly Bedrock, Kim Blanchard, Amy Chilton, Emma Goodrich, Lily Wilkerson*

## 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** The Lord's Prayer  
Chalice Hymnal No. 307 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.

**Prayer Concerns**  
Larry Batts, Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Parker Jackson, Delbridge Narron, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren -home  
Sympathy to Alice Wirz in the death of her mother, Mary Harrill, on Wednesday, February 13.

**\*POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

*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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Important Church Conference & Lunch**

Today after worship, in Broach Hall 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.

**Heritage Team Help**

The Heritage Team needs your help today after worship. Come to Broach Hall for Church Conference and lunch to find tables set up with various photos that need identification of date, location, and subject matter. If you think you might be any help in this process, take a look and offer your insight.

**State and Community Missions Offering 2019**

Our offering for State and Community Missions will continue until the end of March, with your gifts this year going to support Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministries. We have had for many years a partnership with these two agencies, both with our allocations in the annual budget of the church and with volunteers who provide hands-on services. We heard from Bert Green last Sunday about the value of our helping people build a home of their own. Through Urban Ministries volunteers from St. John's make 200 sandwiches each month and staff a weekly Room in the Inn ministry during the winter months. On March 10 we will hear from Katie Church of Urban Ministries about these and other services provided by that agency for the homeless in our community.

**Loaves & Fishes Food Drive 2019**

Galilee Pantry provides protein foods for their clients such as chicken, eggs, cheese. While you shop for non-perishables, L&F shops for these perishable items with your monetary donations. There are labeled envelopes available along with the big bags. Checks need to be written to Loaves & Fishes, or to St. John's with L&F on the memo line. Place these envelopes in the offering plates on Sunday or leave them in Mallory's office; and we will deliver them to L&F. Speaking of eggs, don't forget to bring your empty egg cartons so the pantry can deliver those eggs!

**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 Heritage Sunday worship in Broach Hall for the Youth Mission Auction. With this one auction we will raise funds for two years of mission trips! This is a significant way for the entire congregation to engage with our youth and mission partners. Plan to come and support the youth and missions. Want to donate? Please contact Leslie Bragg (<mailto:lmbragg3@gmail.com>) or Lia Benton (<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 need pictures of youth and directories for youth from the year 2000 and before. If you have anything to share, give to 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 24, 2019

Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Amy Chilton

Theme: Tell of the God Who Is Your Exemplar

Message: *Forgiveness: A Most Impossible Calling*

Scripture: Luke 6:27-42

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

Sunday, Feb. 17	9:15 am	Sunday School & Worship 101 (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Church Conference & Lunch (Broach Hall)
	12:30 pm	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries Dedication (Chapel)
	2:00 pm	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Chapel, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Lounge, Gym)
Monday, Feb. 18	8:00 am	Cadence Education (Broach Hall and Classrooms)
	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	2:00 pm	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	5:30 pm	Elizabeth Village Annual Meeting (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Feb. 19	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Safety and Security Task Force (Lounge)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherrill Basketball Group (Gym)
Wed., Feb. 20	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	10:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	1:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	8:15 pm	Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Feb. 21	5:00 pm	Facilities Master Plan Task Force (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Feb. 22	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge, Gym)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Feb. 23	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 Whose Message is Radical

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019**

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

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