

Patient & Loving, God's Waiting & Watching

Please turn off all electronic devices.

THE GATHERING Delbridge Narron

GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

***EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP** Congregation

A WORD ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP Dr. Foust

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Dr. Foust

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Foust

ONE: Welcome into this room called Sanctuary. Why have you gathered on this day?

ALL: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way. Yet, we have been sought out by the God of love. Gathering in this sacred space, we desire to worship the Giver of Life who redeems us by the way of salvation.

ONE: The Giver of Life rejoices in your presence today like a poor woman who has found her only coin. Each of you and all of you are valued by the Living God.

ALL: We feel the embrace of God who welcomes us into these moments like a parent welcomes home a wandering child.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** Your Love, O God
Chalice Hymnal No. 71 VICAR

Though We Have Strayed

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Luke 15:1-7 Ryan Crowder

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So, he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Children are invited to come forward during the hymn.

HYMN O Love that Will Not Let Me Go
Chalice Hymnal No. 540 Verse 1 ST. MARGARET

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH Rev. Allison Benfield

HYMN O Love that Will Not Let Me Go
Chalice Hymnal No. 540 Verse 2 ST. MARGARET

OFFERTORY PRAYER Wanny Hogewood, Deacon

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Kum Ba Yah (Come by Here Lord) arr. Ed Lojeski

***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.

O for the Love God Has Promised

TELLING OF THE GOSPEL Luke 15:11-32 Dr. Foust



"Forgiving Father" by Frank Wesley

***HYMN OF GOD'S NATURE** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
WELLESLEY

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

But we make God's love too narrow, by false limits of our own;
Thus, confusing love for strictness with a zeal God will not own.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

MESSAGE *On Being Found* Dr. Foust

Earnestly, Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling

MOMENTS FOR REFLECTION Anna Ball, soloist
Be Thou My Vision arr. Tammy Waldrop

MOMENTS OF CONFESSION Rev. Lee Gray

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Gray

ONE: Lord, we confess that we stray from You. Rather than following You into green pastures, we find ourselves stranded in barren wastelands of our own making. We ask You for wisdom, looking for Your vision and illumination in our lives.

Moment of Silence for Confession of Sin

ALL: We thank you, O God, for the mercy and grace You always give. We know You will never let us go as You bring us back into Your fold time and time again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Rev. Gray

ONE: God forgives us and makes peace within us.

ALL: We claim God's healing and hope, through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING What Wondrous Love Is This
WONDROUS LOVE

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this that caused the King of bliss
To seek until he finds each lost soul, each lost soul,
To seek until he finds each lost soul.

AN INVITATION TO COMMITMENT Dr. Foust

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** Softly and Tenderly
Chalice Hymnal No. 340, Verse 1 solo, Verses 2 & 3 all THOMPSON

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

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH** Dr. Foust

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

OBSERVANT SERVANT

People who need to be...

valued: _____

welcomed home: _____

reached out to: _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

State & Community Missions Offering Update

Today is the last day for the annual State and Community Missions Offering. The receipts of the offering this year will go to Habitat for Humanity and Urban Ministry Center. For many years we have supported both these ministries with our hands-on labor through building houses, sponsoring a Room in the Inn site in our facility, serving meals at the Men's Shelter, and making 200 sandwiches a month. Your offering will provide valuable financial assistance for these ministries in their work with the homeless and the hungry.

2019 Goal: \$5000.00 | Received to Date: \$2,341.00

Road Closures on Hawthorne Lane

The entrance to the parking lot for St. John's from Hawthorne Lane will be closed until July 29. During this time, please enter and exit this parking lot from Lamar Avenue. The parking lot entrance from 5th street is still open during this time. Additionally, we are permitted to use the parking lots at what was previously King's College on Sundays. Although these are chained off, the owner of the property has given us permission to move the barriers and use the lots for our Sunday morning activities.

Report on the Future of King's College Campus

Please join us tomorrow, April 1, at 6:30pm in Broach Hall for a special report on the exciting plans for the recently vacated King's College building on our block. Some longtime partners of St. John's Baptist Church will share these plans. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Refugee Support Services

Can you imagine needing help reading mail? Making a telephone call? Completing a government form or understanding a power bill? The refugee help center at the Refugee Support Services (RSS) helps newly arrived refugees to just that. RSS wants to help refugees new to Charlotte Arrive, Survive, and Thrive. The RSS wants to be a good neighbor by helping these refugees become good neighbors themselves. If you would like to find out more about the work of the Refugee Support Services or would like to go there with other St. John's members to serve snacks and give welcoming smiles, please let Mallory know and she will have someone contact you.

Prayer Concerns

Betty Hastings, Paul & Henrietta Huffman, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford,
Carole Ann Simpson, Elma Thomas, Pris Tillman,
Dee Turner, & Jeck Warren-home; Parker Jackson, military

Easter Calla Lilies Order Form

Note: Your purchase helps provide funds for our Advent & Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary.

I will give ____ lilies at **\$18 each**.

____ **in memory of:**

____ **in honor of:**

Donor name and telephone: _____

_____ I wish to pick up my lilies.

_____ I do not wish to pick up my lilies.

Last date to order lilies is **Sunday, April 7**. Turn form into Mallory in office.

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

April 7, 2019 | Communion

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Theme: Be Thou My Vision

Message: *Asset Allocations*

Scripture: John 12:1-8

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Mar. 31	8:00 am	Staffing Our Future Task Force (Lounge)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries Worship (Chapel)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Chapel, 3 rd Floor, Lounge, Gym)
Monday, Apr. 1	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	5:00 pm	Staffing Our Future Task Force (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Presentation on King's College Property (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Apr. 2	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	CROP (Lounge)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	7:00 pm	Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Apr. 3	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	10:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	12:00 pm	Elizabeth Comm. of Faith Lenten Service (Caldwell Presby.)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Apr. 4	9:00 am	Unity Coalition (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Facilities Master Plan Task Force (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Apr. 5	9:00 am	HeadStart (Broach Hall)
	10:30 am	Metrolina Assoc. for the Blind Yoga (Room 114)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Apr. 6	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am	Kid's Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Communion Task Force

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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Sunday, March 31, 2019

10:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary

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