

Hosanna in the Highest!

Please turn off all electronic devices

INTROIT J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

A WORD ABOUT WORSHIP Dr. Foust

***EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP** Congregation

SONG OF PRAISE Chancel Choir
Majesty Jack Hayward

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Lee Gray

ONE: There is a murmur of excitement in our hearts today, O God.

ALL: We are entering Holy Week. Our thoughts are turned toward Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

ONE: We like the pageantry of Palm Sunday and the idea of welcoming Christ into the life of our community.

ALL: There is always something exciting about this day, when children sing “Hosanna!” and we echo “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

***HYMN OF PRAISE AND PROCESSION** All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Chalice Hymnal No.192 ST. THEODULPH

READING OF THE GOSPEL Lynn Bishop
Luke 19:28-40

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

SONG OF RESPONSE Come, Thou Almighty King
Chalice Hymnal No.27, Verse 1 ITALIAN HYMN

Come, thou almighty King, help us Thy name to sing; help us to praise: one God, all glorious, o’er all victorious, come, and reign over us, ancient of days.

Turn Us Inward and Upward

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd
Words by Thomas H. Troeger

A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had stripped the green trees bare, and hailing Christ as king aloud, waved branches in the air. They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms and vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms. When day dimmed down to deep’ning dark the crowd began to fade ‘til only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade. Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise, remind us, God, as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze. Instead of palms a winding sheet will have to be unrolled, a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN Rev. Gray

ONE: Lord, forgive us for being like those who chanted “Hosanna!” on Sunday and “Crucify him!” on Friday. Forgive us when fears and doubts drive us to be so self-preserving. Forgive us when we do not see the innate worth You have placed on our lives.

ALL: Forgive us when we refuse to face our Jerusalem. Forgive us when we run from Your calling. Forgive us our sins and send us to be light in a world too often filled with darkness.

A MOMENT FOR PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: You are God’s children. You do not need to be afraid. You are forgiven.

OFFERTORY PRAYER Laura Sorrell, Deacon

OFFERTORY Chancel Choir
Passacaglia of Praise Craig Courtney

A passacaglia is a Baroque music form in moderately slow, triple meter consisting on a continuous variation based on a melodic phrase. The never-ending quality of the passacaglia enriches the text in today’s anthem.

***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.

Find Us Faithful

READING OF THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Rev. Allison Benfield
Joshua 24:24-28

The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So, Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem. Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak in the sanctuary of the LORD. Joshua said to all the people, “See, this stone shall be a witness against us;

for it has heard all the words of the LORD that he spoke to us; therefore, it shall be a witness against you, if you deal falsely with your God.” So, Joshua sent the people away to their inheritances.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

SONG OF RESPONSE Maddie Minogue and J. Kevin Gray
Heart of Worship MATT REDMAN

When the music fades, and all is stripped away, and I simply come, longing just to bring something that’s of worth that will bless Your heart. I’ll bring You more than a song for a song in itself is not what You have required. You search much deeper within through the way things appear. You’re looking into my heart.

Chorus
I’m coming back to the heart of worship and it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Lord. I’m sorry, now, for the thing I’ve made it when it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Lord.

King of endless worth no one could express how much You deserve. Though I’m weak and poor, all I have is Yours. Every single breath.

MESSAGE *Beyond Applause* Dr. Foust

LITANY OF JESUS’ PASSION Dr. Foust

ONE: Life consists of all kinds of days. Some days are darker and more somber, just as the shadowy hours of Good Friday will appear later this week.

ALL: O God, lead us to be faithful through all kinds of days – bright, as well as dark. Help us relate with You through a quiet, unwavering will, living in the light of Jesus’ resurrection. Amen.

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Chalice Hymnal No.195 HAMBURG
Verse 1 – Choir
Verses 3 & 4 – Congregation

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

We Go Forth as Witnesses of Jesus’s Passion

CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY Dr. Foust

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH**

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maundy Thursday Service

We will come together for a service of worship on Thursday, April 18 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. During this time, we recall the events that led up to Jesus's death on Good Friday. Communion will be observed during this service to commemorate Jesus's last supper with his disciples. All are welcome.

Eastertide at St. John's

Join us for worship on Easter Sunday, April 21 at 10:30am in the Sanctuary. The message is titled, "Living in God's Light with Your Lack of Understanding," based on John 20:1-10. On this day we will begin a new, 7-week worship theme called: *Living Tomorrow's Life Today*. This is based on the hymn, "There's a Spirit in the Air," on which we have based our entire church year of worship. As we move through Easter and the six Sundays following, we will consider how God transforms, enlightens, and calls us to live in the power of resurrection.

Citywide Easter Sunrise Service

All are invited to the 2019 Citywide Easter Service at Romare Bearden Park at 300 S. Church Street on Easter morning. The service will be at 7:00am and the preacher will be Gail Henderson-Belisto from Caldwell Presbyterian Church. Free parking is available at First Presbyterian's parking lot. People are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs. If it rains, the service will be in Wood Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian.

Open Table on April 24

Save the date for this month's Open Table dinner and fellowship on Wednesday, April 24. We will meet in Broach Hall from 5:50-7:00. Dinner costs are \$6/child under 12 and \$10/adult. Call Mallory today to sign up or register through Google forms at this link: <https://forms.gle/uTeYr7tm9Uryt933A>

Young Voices of the Carolinas Spring Concert

Come and support the Young Voices of the Carolinas on Saturday, April 27 at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary here at St. John's. This is a great event to bring a friend to introduce them to the life of St. John's. This select group of young people range in age from 8-18 and practice in our buildings several times a week. We hope you will come, invite a friend, and enjoy a night of music. Tickets can be purchased online for \$10/adult, \$8/seniors or students.

Church Conference and Lunch

Join us in Broach Hall after worship on May 5 for Church Conference. We will announce and discuss some exciting items and want all to attend. Lunch will be provided at a low cost. Sign up with Mallory today.

Visit the Charlotte Museum of History

Women of the Church are going to the Charlotte Museum of History on May 7, and our tour guide will be our own Janet Wade! Join us at 2pm that day for a look at the history of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Cost is \$10 per person, and everyone is welcome. Sign up by calling Mallory in the church office by April 30.

Colors of Song Concert

The Carolina Voices Festival Singers will present a concert on May 18 at 7PM in the Sanctuary of St. John's. In this concert, singers will explore the sound of color with music of composers including Eric Whitacre and Irving Berlin. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the door the night of the event or online through carolinatix.org.

Prayer Concerns

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

Sympathy to Chuck Jones and family in the death of his father, Fred Jones.

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, April 21 | Easter Sunday

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Worship Theme: God Transforms Death into Life

Message: *Living in God's Light with Your Lack of Understanding*

Scripture: John 2:1-10

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Apr. 14	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Intra'l Ministries (Chapel)
Monday, Apr. 15	All Week	Weekday School and HeadStart on Spring Break
	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Apr. 16	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Work Bench (Room 209)
	2:00 pm	Safety and Security Task Force (Lounge)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	7:00 pm	Team United/AAU Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Apr. 17	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	5:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherill Basketball Group (Gym)
Thursday, Apr. 18	7:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Apr. 19	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Apr. 20	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing Workshop (Room 305)

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.

Have you included St. John's in your estate planning?

Ministers

Every participant in God's Servant Church

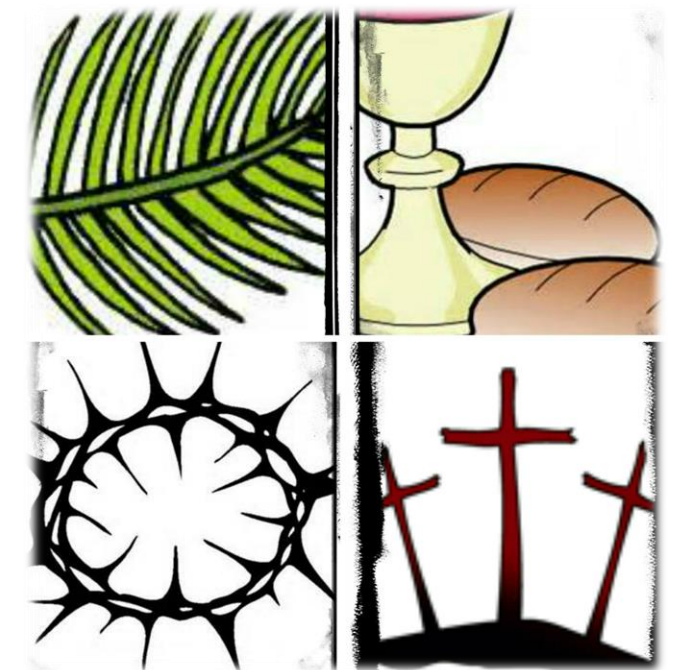
Equipping Ministers

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



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14, 2019

10:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary

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