

# 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

**A WORD ABOUT TODAY’S WORSHIP** Dr. Foust

**EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP**

**PRAYER OF SUBMISSION** Dr. Foust

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Dr. Foust

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 remembrance of Christ and in His mighty acts of grace.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** O God of Vision  
Chalice Hymnal No. 288 verses 1, 2, 3, & 5 LOBE DEN HERREN

# Speak to Us, O Lord

**READING FROM THE EPISTLE** Katherine Mae Rodden  
Galatians 6:7-10

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So, let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

**CHORAL RESPONSE** Chancel Choir and Congregation  
*Congregation sing when cued* arr. Avis Graves

**ALL: Be my friend while I run this race, be my friend while I run this race, be my friend while I run this race.**

CHOIR: Lord guide my feet, direct my path, can’t make a step without You. I don’t want to run this race in vain.

**READING FROM THE EPISTLE** Nora Frances Benton  
Ephesians 4:1-7, 15-16

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift...Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

**\*HYMN OF UNITY** They’ll Know We Are Christians  
Chalice Hymnal No. 494, verses 1, 3, & 4 ST. BRENDAN’S

# Accept Our Gifts and Prayers, O Lord

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** Jordan Benton, Deacon

**OFFERTORY** J. Noel Lance

**\*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.

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER** Rev. Lee Gray

**Prayer Concerns**  
Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, & Jeck Warren - home; Parker Jackson – military; Construction Workers on 7<sup>th</sup> and Hawthorne

Sympathy to Kami McGuire in the death of her mother, Patty Hostetler.

**RESPONSIVE READING** Rev. Gray  
Hebrews 12:1-3

ONE: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

**ALL: Looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him,**

ONE: Endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

**ALL: Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.**

**\*HYMN OF SERVICE AND WITNESS** A Servant Church  
Chalice Hymnal, back cover ST. THEODULPH

CHOIR: Walk humbly with your God in His sanctuaries still and turn not from your Master in school or shop in mill. Stray not from God amid the lost, the hopeless and the ill, and in the Spirit’s fellowship, with peace your heart will fill.

**ALL: Lord, we would be your people; your body we would be, Your hands and feet to labor ‘till all in You are free! We will not mute the prophet’s call; help us Your world to see. Lord, make of us a servant church in selfless ministry!**

**MESSAGE** *Keep On Keeping On or P.O.P.* Dr. Foust

# We Gather at God’s Table

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

**CHRIST’S CHURCH IS SERVED COMMUNION**

**SERVING THE BREAD** J. Kevin Gray  
1 Corinthians 11:23-24

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

**\*COMMUNION RESPONSE** Congregation  
AMAZING GRACE

Our Lord, Creator, teach us how to live as Christ did live. The wine and bread remind us of Your grace which will endure.

**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 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.

**\*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**

**2019 Global Mission Offering**

For this year, the Mission Resource Team has set a goal of \$16,000, with \$1000 going to assist those impacted by the Sierra Leone fire in West Africa and \$15,000 going to the Nyarweng School in South Sudan. When the \$15,000 for the Nyarweng School is added to funds from our Mission budget and from the designated account for the school, the total contribution from St. John's for the school will exceed \$55,000. This amount will cover 100% of the Nyarweng school's normal operating expenses, including teacher salaries and supplies for an entire year! This offering will be collected until August 31.

**Goal: \$16,000  
Received: \$13,881**

**School Uniform Drive**

The uniforms for Highland Renaissance Academy will be collected at the Main Entrance from now until next Sunday, August 25. The needs include: girls khaki or navy pants (sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16), boys khaki or navy pants (sizes 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14), short-sleeved white or navy polo shirts (ALL sizes), and long-sleeved white or navy polo shirts. The greatest need is for smaller sizes. Consider donating a uniform today!

**Save the Date!**

Mark your calendars for the Annual Women of the Church Luncheon after worship on Sunday, September 15 in Broach Hall. If you already know you would like to come, call or email Mallory in the office to reserve your spot!

**Hosts Needed for the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America**

Our Fall board meeting will be held this September in Charlotte, and as we are "of North America," board members will be coming in from across the United States as well as Mexico and Canada. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to host an out-of-town board member (or two) from Wednesday, September 25 – Saturday, September 28. There are nine people who need housing in total. Please contact Allison Paksoy at allison@bpfna.org or 704-301-9447 if interested or for more information. Thank you in advance!

**Queen Esther and the Journey to the Authentic Self**

All women are invited to join us for the annual Women of the Church Retreat from November 1-3 in Blowing Rock, NC. We will be staying at the Blowing Rock Conference Center. Registration is due by September 15. The prices are \$168/triple occupancy, \$185/double occupancy, and \$248/single occupancy. The price includes all meals at the retreat center this year. This year, we will use the book of Esther as our guide as we seek to live more fully into our authentic selves and listen for how we are called "...for such a time as this." Janet L. Jones, M.Ed., LPC is our presenter. If you would like to register, please see Mallory or Donna Scott for a registration form today!

**Volunteer in the Memorial Garden!**

The Memorial Garden is cared for by volunteers in the church who find it a meaningful volunteer experience. Currently, the Task Force is in need of volunteers to care for and tend the garden! If you have an interest, enjoy gardening, and are glad that we have such a garden right here on our own grounds, we invite you to please notify the Leadership Committee through Donna Scott at 919-280-9204, Kathy Bragg at 704-896-7444, or Wanny Hogewood at 704-966-4140. We need you. Sometimes the work is difficult, but it is primarily fun and inspiring!!! Please call to volunteer today!

**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**

August 25, 2019

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Message: *God Within the Shadows*

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

Sunday, August 18	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
	12:00 pm	Pride Parade (Uptown)
	2:00 pm	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
Monday, August 19	8:00 am	Head Start Training (Classrooms & Broach Hall)
	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
	8:30 am	Weekday School Staff Meeting (Lounge)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	6:00 pm	Joy Sunday School Class (Lounge)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, August 20	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	8:00 am	Head Start Training (Classrooms & Broach)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	5:00 pm	CROP (Lasater Hall)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
Wed., August 21	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	8:00 am	Head Start Training (Classrooms & Broach Hall)
	9:30 am	Yoga Class (Room 114)
	10:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	5:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Women of the Church Board Meeting (Lounge)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	7:30 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Thurs., August 22	8:00 am	Head Start Training (Classrooms & Broach Hall)
Friday, August 23	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., August 24	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	10:00 am	Kids' Basketball (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



SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

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