

Praise the Lord, Creator of All

Please turn off all electronic devices

GATHERING MUSIC J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

A WORD ABOUT TODAY’S WORSHIP Dr. Foust

***EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP** Congregation

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Dr. Foust

CALL TO WORSHIP Charlie Harper

ONE: God calls us to a feast,

ALL: Representing a variety of cultures, languages, and traditions.

ONE: We gather to experience God’s compassion and grace, poured out like fine wine.

ALL: We come to share Your stories and Your story, Lord, to share our hope and our pain, to share our wisdom and our laughter. The table is set, so come let us worship God together!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Chalice Hymnal No. 67, verses 1, 4, 5, & 6 ST. ANNE

Speak to Us, O Lord

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Nick Gattis
John 15:1-5

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

ONE: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the Living Word of God.

ALL: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.

SONG OF RESPONSE You Are the Source
Children come forward during the second verse of this hymn. LAND OF REST

You are the Source of grace and life, the Root of all that’s true. You join us to this mystery as we abide in You.

For we are branches of the Vine, joined cross both time and place. No fruit is grown apart from Christ, for what is grown needs grace.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH Rev. Allison Benfield,
Micah, & Molly Belong

Accept Our Gifts and Prayers, O Lord

OFFERTORY PRAYER Durning Moore, Deacon

OFFERTORY J. Noel Lance

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

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host:
Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***HYMN OF COMMUNITY** Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race
Chalice Hymnal No. 485 TALLIS’ CANON

Communion

AN AFRICAN PRAYER Moses Joknhial

ONE: Jesus prayed that we might be one.

ALL: One in Spirit, one in mission, in union and communion with each other and with You, O Lord.

ONE: Today, God, we confess fumbings and failures and in accomplishing unity, as we set aside yet another day to remind ourselves of this task.

ALL: On this World Communion Sunday, give us eyes to recognize Your reflection in the eyes of Christians everywhere.

ONE: Give us minds to accept and celebrate our differences.

ALL: Give us hearts big enough to love Your children everywhere. We thank You for setting a table with space enough for us all! Amen.

-from the Africana Worship Book, Year B

COMMUNION ANTHEM Chancel Choir
My God, Thy Table Now Is Spread Music by J. Kevin Gray
Words by Philip Doddridge

My God, Thy table now is spread. Thy cup with love doth overflow. Be all Thy children thither led and let them Thy sweet mercies know.

O let Thy table honored be and furnished well with joyful guests; and may each soul salvation see, that here its sacred pledges tastes.

Drawn by Thy quickening grace, O Lord, in countless numbers let them come; and gather from their Father's board the Bread that lives beyond the tomb.

PRAYER FOR THE UNITY OF CHRIST’S CHURCH Rev. Brickson Sam

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE Dr. Foust

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

MESSAGE Community of Faith: Abiding in Grace Dr. Foust

***HYMN OF JOYFUL DISCIPLESHIP** Weave
Chalice Hymnal No. 495, 2 times through WEAVE

Covenant

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS Jason Benton

Dick and Barbara Schafer

READING OF THE ST. JOHN’S BAPTIST 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.

***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

We are pleased that our worship on today's World Communion Sunday brings together all three of our campus's worshipping congregations from the South Sudanese Worshipping Community, Together in Christ International Ministries (Liberia and Sierra Leone), and St. John's Baptist Church.

Craft & Bake Sale 2019

The Craft & Bake Sale will be held next Sunday, October 13 after worship from 11:30am-1:00pm in Lasater Hall. All proceeds will go to national CBF in their partnership with the Baptist World Alliance to provide hurricane relief. If you have crafts you would like to donate, please drop them off between 10:00am and 12:00pm on Friday, October 11 in Lasater Hall. If you have baked goods you would like to donate, please bring them on Sunday starting at 9:00am in Lasater Hall.

Undie Sundays in October!

We will be collecting new underwear to be distributed to our Room in the Inn program, Hope Chapel and Charlotte Rescue Mission for all of October. Items needed are athletic socks, boxer shorts, and t-shirts. Sizes most needed are medium and large. On each of the Sundays in October, containers will be at both the Main Entrance and Broach Hall entrance for you to place your donations inside.

Sign Up Today for CROP Walk 2019

Once again, we have the opportunity to participate in and support CROP Walk. This year, it is on Sunday, October 20 in the afternoon. Sign up here: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/charlottenc/stjohnsbaptistchurch>. The first 20 people to sign up will get a free t-shirt! If you have questions, please ask Micah or Molly Belong. All ages are welcome to participate!

NAMI Support Groups

The NAMI support groups for family members/caregivers of those with mental illness will meet this Tuesday, October 8 from 6:30-8:00 in Rooms 114 and 116.

October Terrific Tuesday Book Club

The Terrific Tuesday Book Club will meet again on October 22 at 12PM in the Library to discuss Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*. Bring a lunch to share in the lounge after the discussion. Start reading today! Anyone is welcome to join the book club.

Open Table: Trip Rogers in Concert

Open Table for October is coming on Wednesday, October 23 at 5:50 in Broach Hall. This month, we are having Trip Rogers in concert for a night of dinner and Celtic music. The online sign up form is open now at <https://forms.gle/zsZB4dHytuBzjKDn6> or you can call/email Mallory in the office. We hope you all will come and join us for this great night!

Copies of worship bulletins and sermon manuscripts are available on the St. John's website: www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org.

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, October 13

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Worship Theme: The God Who Prospers Us

Message: *Stewardship: Missional Harvest Seeds*

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 & Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Oct. 6	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Joint Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym, 3rd Floor, Lounge)
Monday, Oct. 7	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	5:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Administrative Deacon Panel (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, Oct. 8	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Work Bench (Room 209)
	12:00 pm	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness Support Groups (Rooms 114 & 116)
Wed., Oct. 9	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, Oct. 10	10:00 am	Craft and Needles Ministry (Room 209)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Oct. 11	8:30 am	Weekday School Active Reading Wkshp. (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Drop Off for Craft & Bake Sale (Lasater Hall)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lounge)
Saturday, Oct. 12	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)

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

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, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon
Graded Choir Director..... Anna Ball
Organist..... J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted

The Worship of God



World Communion Sunday

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2019

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

STRENGTHENING OUR CONNECTION WITH GOD'S HEART —
A SEASON OF COVENANT RENEWAL:
GOD'S MISSION IS OUR MISSION

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA