

# Praise God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

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

**A MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP** Handbell Choir  
*For the Beauty of the Earth* Conrad Kocher, arr. Ron Mallory

**EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP** Congregation

**PRAYER OF SUBMISSION** Rev. Lee Gray

**A SPOKEN CALL TO WORSHIP** Tyler Benton

ONE: Like light that scatters the darkness,

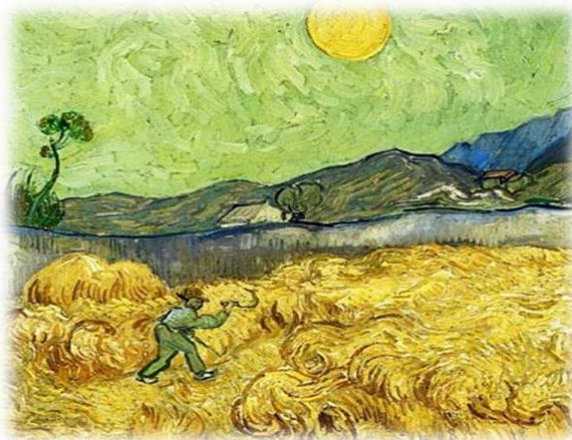
**ALL: Surely the Lord is in this place!**

ONE: Like wheat gathered up at the harvest,

**ALL: The kingdom of heaven is near.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending  
Chalice Hymnal No. 606 NETTLETON

**READING FROM THE GOSPEL** Meredith Sorrell  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40



He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So, when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age."

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.**

# Gifted by God, We Turn to God

**HYMN** A Farmer in a Field  
Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette  
ST. THOMAS

A farmer in a field sowed good and healthy seeds.  
But in the cover of the night, somebody planted weeds.  
The wheat grew tall and strong, but thistles flourished, too.  
The workers saw the mix of them and wondered what to do.

**TIME FOR REFLECTION** Rev. Gray

ONE: How has God blessed you? What seeds have been sown by God into your life?

Are there spiritual weeds that need to be removed?

How are you tending to the seeds that you want to grow?

How might these seeds grow into a harvest that can change the world for the sake of God's message of love?



**ALL: 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.**

**HYMN** A Farmer in a Field  
Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette  
ST. THOMAS

The farmer wisely said, "They'll grow as one today, but when we harvest all the wheat, we'll throw the weeds away." God, may we humbly see the harvest still is Yours; and one day we'll be blessed to find that love is what endures.

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER** Rev. Gray

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

Judy Biber, Byron Bullard, Betty Curlin, Gene Poole, Peg Russ, Henry Snyder, Elma Thomas, Bryan Thorn, & Jeck Warren - home; Parker Jackson – military

Sympathy to Polly Hull in the death of her beloved brother, Elbert "Lee" Hull, last weekend

Sympathy to the family of Tom Gossett in his passing this week

# Open Wide Our Hands for Sharing

**HEARING A LETTER FROM PAUL** David Allen  
2 Corinthians 9:1-15, The Message

**\*HYMN OF STEWARDSHIP** Lord, Thou Lov'st the Cheerful Giver  
BEACH SPRING

Lord, Thou lov'st the cheerful giver, who with open heart and hand blesses freely, as a river that refreshes all the land. Grant us then the grace of giving with a spirit large and free, that our life and all our living we may consecrate to Thee.

Savior, Thou hast freely given all the blessings we enjoy. Earthly store and bread of heaven, love and peace without alloy; humbly now we bow before Thee, and our all to Thee resign; for the kingdom, pow'r and glory, are, O Lord, forever Thine.

**MESSAGE** *Stewardship: Missional Harvest Seeds* Dr. Foust

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT** God of the Fertile Fields  
Chalice Hymnal No. 695 ITALIAN HYMN

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** Jeff LeVie, Deacon

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Chancel Choir  
*Praise His Holy Name* Keith Hampton

**\*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.

# Serving God by Serving All

**CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY** Dr. Foust

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

**\*POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

*\*Invites the congregation to stand.*

### In-Ground Bulb Planting Instructions

1. Dig a hole 7-8 inches below the soil level in an area that has good drainage.
2. Place the bulb in the hole with the pointed side facing up and the more bulbous side facing down.
3. Cover the bulb with the soil you dug out and water the area after planting.

### Potted Bulb Planting Instructions

1. Fill a medium sized planting container with potting mix.
2. Plant the bulb, pointed side up, 7-8 inches below the surface of the soil.
3. Water your bulb after planting.
4. Keep the container outside or somewhere cold.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Craft & Bake Sale 2019

The Craft & Bake Sale is today 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.

### One More Week Until CROP Walk!

If you want to sign up to walk with us on October 20 @ 2:30pm, please do so with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y5xpeuwr>  
If you are unable to walk but would like to contribute to our St. John's Baptist Church Team, follow this link and give to our team: <https://tinyurl.com/yyzrtbfv>  
If you have questions, please ask Micah or Molly Belong.

### Children's Sunday

Next Sunday is Children's Sunday at St. John's! Our elementary school children will lead us in all aspects of worship and our preschoolers will serve as ushers who will greet you and offer you a worship bulletin as you enter the Sanctuary. We hope you will be here for this special day of worship!

### 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: Celtic Night

On October 23 from 5:50pm-7:00pm, we will gather in Broach Hall for dinner and a night of Celtic Music from Trip Rogers. We hope you all will attend and bring a friend! Sign up with Mallory in the church office or at this link: <https://forms.gle/zsZB4dHytuBzjKDn6>. The menu will be announced soon. The cost for dinner is \$6/child, \$10/adult, and a maximum cost of \$30/family.

### Undie Sundays in October!

We are 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. Containers are at both the Main Entrance and Broach Hall entrance for you to place your donations inside.

### Family Fellowship Event

On Sunday, November 10, all families of children are invited to come out to Olde Mecklenburg Brewing for a family fellowship event and to enjoy some time just for hanging out together. We will meet there right after the church service ends. Stay tuned for more specific information as we get closer to the day.

Copies of worship bulletins and message manuscripts are available on the St. John's website: [stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

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 Next Sunday

Sunday, October 20 | Children's Sunday

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 20-25 & Mark 9:33-37, 10:13-16

Message: *Will Our Children Have ACTIVE FAITH?*

### This Week at St. John's

Sunday, Oct. 13	8:00 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Craft & Bake Sale (Lasater Hall)
Monday, Oct. 14	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym, Broach Hall, 3rd Floor)
	8:00 am	Cadence Education (Broach Hall)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	12:30 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	5:00 pm	CROP (Lounge)
Tuesday, Oct. 15	5:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:00 am	Tuesday Morning Men's Group (Lounge)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Workbench (Room 209)
Wed., Oct. 16	5:15 pm	SJBC Men's Basketball (Gym)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 am	Benton Basketball Group (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	10:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
Thursday, Oct. 17	1:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	WOC Board Meeting (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Friday, Oct. 18	5:30 pm	Weekday School Board Meeting (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Saturday, Oct. 19	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	5:30 pm	Volunteers Serve Dinner at Men's Shelter
	8:00 pm	AA (Lasater Hall)
	7:00 am	Benton 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*

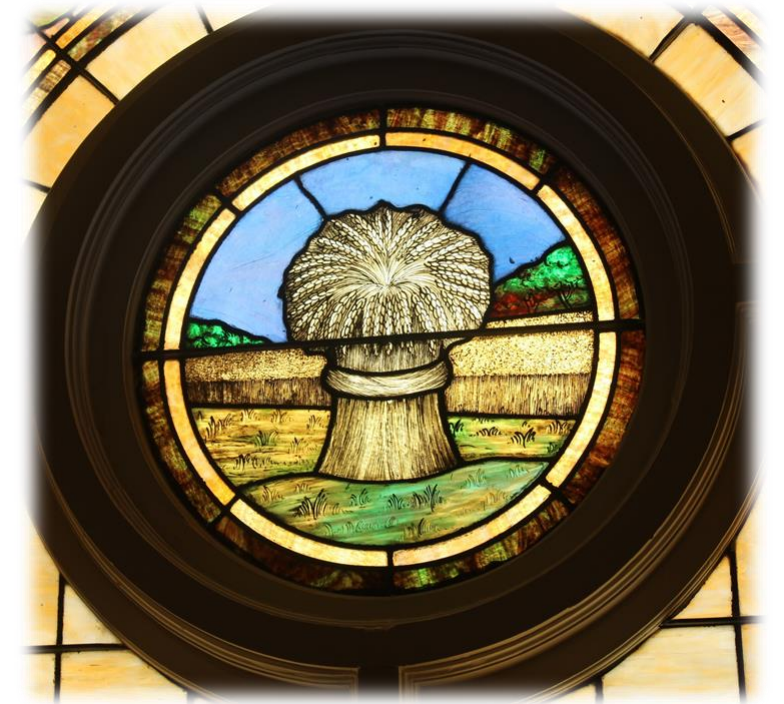
#### Equipping Ministers

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 ..... Dr. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

#### Church Staff

Administrative Assistant ..... Mallory Brown  
Church Administrator ..... Jacquelyn McAbee  
Custodians ..... Chris Mullis, Sonny Ross, Debora Thon  
Graded Choirs Director ..... Anna Ball  
Organist ..... J. Noel Lance  
Weekday School Director ..... Lydia Olmsted

# The Worship of God



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019

10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

THE GOD WHO PROSPERS US

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