

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Glory to the Newborn King!

Please turn off all electronic devices

Prelude J. Noel Lance & Jesse Roberts

Words of Gathering Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

***Expression of Fellowship** Congregation

***Call to Praise** Scott & Whitney Hinson Family

ONE: The angels announced God's good news and the world was changed forever!

ALL: We follow the shepherds to see the baby in the manger, who changes our lives day by day!

ONE: Joy to the world! The Lord is come to change our lives and to change our world.

ALL: Joy to the world! The Lord is come! The Lord is come!

***Carol** Joy to the World
ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

***Carol** The First Noel
THE FIRST NOEL

The first Noel, the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

***Carol** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord! Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings, mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

All children are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary at this time.

Peace on Earth and Mercy Mild, God and Sinners Reconciled!

Moments with the Younger Church Dr. Foust &
Rev. Allison Benfield



Choral Anthem Chancel Choir
Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child
arr. Lloyd Larson

Sing when cued

Jesus, Jesus, oh what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so lowly, meek, and mild.
New life, new hope, new joy He brings!
Listen to the angels sing.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King!

Offertory Prayer Jason Benton

We Bring Our Gifts to the Christ Child

Offertory Anne Hager
Gesù Bambino Pietro Alessandro Yon

***Presentation of Our Gifts to God** *ADESTE FIDELES*

O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
Christ the Lord.

Joyful All Ye Nations Rise, Join the Triumph of the Skies

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Rev. Brickson Sam
Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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.

Solo Wesley Watts
O Holy Night Adolph Adams

Message *Christmas Everyday* Dr. Foust

Invitation to the Lord's Table

St. John's observes the communion tradition of an OPEN TABLE. This is the Lord's Table, and all are welcome here. No person is excluded from Christ's broad invitation for any reason. "Come to me," Jesus said.

Serving of the Bread and Cup

*With Angelic Host Proclaim,
"Christ Is Born in Bethlehem!"*

A Moment of Mindfulness
Sleep Little Tiny Baby

Chancel Choir
James Kevin Gray

Sleep little, tiny baby. Sleep little, holy child. You are the hope of the nations. Sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep. Sleep while the angels sing to You. Sleep holy child while the angels sing so sweet. You were sent to lead us, teach us how to love.

***Carol of Proclamation**

Silent Night
STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep, little child, so meek and mild. Sleep Holy One.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend Thy light; with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King; Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.

Merry Christmas!

What Your Financial Gifts Accomplish

Please notice that our deacons are receiving an offering as part of our worship on this special night. Every dollar you give to St. John's feeds the hungry, mentors teenagers, tutors children, provides housing for families, educates children in South Sudan, clothes babies, comforts the grieving, befriends the lonely, keeps the lights and heat on in these buildings, equips leaders, disciples children and youth and adults, promotes our mission in the community, offers recreational ministries, cares for the sick, expands the outreach of the Church, etc., etc. Thank you for your faithful financial stewardship and generosity.

St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, December 29 -First Sunday after Christmas
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Message: *Christmas Everywhere*
Scripture: Isaiah 63:7-9 & Matthew 2:13-23
Music provided by David Foust & Carol Foust Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opera Carolina Presents: Ugly Duckling

On Saturday, February 8, children and families are invited to a free opera presentation of the "Ugly Duckling." This will be at 10:30am in Broach Hall at St. John's Baptist Church. This is a community-wide event sponsored by St. John's Baptist Church and Opera Carolina.



The Gift of Forgiveness Book Launch & Presentation

On Sunday, March 15, we welcome Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt to St. John's Baptist Church for a launch of her book, *The Gift of Forgiveness*, which will be released nationwide on March 10, 2020. Katherine will be a part of our regular worship service and will stay afterwards for book sales and signings. Overflow seating will be available. This event is free and open to all.



Al Staggs as Dietrich Bonhoeffer

On Saturday, March 28, Al Staggs will present his one-person drama called, "A View from the Underside," in the Sanctuary. The time is yet to be determined. Tickets are \$10/person and will be on sale soon. Save the date and invite neighbors and friends to this event. Al Staggs was a parish minister for over 20 years and began his career as a performing artist after that. He has performed all over the United States and abroad and his repertoire extends beyond Bonhoeffer to portrayals of Clarence Jordan, Walter Rauschenbusch, Martin Luther, and more. On Sunday, March 29, Staggs will join us in worship to offer his portrayal of Clarence Jordan.



Ministers

Every participant in God's Servant Church

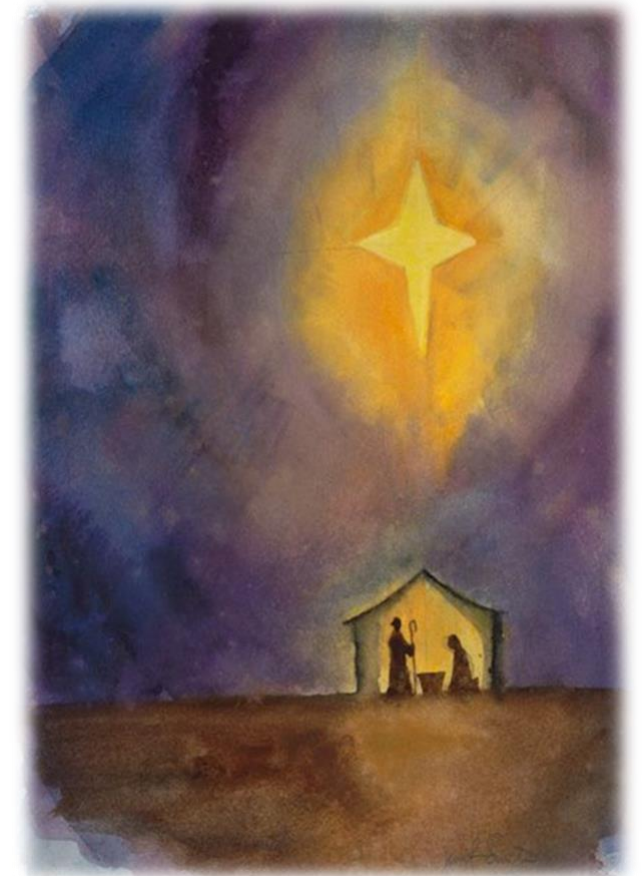
Equipping Ministers

Minister for Spiritual Growth.....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



Candles, Carols, and Communion

*Tuesday, December 24, 2019
Christmas Eve Service of Worship
5:00 PM*

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