

Worship through Praise

Please turn off all electronic devices.

GATHERING MUSIC

J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING

Rev. Allison Benfield

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

Rev. Benfield

WORSHIP INTROIT

J. Kevin Gray

God is our strong salvation;
what foe have we to fear?
In peril and temptation
our light, our help, is near.
Though hosts encamp around us,
firm to the fight we stand;
what terror can confound us,
with God at our right hand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Benfield

ONE: Our salvation and honor come from God alone.

ALL: God is our refuge and a rock of safety.

ONE: We wait quietly before God,

ALL: Knowing that God is faithful to save us.

ONE: God has spoken plainly, we have heard it many times,

ALL: And we have seen God's grace and felt God's love incarnate in the life of Jesus.

ONE: Let us follow Jesus, learning more each day in the salvation offered through grace.

ALL: Let our hearing become believing, and our believing lead to living a life worthy of the gift we have received.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Chalice Hymnal No. 23

Praise, My Soul the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

Hearing a Word

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Jeff LeVie
Luke 8:22-25

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So, they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?"



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.

*HYMN

The Storm Is Strong
HAMBURG

The storm is strong; we face the wind. The water rises; waves crash in. Where are we now? Where will we be? There is no mercy on this sea.

But you, Christ, You are with us here. We turn to You in all our fear. The single word You say is "peace," and wind and waves and storms all cease.

Who can You be? What power Your say that even winds and sea obey? Remove our fear of death and harm. Give us Your faith and still our storm.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Deacon Jones, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Gloria (Movement 1 from *Gloria*)

Chancel Choir

Antonio Vivaldi

*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.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rev. Lee 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

Harry Barr, Emily Batts, Judy Biber, Martha Brown, Byron Bullard, Betty Curlin, Don Furr, Polly Hull, Renee Hutchison, Esther Narron, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Margaret Snyder, Elma Thomas, & Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson – military

REFLECTION

Reflect upon these words from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 12

"You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

HYMN OF PEACE

Chalice Hymnal No. 530

I've Got Peace Like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, that Sends Us Forth in Love

MESSAGE

A Reminder that Salvation Is Closer than You Think

Rev. Dr. Al Cadenhead

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP

Amazing Grace
NEW BRITAIN

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

The grace of God has called us home,
from lands both far and near,
and bids us go forth in this world,
so God's love, they will hear.

During this hymn, anyone desiring to make a commitment to become a member of St. John's or make a profession of faith to follow Jesus Christ as a disciple is invited to come to the front of the sanctuary and pray with the minister.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH

Rev. Gray

*POSTLUDE

J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's 101

Registration for St. John's 101 is underway! This three-week series is designed for anyone who wants to know more about the church's history, ministries, missions, and more. We will meet Sunday mornings (1/26, 2/2, 2/9) at 9:15 AM in the Church Lounge. Coffee and snacks will be provided.
 RSVP: Mallory Brown; MBrown@sjcharlotte.org; 704-333-5428, ext. 11.

Room in the Inn

Each Friday night from now to March 27, we collaborate with Caldwell Presbyterian Church to host 12 homeless neighbors. We still need volunteers and hope you will sign up to help. Contact Dale Johnson at 704-364-2575 or Alice Wirz at 704-377-6189. If you would like to sign up online, follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caaac2eaafb6-room9>

Opera Carolina Presents: The 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. This is a great event to bring children and grandchildren to!



Open Table in February

Join us for the first Open Table of 2020 on Wednesday, February 19 in Broach Hall for a dinner of Brookscakes, grits, and bacon with LIVE music from Kevin Gray and friends. Dinner will be served starting at 5:50pm and the program will end at 7:00pm. Costs are \$6/child under 12, \$10/adult, and \$30/max per family. Sign up with Mallory in the office today or at this link: <https://forms.gle/Zsmu9DdbdBkvwdyat5>

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 at 4PM. Tickets are \$10/person and are on sale now online here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-afternoon-with-al-staggs-tickets-90047306919>



Get your tickets now 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.

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

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, January 26, 2020 | Epiphany
 Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
 Worship Theme: The God Who Sets Apart Christ's Church
 Message: Renovating the Battered Church
 Scripture: Matthew 16:13-20

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, January 19	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 2:00 pm 5:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship 101 (Classrooms) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel) South Sudanese Worship (Chapel) Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)
Monday, January 20	All Day 8:00 pm	Church Offices Closed (MLK, Jr. Day) AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, January 21	8:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:15 pm 6:15 pm	Finance Resource Team (Conference Room) Staff Meeting (Conference Room) Bible Study (Room 209) SJBBC Men's Basketball (Gym) Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
Wednesday, January 22	6:30 am 9:30 am 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:15 pm	Benton Basketball (Gym) Yoga (Room 114) AA (Room 114) Handbells (Handbell Room) Membership Resource Team (Conference Room) Choir (Choir Room)
Thursday, January 23	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, January 24	All Weekend 8:30 am 5:00 pm 8:00 pm	Youth Ski Trip Dove's Nest Retreat (Lounge) Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym) AA (Room 114)
Saturday, January 25	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

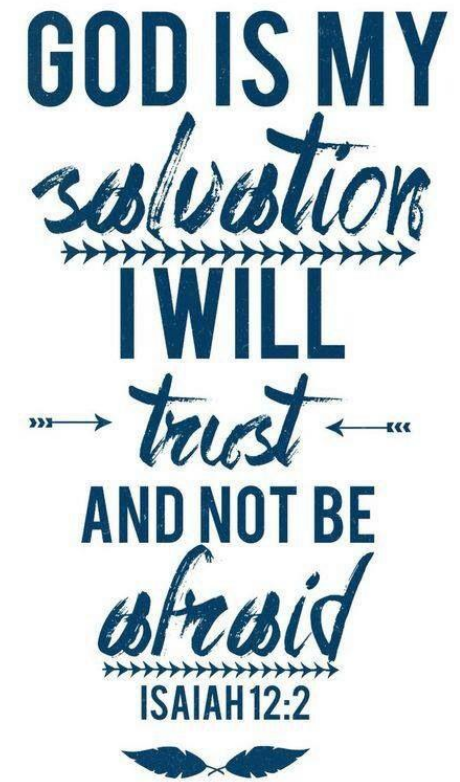
Equipping Ministers

Minister for 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



SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2020
 10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY
 THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
 CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA