

Gathering as God's People

Please turn off all electronic devices.

THE GATHERING Delbridge Narron

WORDS OF GREETING Lilly Marie Sweet

PRAYERFUL CALL TO WORSHIP Lilly Marie Sweet

ONE: God of Grace, we come with all we have.

ALL: Bodies, souls, minds - all here to worship You.

ONE: We have come for a glimpse of Your kingdom of kindness.

ALL: A world where love rules over all,

ONE: Distinctions between friend and foe evaporating in the light of Your love.

ALL: We dedicate our worship and our lives, gathered and scattered to Your kingdom. Amen.

-Written by Carol Penner

***HYMN OF PRAISE** We Gather Together
Chalice Hymnal No. 276 KREMSER

Speak to Us, Lord

READING FROM THE EPISTLE Xan Brien
1 John 3:17-18

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

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 Youth Choir
God of This City Chris Tomlin

You're the God of this city. You're the King of these people. You're the Lord of this nation, You are. You're the light in this darkness. You're the hope to the hopeless. You're the peace to the restless, You are.

There is no one like You, God. And greater things have yet to come, and greater things are still to be done in this city.

You're the Lord of Creation, the Creator of all things. You're the King above all kings, You are. You're the strength in the weakness. You're the love to the broken. You're the joy in the sadness, You are.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Lily Wilkerson

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

Emily Batts, Judy Biber, Byron Bullard, Betty Curlin, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Polly Hull, Johnnie Morcock, Esther Narron, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Margaret Snyder, Elma Thomas, & Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson – military

MEDITATION

The true nature of God informs us of the true nature of the Church.

Hallelujah Tyler Benton, Soloist
Leonard Cohen, arr. J. Kevin Gray

I know you've heard of God above. You've heard His name not used in love, but those who used His name that way lied to you. You must begin to understand God loved so much He became man and suffered at the hands of those who feared truth.

Hallelujah!

The good news truth God spoke to us is all are His and full of worth and I just want to shout it out to You. I do not care what others say, this peace and love will show the way as hate and judgment fall to hallelujah.

Hallelujah!

God's given us a brand-new way and turned our night into the day, and I just want to dance and sing it to You. It goes like this the fourth the fifth, the minor fall, the major lift my heart and soul are rejoicing.

Hallelujah!

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Owen Hahn
Matthew 4:18-23

As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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.

Actively Faithful, Faithfully Active

MESSAGES *The Active Steward: A True Christian* Sam Vavra

An Active Faith Is a Shared Faith Elizabeth Rodden

***HYMN** Here I Am, Lord
Chalice Hymnal No. 452 verse 1 HERE I AM, LORD

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH
Being a Part of God's Team Jacob Callaway, Phillip Fries, Jackson Kinney

MESSAGE *Stronger Together* Claude Bragg

***HYMN** I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
Chalice Hymnal No. 344 ASSAM

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.

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY PRAYER Miller Ray

OFFERTORY J. Noel Lance

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

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.

***SIGNING OF THE BIBLE** Rev. Lee Gray

CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY & ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE Rev. Dennis W. Foust

***COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH** Rev. Gray

SENDING FORTH IN SONG Emma Goodrich, Youth Choir, Congregation
Woke Up with My Mind Set on Jesus Mavis Staples

Woke up this morning with my mind, set on Jesus.
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Woke up this morning with my mind, set on Jesus.
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Well I'm walking and talking with my mind, set on Jesus.
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Congregation join in!

**Woke up this morning with my mind, set on Jesus.
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!**

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP, THE YOUTH WILL BE AT THE DOORS TO COLLECT THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING OFFERING THAT WILL BE GIVEN TO CHARLOTTE RESCUE MISSION. CONSIDER DONATING TO THIS CAUSE!

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!



Loaves and Fishes Food Drive

This February, we are hosting our annual food drive for Loaves and Fishes! Today, in your Sunday school class, you should have found shopping bags with lists of items to purchase for the food pantry. From now until the end of February, all are encouraged to bring in the following items that will be donated to Loaves and Fishes: canned meats, peanut butter, soups, powdered milk, dry breakfast cereals, canned pasta, corn muffin mix, 100% juices, canned fruits, diapers, baby food, baby wipes, paper goods, cleaning supplies, and laundry detergent. Do not bring anything packaged in glass jars. There will be areas at the Main Entrance for you to donate these goods. Thank you for your help!

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/Zsmu9DbdBkvwdyat5>

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 in a dialogue with Dennis 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> If you would like tickets but do not want to purchase them online, please contact Mallory in the office for assistance. 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. On Sunday, March 29, Staggs will join us in worship to offer his portrayal of Clarence Jordan.



Copies of the worship bulletins and sermons are available at 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, February 9, 2020 | Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Message: *Renewing the Torn Tapestry of Prayer*
Scriptures: Matthew 6:5-15

Worship Theme: The God Who Desires to Communicate with Humanity

This Week at St. John’s

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| Sunday, February 2 | 8:00 am | Church Council (Conference Room) |
| | 9:15 am | Sunday School (Classrooms) |
| | 9:15 am | St. John’s 101 (Lounge) |
| | 10:30 am | Worship (Sanctuary) |
| | 10:30 am | Together in Christ Int’l Ministries (Chapel) |
| | 1:00 pm | Private Birthday Party (Gym/Lounge) |
| | 2:00 pm | South Sudanese Worship (Chapel) |
| Monday, February 3 | 9:00 am | Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305) |
| | 11:45 am | Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114) |
| | 5:45 pm | Young Voices of the Carolinas |
| | 6:30 pm | Administrative Deacon Panel (Broach Hall) |
| | 6:30 pm | Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room) |
| | 6:30 pm | Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge) |
| | 7:30 pm | All Deacons Meeting (Broach Hall) |
| | 8:00 pm | AA (Lasater Hall) |
| Tuesday, February 4 | 10:00 am | Staff Meeting (Conference Room) |
| | 11:00 am | Bible Study (Room 209) |
| | 1:00 pm | ECoF Planning Meeting (Lounge) |
| | 5:15 pm | SJBC Men’s Basketball (Gym) |
| | 6:15 pm | Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room) |
| | 6:30 pm | Search Task Force (Conference Room) |
| Wednesday, February 5 | 6:30 am | Benton Basketball (Gym) |
| | 9:30 am | Yoga (Room 114) |
| | 6:00 pm | AA (Room 114) |
| | 6:00 pm | Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room) |
| | 6:00 pm | Handbells (Handbell Room) |
| | 7:15 pm | Choir (Choir Room) |
| Thursday, February 6 | 6:30 pm | Elizabeth Community Association (Room 222) |
| | 7:30 pm | CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge) |
| Friday, February 7 | 5:00 pm | Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym) |
| | 8:00 pm | AA (Room 114) |
| Saturday, February 8 | 7:00 am | Benton Basketball (Gym) |
| | 10:00 am | Basketball Games (Gym/Lounge) |
| | 10:30 am | Ugly Duckling Family Opera (Broach Hall) |
| | 12:00 pm | Young Voices of the Carolinas (Broach Hall) |

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

**A Servant Community:
Actively Faithful, Faithfully Active**



**Sunday, February 2, 2020
10:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary
74th Annual Youth Sunday**

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