

We Worship in Praise

Please turn off all electronic devices.

GATHERING MUSIC Delbridge Narron

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Lee Gray

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Gray

ONE: We weave into our lives this day, the presence of God upon our way.

ALL: We weave into our lives this hour, the mighty God and all God's power.

ONE: We weave into our sore distress, God's peace and calm and nothing less.

ALL: We weave into our steps so lame, healing and helping in God's name.

ONE: We become one, yoked with our Lord,

ALL: And sing God's praises forevermore!

-Based on a prayer by David Adam

***HYMN OF PRAISE** God Is Here!
Chalice Hymnal No. 280 ABBOT'S LEIGH

The Hearing of the Word

READING OF THE GOSPEL Matthew 4:18-22 Clinton Dietz



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 sea—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.

SONG OF RESPONSE Congregation
Jesus, You Once Called Disciples Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
IN BABILONE

Jesus, still You call Your people, "Come and follow me today!"
Some, like Paul, feel sudden wonder; some are brought up in Your way.
Lord, no matter how we meet You, by Your Spirit, make us new.
May we know Your living presence; may we daily follow You.

READING OF THE GOSPEL Matthew 11:28-30 Warren Gray

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rev. Allison Benfield

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, RD Bond, Byron Bullard, Richie Castellanos, Betty Curlin, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Polly Hull, Monty Kears, Johnnie Morcock, Esther Narron, Carl Phillips, Gene Poole, Brad Sifford, Elma Thomas, Debora Thon, Joe Trull & Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson – military

Sympathy to Bobbi Sherrill and family in the death of her mother, Marilyn Smith

***HYMN** Where He Leads Me
Chalice Hymnal No. 346 verses 1 & 3 NORRIS

OFFERTORY PRAYER Kevin Benton, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir
Sing a New Song Heinrich Schütz

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

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.

READING OF THE GOSPEL Matthew 16:24-26 Wanny Hogewood

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

SONG OF RESPONSE Solo & Congregation
I Will Follow You, first time through is solo Chris Tomlin

We Yoke Ourselves with Christ

MESSAGE “Reconstructing the Damaged Yoke of Discipleship” Dr. Foust

PRAYER OF DISCIPLESHIP Dr. Foust

ONE: Lord, we are sent by You to be Your hands, ready to make the earth the place in which Your kingdom comes.

ALL: Lord, we know that it will take our prayers, obedience, and actions to change a world of hurt and pain into a world of love, justice, and peace.

ONE: The task is ours; help us, Lord. Equip us as we equip others in Your name.

ALL: We hear You calling, give us the courage not only to hear, but to take the necessary steps in our lives to be Your disciples. Amen.

***HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
Chalice Hymnal No. 589 I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Verse 1
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart,
in-a my heart, in-a my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

Verse 2
Lord, I want to be a servant in-a my heart, in-a my heart.
Lord, I want to be a servant in-a my heart,
in-a my heart, in-a my heart.
Lord, I want to be a servant in-a my heart.

Verse 3
Lord, I want to share your story with the world, with the world.
Lord, I want to share your story with the world.
With the world, with the world.
Lord, I want to share your story with the world.

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 Dr. Foust

***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

JOIN US FOR OPEN TABLE ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 AT 5:50 IN BROACH HALL! PANCAKES FOR DINNER AND LIVE MUSIC!

100th Anniversary Celebration Meeting

To anyone interested in helping with our 100th Anniversary Celebration: Please come to a meeting on Wednesday, February 19 from 3:30-5:30 in the Lounge. If you cannot come to the entire meeting, that is okay. Anyone is welcome to join us as we plan this exciting celebration in the life of St. John's! If you are interested in helping and cannot come to the meeting, please contact Fredda Kimball (704-577-8953) or freddafk@aol.com.

Ash Wednesday Sacred Space for Renewal

On Ash Wednesday, Broach Hall will be open for self-led, reflective, prayer stations. This experience was designed with all ages in mind. From 9AM-12PM and 1PM-7PM on February 26, a St. John's minister will be present to administer ashes. From 12PM-1PM, we hope you will attend the Elizabeth Communities of Faith service here in our Sanctuary. At 3PM, Dennis and Kevin will offer a devotion and music and at 6PM, Allison will offer a family devotion. We hope all will consider coming to this experience at any point during the day as we begin another Lenten season.

Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Services: People of the Water

Beginning February 26, the Elizabeth Communities of Faith (ECoF) will have noontime (12PM) Lenten services each Wednesday in Lent (February 26-April 1) here at St. John's. The theme this year is "People of the Water." Each week, except for February 26, there will be a soup and sandwich lunch following the service in Broach Hall. A donation of \$5/person is suggested for lunch. All monies from lunch will go to Galilee Refugee Center and Refugee Support Services. Services will last approximately 30 minutes and 30 minutes for lunch. Invite your neighbors and co-workers to come and join!



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 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, sponsored by the McLeod-Brown fund. 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.



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

The St. John's Pulpit

Sunday, February 23, 2020 | Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Worship Theme: The God Who Calls Us to Be Involved in God's Mission
Message: *Rebuilding the Damaged Engine of God's Mission*
Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-3, 43:1-11; Mark 4:10-12; Acts 1:6-8

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, February 16	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries (Chapel)
	2:00 pm	South Sudanese Worship (Chapel)
	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Gym, Lounge, 3rd Floor)
Monday, February 17	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Conference Room)
	8:00 am	Cadence Education (Broach & Lasater Hall, Lounge, Room 114, 220, 224)
	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	5:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Youth Lounge)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, February 18	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Study (Room 209)
	4:30 pm	Preserve Meck Inc. (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 (Lounge)
Wednesday, February 19	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	1:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Lounge)
	3:30 pm	Heritage Resource Team (Lounge)
	5:50 pm	Open Table Dinner (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Mental Health America (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	Eastway AA (Room 114)
	7:00 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
	7:15 pm	Choir (Choir Room)
Thursday, February 20	10:00 am	HeadStart (Lounge)
	12:00 pm	Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy & Legal Aid of NC (Broach Hall)
Friday, February 21	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
	5:30 pm	Volunteers Serve Uptown Men's Shelter (Offsite)
	8:00 pm	Belmont AA (Room 114)
Saturday, February 22	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Basketball Games (Gym/Lounge)

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
Administrative Assistant..... Derek Henson
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, FEBRUARY 16, 2020
10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

**THE GOD WHO CALLS US TO FOLLOW
JESUS AS DISCIPLES**

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