

We Worship the Living God

Please turn off all electronic devices.

GATHERING MUSIC J. Noel Lance

WORDS OF GREETING Rev. Dennis W. Foust. PhD

A WORD ABOUT WORSHIP Dr. Foust

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION Rev. Allison Benfield

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Benfield

ONE: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

ALL: Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

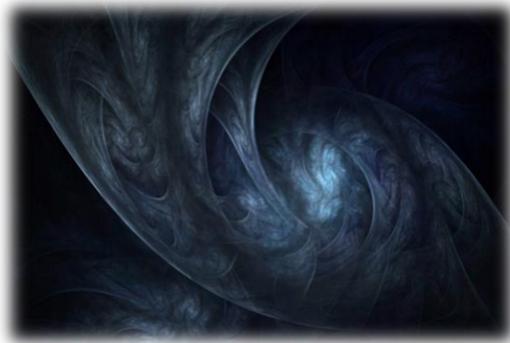
***HYMN OF PRAISE** Have the Mind That Was in Jesus
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
NETTLETON

Have the mind that was in Jesus; Let His way be found in you.
For He gave up what was precious—Heaven's blessings—glory, too.
He was one with God in heaven yet put heaven's joy aside.
May we, too, give up ambition, letting Jesus be our guide.

Christ let go of heaven's riches and became just as a slave.
He was found in human likeness in this world He came to save.
Humbly serving, gladly giving, He took up His cross and died.
May we learn God's way of living found in Jesus, crucified.

Christ our Lord knelt down to save us; then God raised Him high above,
So that at the name of Jesus all should know His wondrous love.
One day all will bow before Him. "He is Lord!" We'll all proclaim.
Till that time, may we all serve Him —Serving others in His name.

READING OF THE GOSPEL Luke 22:39-46 Jason Benton



He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." Then an angel from

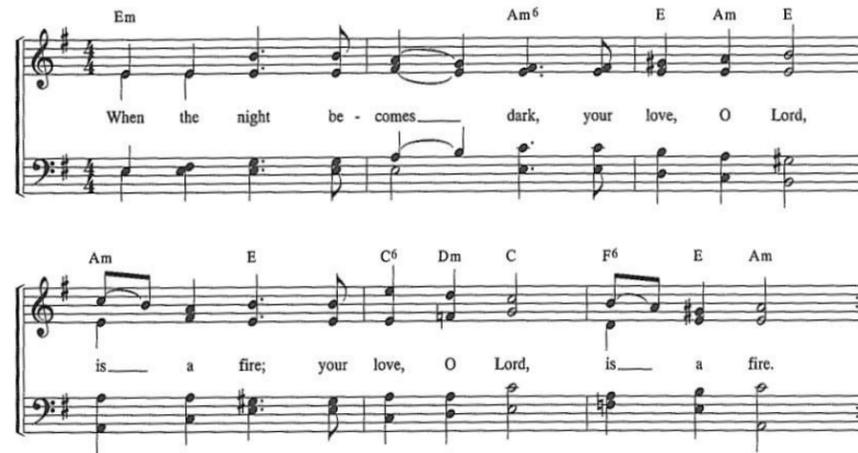
heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more

earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

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 When Night Becomes Dark



MEDITATION Handbells
Parting Barbara Werner

Each person will, from time to time, be handed a cup of distress and suffering.

In the castle of my soul is a little postern gate, whereat, when I enter, I am in the presence of God. In a moment, in the turning of a thought, I am where God is. This is a fact. This world of ours has length and breadth, a superficial and horizontal world. When I am with God, I look deep down and high up. And all is changed. The world of men is made of jangling noises. With God it is a great silence. But that silence is a melody sweet as the contentment of love, thrilling as a touch of flame."
-Walter Rauschenbusch

Parting was written by Barbara Werner in memory of her father, Kermit Anderson, who was killed in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. "His office was in the impact zone on the 97th floor, north side of North Tower, One World Trade Center. 2400 miles west we slept, not realizing that a parting was upon us..."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rev. Lee Gray

ANTHEM OF HEALING Chancel Choir
Requiem Eliza Gilkerson, arr. Craig Hella Johnson

Mother mary, full of grace, awaken, all our homes are gone. Our loved ones taken, taken by the sea. Mother mary calm our fears; have mercy, drowning in a sea of tears. Have mercy, hear our mournful plea. Our world has been shaken.

We wander, our homelands forsaken. In the dark night of the soul, bring some comfort to us all. O mother mary, come and carry us in Your embrace that our sorrows may be faced.

Mary, fill the glass to overflowing; illuminate the path where we are going. Have mercy on us all in funeral fires burning. Each flame to Your mystery returning.

In the dark night of the soul, Your shattered dreamers, make them whole. O mother mary, find us where we've fallen out of grace. Lead us to a higher place.

In the dark night of the soul, our broken hearts, You can make whole. O mother mary, come and carry us in Your embrace. Let us see Your gentle face, mary.

***HYMN** Amazing Grace
Chalice Hymnal No. 546 verses 1, 2, & 3 NEW BRITAIN

A WORD ABOUT OUR STATE AND COMMUNITY MISSIONS OFFERING Anna & LaCount Anderson

OFFERTORY PRAYER Keith Towery, Deacon

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS FOR THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY Handbells
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling arr. Patricia Hurlbutt

***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.

MESSAGE "Prayer and Your Distress Cup" Dr. Foust

***HYMN OF ASSURANCE** Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Chalice Hymnal No. 86 FAITHFULNESS

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

A PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Dr. Foust

COMMISSIONING THE SCATTERED CHURCH Dr. Foust

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

***POSTLUDE** J. Noel Lance

**Invites the congregation to stand*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

State and Community Missions Offering 2020

Each year, St. John’s participates in two missions offerings committed to address the needs of the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the sick, and the powerless. One is Global Missions Offering and the second is the State and Community Missions Offering. We are now accepting contributions for our annual State and Community Missions Offering. This year, the state portion of the proceeds will go to the mission efforts of LaCount and Anna Anderson who both serve as CBF field personnel in Halifax County and Northeastern North Carolina with Together for Hope, CBF’s rural poverty initiative, focusing on providing poverty relief to those experiencing homelessness and the near-homeless. The community portion of the offering will go to Hope Chapel here in Charlotte.

Goal: \$5,000 Received: \$1,345

***The Gift of Forgiveness* Book Launch & Presentation**

NEXT 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. Books will be on sale that morning at church.

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. On Sunday, March 29, Staggs will join us in worship to offer his portrayal of Clarence Jordan.

Order Easter Calla Lilies by today, March 8!

Fill out the form below and turn in to Mallory in the office to order your Easter Calla Lilies TODAY **Sunday, March 8**. Checks are made out to St. John’s Baptist Church with “Easter Lily” in the memo line. Lilies are \$18 a piece.

Calla Lily Order Form 2020

I will give _____ lilies at \$18 each.

_____ in memory of _____.

_____ in honor of _____.

Donor name and telephone: _____

_____ I will pick up my lilies.

_____ I will NOT pick up my lilies.

Prayer Concerns

Virginia Allen, Emily Batts, RD Bond, Byron Bullard, Carol Drye, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Camille Green, Carolyn Hall, Polly Hull, Johnnie Morcock, Carl Phillips, Gene Poole, Elma Thomas, Joe Trull, Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson, military

Sympathy to the family of Judy Biber who passed on Tuesday, March 3 at home. A memorial service to celebrate her life and ministry will be held on Tuesday, March 10 at 1PM in the Sanctuary with a reception to follow in Broach Hall.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Carolyn Hicks who passed on Wednesday, March 4. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 14 at 11AM at McLean Funeral Home on 700 S. New Hope Road, Gastonia, NC.

St. John’s Baptist Church

The St. John’s Pulpit

Sunday, March 15, 2020 | Third Sunday in Lent
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD with Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt
Worship Theme: *A Gift of Forgiveness*

This Week at St. John’s

Sunday, March 8	9:15 am	Sunday School (Classrooms)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int’l Ministries (Chapel)
	12:00 pm	Pastoral Deacon Training (Lasater Hall)
Monday, March 9	11:45 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
	5:45 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Administrative Deacon Panel (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Ministries Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, March 10	10:00 am	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:00 am	Bible Study (Room 209)
	1:00 pm	Memorial Service: Judy Biber (Sanctuary)
	2:00 pm	Reception (Broach Hall)
	5:15 pm	SJBC Men’s Basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing Wkshp. (Room 305 & Youth Lounge)
	6:15 pm	Young Voices of the Carolinas (Choir Room)
Wednesday, March 11	6:30 pm	Nat’l Alliance on Mental Illness Support Groups (Rooms 114 & 116)
	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am	Yoga (Room 114)
	12:00 pm	Elizabeth Communities of Faith Service (Sanctuary)
	12:30 pm	Lenten Lunch (Broach Hall)
	6:00 pm	Belmont AA (Room 114)
	6:00 pm	Handbells (Handbell Room)
	6:00 pm	Mission Resource Team (Conference Room)
	7:00 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, March 12	10:00 am	Craft and Needles Ministry (Lounge)
	2:00 pm	Charlotte Family Housing (Room 305)
	2:00 pm	Safety & Security Task Force (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	CBFNC Collegiate Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, March 13	8:00 am	WDS & Children’s Theatre of Charlotte (Lasater Hall)
	5:00 pm	Room in the Inn (Lounge/Gym)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Room 114)
Saturday, March 14	7:00 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Charlotte Family Housing Wkshp. (Room 305 & Youth 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, Debora Thon
Graded Choir Director..... Anna Ball
Organist..... J. Noel Lance
Weekday School DirectorLydia Olmsted

The Worship of God

"When I am with God, I look deep down and high up. And all is changed. The world of men is made of jangling noises. With God, it is a great silence. But that silence is a melody sweet as the contentment of love, thrilling as a touch of flame."

WALTER RAUSCHENBUSCH

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020
10:30 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY**

**THE GOD WHO HEARS US IN
OUR DISTRESS**

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