

Eastertide

Sunday, May 3, 2020

St. John's Baptist Church | Charlotte, NC

While we are distancing ourselves physically during this time, we hope you will join us for this virtual worship experience. Follow along here and on the St. John's Facebook page, website, or YouTube.



Gathering Music

Guide Me, O Thou Jehovah

J. Noel Lance

O Lord, we come this morning knee-bowed and body-bent before your throne of grace.

My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.

O Lord-this morning-bow our hearts beneath our knees, and our knees in some lonesome valley.

In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.

We come this morning like empty pitchers to a full fountain, with no merits of our own.

You bring my wand'ring spirit back, when I forsake your ways.

O Lord, open up a window of heaven, and lean out far over the battlements of glory, and listen this morning.

You lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

James Weldon Johnson, 20th-century African-American educator

Greeting

Rev. Lee Gray

Hymn of Faithfulness

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

Reading of Psalm 23

Clinton Dietz, reader

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long"

Hymn

As the Deer

1. As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

2. You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a king
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

Chorus

You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

Chorus

You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

Moments with the Younger Church

Rev. Allison Benfield

Reflection

The Shepherd

music by J. Kevin Gray, words by William Blake, sung by Gloria Dei Cantores Choir

The Church at Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Bert Green, deacon

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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, Byron Bullard, Mary Chilton (mother of Amy Chilton), Carol Drye, Teri Franklin, Don Furr, Camille Green, Polly Hull, Maddie and Domnhall Minogue, Gene Poole, Elma Thomas, Chip Wilson, Alison Zieglmeier (daughter of Ken and Donna Scott); Parker Jackson, military

Sympathy to Julie and Doug Hammond in the death of Julie's father, Rev. Randolph Denard "Denny" Spear, Jr. on Sunday April 26 in Atlanta, Georgia. Sympathy also to Drew, Amy, Grace, and Davis in the loss of their grandfather.

Reading from Acts 2:44-47

Anna Ball, reader

"All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

Offertory

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir

Theological Reflection

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Lead Us Beside Wild Parrots

Hymn

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1. I'm gonna pray so God can use me, any time and anywhere.
I'm gonna pray so God can use me, any time and anywhere.

2. I'm gonna wait so God can use me, any time and anywhere.
I'm gonna wait so God can use me, any time and anywhere.

3. I'm gonna live so God can use me, any time and anywhere.
I'm gonna live so God can use me, any time and anywhere.

Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

Postlude

Sing to the Lord

J. Noel Lance



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You can also mail your tithes to the church at this address:

*St. John's Baptist Church
Attn: Jacquelyn McAbee
300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, NC 28204*