

St. John's Worship

Sunday, October 11, 2020

St. John's Baptist Church | Charlotte, NC

I am the vine, you are the branches...



Gathering the Scattered Church

J. Kevin Gray

Prayer

J. Kevin Gray

Hymn

“Maker, In Whom We Live”

DIADEMATA

Maker, in whom we live, in whom we are and move, the glory, power, and praise receive for Your creating love. Let all the angel throng give thanks to God on high, while earth repeats the joyful song and echoes to the sky.

Eternal, Triune God, let all the hosts above, let all on earth below record and dwell upon Your love. When heaven and earth are fled before Your glorious face, sing all the saints Your love hath made thine everlasting praise.

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 5:1-7

Sam Vavra, reader

I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

The Church at Prayer and the Lord's 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.

Song

"God Is the Vine, We Are the Branches"

HANSON PLACE

God's the vine and we're the branches, we should abide in the Lord, and let God abide within us as the flow of life within. We would know Thee, Lord, more deeply, ever abiding in the vine.

Reading of the Gospel

John 15:1-5

Mallory Brown

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

Song

"I Am the Vine"

LONDONDERRY

I am the vine; my Father is the gardener. Each branch that bears no fruit, He cuts away; while every branch that yields good fruit, He trims and cleans, so that it will still more produce each day.

Now you are clean because of My Word's work in you. Remain in Me, and I'll remain in you. Just as a branch without the vine can bear no fruit, so you must stay in Me if you would bear fruit too.

Stewardship Moment

Todd Stillerman

Prayer

Offertory

"To Love Our God"

arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir

Message

“No Artificial Plants”

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Song

“We Go With Joy”

The spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near, is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here. Together met, together bound by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Commissioning of the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

Postlude

“Tocatta” Pour Grand Orgue by Gaston Belier

J. Noel Lance