

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, July 25, 2021 | The God Who Empowers for Ministry in Daily Life

Prelude J. Noel Lance

Greeting & Prayer of Submission Rev. Allison Benfield

Call to Worship Rev. Nate Dove

ONE: We gather as God's children,
ALL: Loved and called to minister to the world.
ONE: Wherever and whenever we see others hurt,
ALL: Let us be God's healing light.
ONE: Wherever and whenever we see injustice,
ALL: Let us be God's voice of compassion and right.
ONE: In all situations in life,
ALL: May we tune our hearts to sing God's praise.

***Hymn of Praise** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Chalice Hymnal No. 16 NETTLETON

Reading from the Gospel Nancy Wilson
Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

ONE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.
ALL: Thanks be to God!



Reflection & Proclamation Mattie Stillerman & Ed Turner

Voice 1: Who is a minister at St. John's?
Voice 2: What are ways that they minister? Praying, visiting, teaching, cooking meals, nurturing, listening, and more.

Sacred Pause:
In what ways do you minister to others or what ways have you been ministered to? Ponder these questions and write your responses below.

Voice 1: The apostle Peter says it beautifully when he states that we have been called out as God's people in order that we may proclaim the mighty acts of God who called us out of darkness into God's marvelous light.
Voice 2: We are to share that light and share in this work.
Voice 1: Who is a minister?
Voice 2: I am!
Voice 1: You are!
All Voices: We are all ministers!

***Hymn** *Come and Find the Quiet Center*
Chalice Hymnal No. 575 BEACH SPRING

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.

Special Music Reneé Hutchison
Make Me A Channel of Your Peace Sebastian Temple

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring Your love.
Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord.
And where there is doubt true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is despair in life let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light.
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
It is in giving to all men that we receive.
And in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light.
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Message Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
The Essential Place

A Few Reminders About Your Prayer Life:
Pray regularly – Jesus said, "When you pray," not, "If you pray."
Pray sincerely – God desires to hear your deepest needs and desires.
Pray privately - Your private prayer life is revealed in your public prayers.
Pray for God to shape your character, perspective, will and spirit.
Pray for God to work in your family, friends and circle of influence.
Pray for God to work through St. John's and our ministries.
Pray for God to reveal new visions to us, as part of the people of God.

Questions to Consider About Your Prayer Life:
Does this prayer reflect the spirit and character of Jesus?
Does this prayer express God's vision for the world?
Does this prayer focus on helping other people?
Does this prayer encourage me to grow spiritually?

***Hymn of Discipleship** *Here I Am, Lord*
Chalice Hymnal No. 452, Verses 1 & 3 HERE I AM, LORD

Offertory Prayer Dale Johnson

Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir
In This Very Room Ron & Carol Harris

In this very room there's quite enough love for one like me.
And in this very room there's quite enough joy for one like me.
And there's quite enough hope,
And quite enough power to chase away any gloom;
For Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.

And in this very room there's quite enough love for all of us.
And in this very room there's quite enough joy for all of us.
And there's quite enough hope,
And quite enough power to chase away any gloom;
For Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room.

***Doxology** 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.

Commissioning the Scattered Church Dr. Foust

Postlude J. Noel Lance

LIFE AT ST. JOHN'S

Checking In for Sunday Growth Groups & Worship

Thank you for your patience in these first weeks of regathering "All Together through Prayer." At this point, you no longer need to pre-register for worship. We are still implementing the new check-in procedures on the iPad kiosks as you arrive, and we are taking steps to make this check-in process run more smoothly. Thank you for helping to institute this new approach as we seek to improve congregational care and outreach.

Are you passionate about social justice?

The Mission Resource Team is launching a new group focused on social justice (which would include systemic racism, economic mobility, and equity/equality issues). This group hopes to develop educational programs and volunteer/service opportunities for the St. John's community through study and discussion.

The first meeting will be *Thursday, July 29 at 6pm* in the church lounge on the first floor by the gym. If you are interested in this project (or if you are at least willing to participate in an introductory discussion), please contact Todd Stillerman (704-763-6611 or stillerman@gmail.com).

Attention: Face Coverings Are Required in Worship

Even though we are not registering ahead of time for worship, face coverings are still required during worship in the Sanctuary on Sundays! Our COVID-19 Task Force recommends this protocol at this time to protect our children and the most vulnerable among us who cannot yet be vaccinated. Thank you for helping us love and protect our children and the most vulnerable by wearing your face coverings in worship until further notice.

Nursery Care Available During Worship in Room 219

Our new nursery is open and available for children ages 2 and younger during worship. Our volunteers are eager to meet and care for your little ones! The nursery is in Room 219 on the Main Level (2) beside Rev. Allison Benfield's office.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

Come and cheer on the St. John's Men's Softball Team! Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a summer evening on the ball field at Providence Baptist Church on Randolph Road.

Upcoming Games:

Monday, July 26 @ 6PM
Tuesday, July 27 @ 7:15PM
Wednesday, July 28 @ 6PM (make-up game)

Charlotte Pride Band Concert

Join Charlotte Pride Band (CPB) in their return to the concert stage for a "Concert in the Park." They will be performing from the bandshell in Charlotte's Freedom Park on Saturday, August 14th at 6pm. Bring friends, family, chairs, and a picnic. FREE ADMISSION.

Musical selections include a medley of movie hits by John Williams, a spirited Spanish march entitled "Amparito Roca," Percy Grainger's "Lincolnshire Posy," Richard Strauss's fanfare "Also Sprach Zarathustra" best known as the theme in "2001: A Space Odyssey," and Appalachian themed selections "Kentucky 1800" and "Blue Ridge Reel."

The ensemble is led by artistic director Dr. John Ross, director of bands at Appalachian State University. CPB has approximately 50 members drawn from greater Charlotte's LGBTQIA community and ally supporters. Freedom Park is located at 1900 East Blvd. For more information about the band see www.charlotteprideband.org.

THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT

Sunday August 1, 2020
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Worship Theme: The God Who Teaches & Nurtures
Message: *Why Can't Prayer Be Easier?*
Scripture: Matthew 5:43-48

MEMBERSHIP & MINISTRY

If you would like information on how you can become a part of St. John's, please fill out one of the "For Our Guests" cards found on the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate. Our church staff 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.

MOBILE GIVING AT ST. JOHN'S

You can now text your contributions and offerings to St. John's! It is secure, simple, and efficient. Text "SJGIVE" (not case sensitive) to 73256 to give using your mobile device. When you receive a message, click on the link provided and follow the instructions. You will then receive a receipt to confirm your gift was received. It is that simple!

MINISTERS

Every participant in God's Servant Church

EQUIPPING MINISTERS

Minister for Spiritual Growth
Rev. Allison Benfield
Minister for Youth & Young Adults
Rev. Nate Dove
Minister for Worship & Music
J. Kevin Gray
Minister for Congregational Care
Rev. Lee Gray
Senior Minister
Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

SUPPORT STAFF

Administrative Assistants
Mallory Brown & Derek Henson
Church Administrator
Jacquelyn McAbee
Custodial Staff
Chris Mullis & Debora Thon
Organist
J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director
Lydia Olmstead
Children's Choir Director
Anna Ball

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, NC 28204
704-333-5428
stjohnsbaptistchurch.org
info@sjcharlotte.org



The God Who Empowers for Ministry in Daily Life
SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021 AT 10:30AM

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA