

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## Third Sunday after the Epiphany

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

\*Invites the congregation to stand

### Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

### Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust

### Prayer of Submission

Dr. Foust

### Musical Call to Worship

*Here We Are To Worship*

J. Kevin Gray  
By Tim Hughes,  
Arr. J. Kevin Gray

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness  
Opened our eyes, let us see  
Beauty that made our heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

And here we are to worship  
Here we are to bow down  
Here we are to say that You are God.  
You teach us about mercy, teach of us of compassion,  
You've shown us what it means to really love.

### \*Call to Worship

Keith Towery

ONE Our goal is to praise God not only with our words, but in our daily living.

**ALL: However, sometimes, our attitude gets in the way and we become too inwardly focused and get lost within ourselves.**

ONE: The call to worship comes whenever we need to turn our eyes to God, for whatever the reason.

**ALL: God must become greater. We must learn to see beyond ourselves.**

ONE: On this morning, let us turn our eyes toward heaven to the God of love who is reaching out to greet us.

**ALL: And in that holy moment, what else could we do except worship? Let us worship the living God.**

### \*Hymn of Praise

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 73, Verses 1, 3 & 4  
WELLESLEY

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

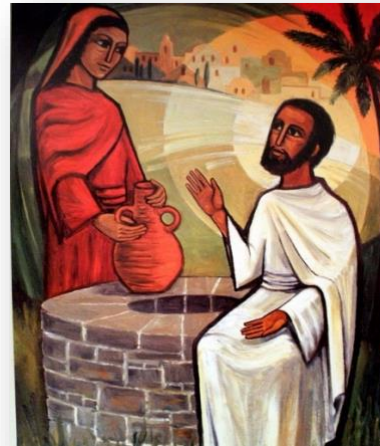
For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's word;  
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.

### Telling of the Gospel

John 4:1-42

Rev. Allison Benfield



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.**

### \*Hymn

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*The Water God Gives Us*  
FOUNDATION

The water God gives us in wondrous supply  
Is water that's living and never runs dry.  
For everyone drinks and is thirsty again,  
But God's living water gives life without end.

O God, we confess that we seek empty things;  
We strive after wealth and the comfort it brings.  
We buy things in hopes that our spirits will soar  
Yet still we are thirsty and left wanting more.

Then just like that woman who went to the well,  
We hear you, O Christ, and the truth that you tell.  
You know who we are and you know what we've been;  
You know us and love us in spite of our sin.

The gift that you give is the greatest of wealth;  
You give living water! You give us yourself!  
May we, like that woman, go back where we live  
And tell those we know of the life that you give.

### Offertory Prayer

Todd Stillerman

### Offertory

*The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy*

Chancel Choir  
Arr. Austin Lovelace

The kingdom of God is justice and joy; for Jesus restores what sin would destroy. God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace; the captives are freed, the sinners find place, The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share, and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice. Believe the good news, repent, and rejoice! God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross. Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal; in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole. The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call, and all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

### \*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

### The Church at Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Dr. Foust

**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 & Celebrations

Shirley Ballard, Katherine Barr, John Bragg, Tamara Edwards, Caroline Godsey,  
Tish Philemon, Brad Sifford, Carole Ann Simpson, Don Swofford,  
Elma Thomas, Dee Turner

We express our sympathy to the family of Paul Lloyd in his passing on January 14. We will gather in the St. John's sanctuary today, Sunday, January 23 at 2PM to celebrate Paul's life of ministry. This service will be live-streamed and a receiving line will follow the service at the front of the sanctuary to allow you to express your love to the Lloyd family.

### A Time for Reflection

J. Kevin Gray

What brings you to the well today?  
What are you carrying that you need to leave behind?  
What spiritual thirst is within you?

### Message

Dr. Foust

*The Day Jesus Transformed a Community through a Trusted Woman*

### \*Hymn of Sending

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 431, Verses 1 & 3  
AR HYD Y NOS

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;  
waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;  
in my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever,  
go, my children, with my blessing you are my own.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;  
grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you;  
go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

### Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

### Postlude

J. Noel Lance

## LIFE AT ST. JOHN'S

### An Epiphany Sermon Series

#### ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE A WOMAN?

Some Women Who Helped Jesus Reveal the Mission of God

**January 30:** The Day Jesus Almost Got Killed Over a Phoenician Woman (Luke 4:14-30)

**February 6:** The Day Jesus Silenced a Mob on Behalf of a Victimized Woman (John 8:2-11)

#### Youth Sunday: February 13

Every year, we celebrate the young people of our church on Youth Sunday. This year, Youth Sunday will be on February 13 during morning worship. Their commitments and dreams inspire us as they reveal their commitments to God's vision for the world.

#### Welcoming Rev. Jonathan Lee Walton, PhD!

Throughout our history, St. John's has enjoyed a close relationship with Wake Forest University. We are a founding church for Wake Forest University School of Divinity and are privileged to welcome the Dean of the School of Divinity, Rev. Jonathan Lee Walton, PhD, into the St. John's Pulpit on Sunday, February 20. Walton is a social ethicist whose scholarship focuses on evangelical Christianity and its relationship to mass media and political culture. Dean Walton's work and insights have been featured in several national and international news outlets including the New York Times, CNN, and the BBC.



***We look forward to welcoming Dean Walton to St. John's on February 20!***

#### Women's Retreat: March 4-5, 2022

- Retreat Title - *The Wholeness of God: God Beyond Gender*
- Facilitator - Rev. Martha D. Kearse, D.Min.
- Location - St. John's Baptist Church
- Dates - Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, March 4-5

## THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT

Sunday, January 30, 2022

Proclaimer: Dr. Amy Chilton

Worship Theme: Isn't That Just Like a Woman?

Message Title: The Day Jesus Almost Got Killed

Over a Phoenician Woman

Scripture: Luke 4:14-30

## GUEST CONNECTION

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 text your contributions and offerings to St. John's! Text SJGIVE (not case sensitive) and the amount you would like to give (i.e. 10=\$10) 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.

## MINISTERS

Every participant in God's Servant Church

### EQUIPPING MINISTERS

**Minister for Spiritual Growth**

Rev. Allison Benfield

**Minister for Worship & Music**

J. Kevin Gray

**Minister for Congregational Care**

Rev. Lee Gray

**Senior Minister**

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Church Administrator**

Jacquelyn McAbee

**Custodial Staff**

Chris Mullis & Debora Thon

**Organist**

J. Noel Lance

**Weekday School Director**

Lydia Olmstead

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**Isn't That Just Like a Woman?  
Some Women Who Helped Jesus  
Reveal the Mission of God**

**Sunday, January 23, 2022, at 10:30AM  
ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**