

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Please silence all electronic devices.

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ, whose compassion illumines the world. Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Call to Worship

Rev. Nate Dove

ONE: Where two or three are gathered in God's name,

ALL: God is there.

ONE: Wherever the baptismal waters cover a sincere believer,

ALL: God is there.

ONE: Wherever preaching faithfully proclaims God's word,

ALL: God is there.

ONE: Whenever prayers rise from a trusting heart,

ALL: God is there. Wherever a faithful offering of praise is made,

God is with us, weaving us together and nothing will separate us from the other.

Prayer of Submission

Rev. Dove

*Hymn of Praise

For the Healing of the Nations

Chalice Hymnal No. 668, verses 1 & 4

CWM RHONDDA

For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.

You, Creator-God, have written Your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.

Reading from the Old Testament

Treva

Bridges

Story from Exodus 33

Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would stand, each of them, at the entrance of their own tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent of meeting. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, then the LORD would speak with Moses. Thus, the LORD used to speak with Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

One day, Moses said to the LORD, "You have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that these are your people." The Lord said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you shalom." And Moses said to the Lord, "If your presence will not go, do not send us forward. For how can it be known to others that we have found favor in your sight, unless you go with us?"

The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me the fullness of your Self, I pray." And the Lord said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD.' But," the Lord said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my splendor passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

ONE: This is the written word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Solo

I Have Seen the Face of God in Your Face

Renee Crawford

Craig Courtney

I have seen the face of God in your face. Giving all, you shared with me God's grace. And you were faithful to guide me as I grew. I saw your love for God, and I saw God in you. When you smiled, God's love surrounded me, I have seen the face of God. I have heard the voice of God; I have felt the hand of God through you.



Offertory Prayer

Pauline Carter

Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir

*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.

Presentation of New Members

Sally Young, Chair of Diaconate

Charles Alexander, Amy Chilton, Lisa Craig, Ginny Dodd, Emma Dove, Nate Dove, Derek Henson, Dick Hester, Syd Malloch, Finn McGuire, Laura McGuire, Noah McGuire, Delbridge Narron, Fan Watson

Reading of the Church Covenant

United in the faith that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, revealed in history, disclosed in the Scriptures, and experienced in human life, we do solemnly and joyfully make this Covenant together:

We will be faithful to the public worship of God, gathering with the family of the church to celebrate His glory and remember His grace.

We will take seriously the responsibility and privilege of personal Christian growth, diligently seeking to establish and maintain a Christian atmosphere in our homes.

We will love and encourage each other in the family of the Church and admonish each other as occasion may require. Our differences will not separate us but rather increase our understanding and strengthen the bonds of Christian love.

We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us, contributing our financial support for the Church and its ministries and offering ourselves for God's work in the world.

We will, with God's help, so live our lives that others, seeing the joy of Christian living, may seek to know Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will be a servant Church, recognizing the infinite worth of every person and believing that Christ has called us to active involvement in behalf of human brotherhood. In the spirit of this covenant, we pray together:

Almighty God, Father of us all, witness this Covenant which we make with each other and with Thee. Guide us as we try to do that which pleases Thee, to the glory of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Church at Prayer

Benfield

Rev. Allison

Prayer Concerns

Andrew Adair, Carol Drye, Betty Fuller, Polly Hull, Jean Hutson, Naomi Lamphier (sister of Amy Chilton), Tish Philemon, Gene & Carol Poole, Viorica Secere, Don Swofford, Elma Thomas

Prayers for our world, especially those living in the wake of hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, COVID-19, and global conflicts

*Hymn

Believers All We Bear the Name

EDGE

Believers all, we bear the name of Christ our living Lord.
As Christians in the world today we hold fast to the Word.

From simple trust to growing faith, our pilgrimage we trace.
Toward full maturity in Christ led there thro' God's good grace.

Message

The Face of God

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Invitation to the Lord's Table

St. John's observes the communion tradition of an OPEN TABLE. This is the Lord's Table, and all are welcome here. No person is excluded from Christ's broad invitation for any reason. "Come to me," Jesus said.

Serving of the Bread and Cup



Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

***The Lord's Prayer**

Chalice Hymnal No. 307

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Malotte

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

Postlude

J. Noel Lance

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THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT

Sunday October 10, 2020
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Worship Theme: The Hands of God
Scripture: Psalm 139:1-10

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 now text your contributions and offerings to St. John's! It is secure, simple, and efficient. 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. 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

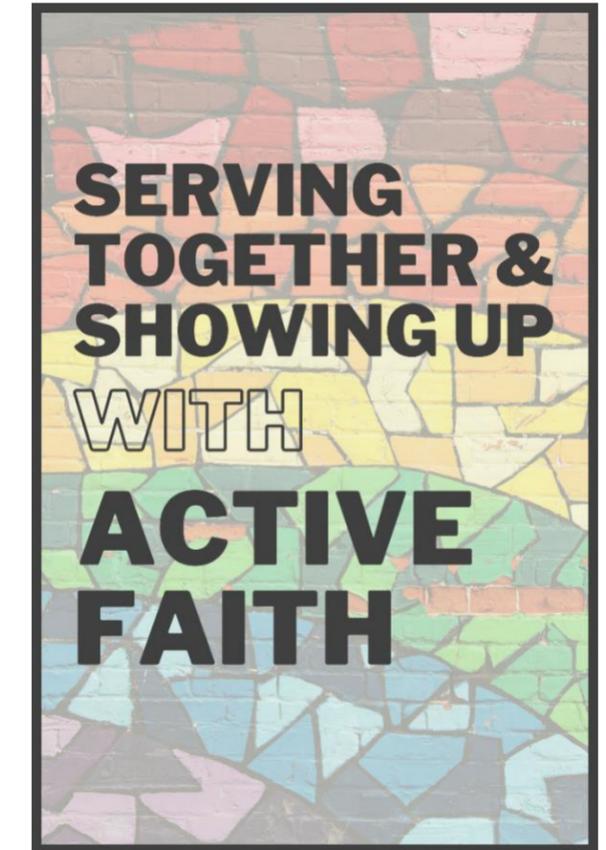
J. Noel Lance

Weekday School Director

Lydia Olmstead

Children's Choir Director

Anna Ball



World Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 3, 2021, at 10:30am

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

St. John's Baptist Church