

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

\*Invites the congregation to stand

**Gathering Music** J. Noel Lance

**Greeting** Rev. Allison Benfield

**Centennial Recollections** David Allen

**Prayer of Submission** Rev. Benfield

### \*Call to Worship

ONE: We gather as God's children,

**ALL: loved and called to minster 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 seek to praise God through holy thought, action, and living.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 4, verses 1 & 4 NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea; holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**Reading from the Gospel** Kevin Turner

Luke 6:27-38

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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.**

**Moment of Centering** J. Kevin Gray  
*Word of God Speak* Bart Millard & Pete Kipley

*During this song, quiet your mind and spend time simply existing in the presence of God.*

I'm finding myself in the midst of You,  
beyond the music, beyond the noise.  
All that I need is to be with You,  
and in the quiet hear Your voice.  
Word of God speak, would You pour down like rain,  
washing my eyes to see Your majesty.  
To be still and know, that You're in this place,  
please let me stay and rest in Your holiness,  
Word of God speak.

*Please join in as we sing:*

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel God's mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

**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.**

**Prayer Concerns & Celebrations**  
Shirley Ballard, Katherine Barr, Tamara Edwards, Caroline Godsey, Bill Hartsell, Ken Hungate, Maddie Minogue, Tish Philemon, Carole Ann Simpson, Don Swofford, Dee Turner.

We extend sympathy to Dr. Richard Kremer (a former Senior Minister of St. John's) and family in the death of Richards's father on Saturday, February 12 in Birmingham, AL.

We will gather in the sanctuary today at 2:00 to celebrate the life of Betty Fuller. The service will live stream on our YouTube channel. Following the service, the family will be available to visit for a brief period of time outside in the front of the sanctuary.

**\*Song** *We Are Walking*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 442 SIYAHAMBA

We are walking in the light of God,  
we are walking in the light of God.  
We are walking in the light of God.  
We are walking in the light of God,

We are walking, walking, Oo,  
we are walking in the light of God.  
Walking, we are walking, Oo,  
we are walking in the light of God.

We are singing...

**A Word About Our Community & State Missions Offering** Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

**Offertory Prayer** Dr. Foust

**Offertory** Chancel Choir  
*Lord, Here Am I* John Ness Beck; Words by Fannie Crosby

Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey;  
only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.  
Teach me the mission appointed for me,  
what is my labor, and where it shall be?  
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,  
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross;  
willing to suffer reproaches and loss.  
Willing to follow, if Thou wilt but lead;  
only support me with grace in my need.  
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,  
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Living, or dying, I still would be Thine;  
yet I am mortal while Thou art divine.  
Pardon, whenever I turn from the right;  
pity, and bring me again to the light.  
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,  
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

**\*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.

**Message** Rev. Jonathan Lee Walton, PhD  
*"Moral Dyslexia"*

**\*Hymn of Discipleship** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 614 I'M GONNA LIVE

I'm gonna live so God can use me, anytime and anywhere.  
I'm going to live so God can use me, anytime and anywhere.

I'm gonna sing...

I'm gonna work...

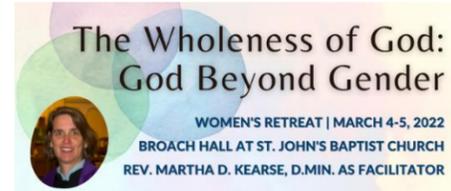
**\*Commissioning the Scattered Church** Dr. Foust

**\*Postlude** J. Kevin Gray

## LIFE AT ST. JOHN'S

### Welcome, Rev. Jonathan Lee Walton, PhD to St. John's!

Today, we welcome Rev. Jonathan Lee Walton, PhD to St. John's as our guest proclaimer. He is the Dean of the School of Divinity at Wake Forest University. Dean 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 are thrilled to welcome him today!



**Register TODAY for the Women's Retreat!** The retreat will take place in Broach Hall on Friday, March 4 from 6:30-9:00pm and on Saturday from 9:00am-3:30pm. Together with our facilitator, Rev. Martha D. Kearse, D.Min., we

will explore the Wholeness of God: God Beyond Gender. Women of all ages are invited to attend! Check out the details on Realm and register by February 25 through Realm or scan the QR code here.



## EASTER LILIES

Lilies are a long-standing Easter tradition and are loved by many, except those who are allergic to the pollen from traditional Easter Lilies. This year, we are offering pink-tipped white Calla Lilies to reduce the pollen and help everyone enjoy this glorious Sunday of worship. Like Easter Lilies, Calla Lilies can be planted and come back again next year.

The cost is \$18.50 each. Be sure to indicate if the Lily is In Memory of or in Honor of a loved one. All orders must be placed by Sunday, March 13. You can order via Realm OR fill out and tear off the form below to turn into Jenny in the office with your payment.

<p><b>Calla Lily Order Form 2022</b></p> 	
<p>I will give _____ (number) lilies at \$18.50 each. _____ in memory of _____</p> <p>_____ in honor of _____</p> <p>Please enclose or send cash/check with this order form with checks being made payable to St. John's Baptist Church with "Easter Lilies" in the memo line.</p>	<p>Donor name and telephone: _____</p> <p>_____ I wish to pick up my lilies. _____ I do not wish to pick up my lilies.</p> <p>The deadline to place your order is Sunday, March 13, 2022 with Jenny in the office.</p>

## THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT

Sunday, February 27, 2022  
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
*Cherish the Dream God Has Given You*  
Celebrating Women in Ministry

### 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

**Administrative Assistant**  
Jenny Godfrey

**Custodial Staff**  
Chris Mullis & Debora Thon

**Organist**  
J. Noel Lance

**Weekday School Director**  
Lydia Olmstead

**Sound and Video Team**  
Thomas Merchant & Matt Comer  
**Communications and Administrative Support**  
Mallory Brown & Derek Henson

### St. John's Baptist Church

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Charlotte, NC 28204  
704-333-5428

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info@sjcharlotte.org



Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 10:30AM  
**ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**