

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Please silence all electronic devices.

*Invites the congregation to stand

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

O holy God, when hope is lost and our faith has turned to sorrow, come to us, and restore us, lift us up from despair, and set our feet on solid rock. Forgive us for our unbelief, for our backup plans we have created in case you do not exist. Trade our confusion for wisdom, love for hate and forgiveness for our sins.

Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Prayer of Submission

Dr. Foust

Call to Worship: Psalm 126

Dr. Foust

ONE: The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with Joy!
ALL: We have remembered and celebrated our first century of ministry, we now begin to envision our second.
ONE: Lord, as rain makes streams flow in the Negev Desert, bless us with great success.
ALL: Give us visions and commitments that are like seeds to plant in the fertile soil of Your kingdom, seeds that will bear fruit in the decades ahead.

*Hymn of Praise

Come, Thou Almighty King

Chalice Hymnal No. 27, verses 1 & 3

ITALIAN HYMN

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise: one God, all glorious, o'er all victorious come, and reign over us, ancient of days.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour! Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

Readings from the Hebrew Scripture

Renee Hutchison

Isaiah 43:16-19

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army, and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

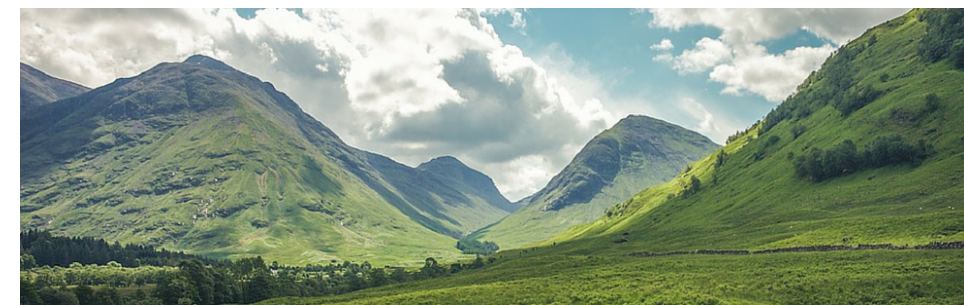
ONE: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the Living Word of God.
ALL: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.

Moment of Reflection

Randy Mahnesmith

I Was Not Alone

J. Kevin Gray



Song

J. Kevin Gray

Hills and Valleys

Wells, Butler, and Smith

On the mountains I will bow my life to the one who set me there. In the valley I will lift my eyes to the one who sees me there. When I'm standing on the mountain, I didn't get there on my own. When I'm walking through the valley, I know I am not alone. You're the God of the hills and valleys, hills and valleys, the God of the hills and valleys, and I am not alone.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Lee Gray

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Shirley Ballard, Martha Brown, Stan Brown, Kathleen Bumgardner, Caroline Godsey, Tish Philemon, Don Swofford, Elma Thomas, Dee Turner

Congratulations to Sarah and Chip Cromer on the birth of their son, Cooper Charles Cromer, on March 26, 2022. The rose placed on the lectern last week was in celebration of his arrival!

Words of Assurance

Rev. Gray

Song of Response

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

To God and to the Christ I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to God's Christ I will sing.
To God and to the Christ, who brings us forth to life,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

Readings from the Epistle

Ellen Smith

Philippians 3:10-14

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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.

Choral Anthem

Chancel Choir

And the Father Will Dance

Mark Hayes

And the father will dance over you in joy! He will take delight in whom He loves. Is that a choir I hear singing the praises of God?
No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song! And He will joy over you in song! My soul will make its boast in God,
For He has answered all my cries. His faithfulness to me is as sure as the dawn of a new day. Awake my soul! Awake my soul and sing!
Let my spirit rejoice, let my spirit rejoice, let my spirit rejoice, in God!
Sing, O daughter of Zion, with all of your heart! Cast away fear, for you have been restored! Put on the garment of praise as on a festival day.
Join with the Father in glorious, jubilant song.
And He will joy over you in song! And the Father will dance over you in joy!
He will take delight in whom He loves! Is that a choir I hear singing the praises of God? No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song!
God rejoices over you, God rejoices over you in song!

Message

Dr. Foust

Because You Know the Christ

*Hymn of Discipleship

Whatever Gains I've Made

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

LEONI

Whatever gains I've had, whatever my success,
Whatever I've accomplished when I've done my best —
I count it all as loss compared to what was done
When God redeemed my life by sending Christ the Son.

I've lived through many days; there's much that I have learned.
I've planned and prospered, faced new challenge, worked and earned.
Yet no affirming word, no merit or award,
Can ever be as great as knowing Christ my Lord.

Offertory Prayer

Carol Injaychock

Offertory

J. Noel Lance

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Crystal Davis Clay

*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

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Johnnie Morcock by her family in celebration of her upcoming 95th birthday. The church remains a large part of her life. We hope these flowers bring cheer to everyone in the church family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

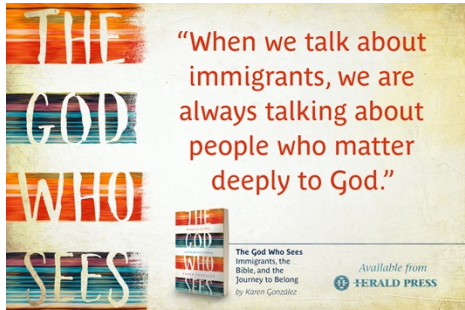
Charlotte Knights – Sunday, May 22!

St. John’s Baptist members and guests will be going to see the Charlotte Knights play the Norfolk Tides on Sunday, May 22, at 1:00 pm. The cost per ticket is \$15.50 for game only (food and beverage at your own cost). Opportunity to ride the streetcar to the game, if group interested. Please join us for a casual time for fun and fellowship! You can purchase tickets via Realm today or contact Lee Gray for more information. **Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, April 20.**



A Night with Karen González: Speaker, Writer, Immigrant Advocate

All are invited to attend an evening with Rev. Karen González, on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 6PM. González is the author of *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* (Herald Press, May 2019), which recounts her personal immigration story as well as the immigrants found in the Bible. Starting at 6PM on Saturday evening, she will offer a lecture and lead a discussion of her book in Broach Hall with a book signing to follow.



González will be our guest proclaimer on Sunday, May 1 during worship. We look forward to this special weekend and hope you will attend on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Purchase your tickets for Saturday night with the QR code here or with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/sjbcgonzalez2022>



Al Staggs : POSTPONED
Due to Al Staggs and his wife testing positive for COVID this week, we had to postpone these events. We are trying to reschedule for October of this year.

ST. JOHN’S BAPTIST CHURCH

300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 - www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

THE ST. JOHN’S PULPIT

April 10, 2022
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Palm Passion Sunday
Scripture: Luke 22: 1-34
Message: *A Pre-Easter Curriculum*

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN’S

Sunday, April 3	8:00 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School/Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ Int'l Ministries Worship (Chapel)
Monday, April 4	5:00 pm	Sunday Night Live (Lounge, Gym, 3 rd floor)
	10:00 am	Shepherd’s Center Tax Assistance Program (Main entrance & Room 204)
	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	2:00 pm	Staff meeting/worship planning (Conference Room)
Tuesday, April 5	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA- Lasater Hall
	9:30 am	Music Class/WDS (Lasater Hall)
	10:00 am	Shepherd’s Center Tax Assistance Program (Main Entrance & Room 204)
Wed., April 6	11:00 am	Tuesday Bible Study (Zoom)
	1:00 pm	Soccer Shots (Gym)
	7:00 pm	Sherrill basketball (Gym)
	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
Thursday, April 7	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
	5:30 pm	Handbells (Room 225)
Friday, April 8	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, April 9	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	8:00 pm	Together We Rise NA (Lasater Hall)

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 Worship and Music.....J. Kevin Gray
Minister for Congregational Care Rev. Lee Gray
Senior Minister Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

CHURCH STAFF

Administrative Assistant Jenny Godfrey
Church Administrator Jacquelyn McAbee
Custodians..... Chris Mullis, Debora Thon
Organist..... J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted
Administrative & Communications Support Mallory Brown



April 3, 2022, at 10:30AM
ST. JOHN’S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA