THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Second Sunday of Eastertide

Please silence all electronic devices.

*Invites the congregation to stand

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance

*Call to \Morabin

Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

*Call to Worship

Dr. Foust

ONE: We come, God of the Journey, a people from different places, different histories, different lifestyles.

ALL: We come hoping to find companionship for the journey, solidarity for the struggle.

ONE: We gather, God of Hospitality, around your "welcome table," a table not yet round, but rounding.

ALL: We gather seeking to become a "'round-table people, welcoming of all, with no preferred seating, no firsts and no lasts,and no corners for 'the least of these'."

- Written by Chuck Lathrop

*Prayer of Praise

Dr. Foust

*Hymn of Praise

Let the Whole Creation Cry LLANFAIR

Let the whole creation cry, Alleluia!
"Glory to the Lord on high!" Alleluia!
Sun and moon, lift up your voice, Alleluia!
Night and stars, in God rejoice! Alleluia!

Chalice Hymnal No. 21, verses 1 & 3

Men and women, young and old, Alleluia! Raise the anthem manifold, Alleluia! Join with children's songs of praise, Alleluia! Worship God through all your days, Alleluia!

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Beverly Hester, Bret Marshall, Anna Cushman Joshua 2: 1-21, 6:22-25

*Hymn God Transforms Us
Words by J. Kevin Gray BEECHER

God makes heroes out of sinners; God sees past our flaws and hurt. When we listen, act, and follow, God will show us our true worth. Transformation now awaits us, as we heed the call to come, be part of the work God's doing through the message of the Son.

The Church at Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. 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 & Celebration

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

Sympathy to Becki Vaughn in the passing of her husband, Gerald Vaughn, on April 24.

Arrangements have not yet been announced.

Reflecting on Scripture

Pauline and Steve Carter

All throughout Holy Scripture, the immigrant is present. Listen now as we are reminded through these readings what God has said through the law, the prophets, and gospel and epistle writers.

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Genesis 12:1-4

When a foreigner lives with you in your land, don't take advantage of him. Treat the foreigner the same as a native. Love him like one of your own. Remember that you were once foreigners in Egypt.

Leviticus 19:33-34

The word of the Lord came to Zechariah, saying: Thus says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgements, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another.

Zechariah 7:8-10

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt.

Matthew 2:12-14

Stay on good terms with each other, held together by love. Be ready with a meal or a bed when it's needed. Why, some have extended hospitality to angels without ever knowing it!

Hebrews 13:1-2

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

Message Rev. Karen González Rahab. the Trickster



*Hymn of Discipleship

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

God, You Move Across the Borders HOLY MANNA

God, you move across the borders with the ones who need to flee. You walk with the weary traveler; you go with the refugee. You cry out from mass detention; you seek justice, here denied. You enfold with great compassion those the nations push aside.

God, you move among the suffering in this time of illness here. You work through the people offering care amid the pain and fear. In our grief and isolation, in the times it's hard to cope, you bring peace and consolation; you bring joy and love and hope.

God, you move across the barriers, offering love in Jesus Christ.

Through your Son, our Lord and Savior, you have called: "Now share my life!"

By your Spirit, give us courage; help us boldly move to be

loving, justice-seeking neighbors building your community.

Offertory Prayer

Kevin Benton

Offertory

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Chancel Choir Jay Althouse

Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know. If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go? Oh, Lord, I give my soul to you; I seek your care and love. No other blessings do I need but those from you above. Lord, I ask you: give me faith, and help me understand. And, Lord, when I this life shall leave, just hold me in your hand. Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know, if you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go? Oh, Lord, I stretch my hands to you. Amen.

*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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcoming Rev. Karen González to St. John's!

Today we welcome Rev. Karen González as our guest proclaimer! Karen is the author of *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* (Herald Press, May 2019). She has lived the experience of being an immigrant, having arrived with her family in this country from Guatemala at the age of 9. She is a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary and works for World Relief in Baltimore, an organization that serves immigrants and refugees.



We look forward to hearing her message today during worship!

Youth Mission Trip to Chicago

St. John's middle and high school students are invited to serve and learn on our Mission Trip to Chicago on June 19-25. On this trip, we will participate in Experience Mission's ministry in Chicago and partner with Sunshine Gospel Ministries (through the BridgeBuilders program) for an experiential service-learning opportunity. The total cost will be \$525 per youth. This will include airfare, meals, and lodging. Please pay \$125 online when you register. You may pay your balance at any time via your Realm account. Plane tickets will be finalized on Tuesday, May 10, so we need you to register by Monday, May 9. Register through Realm today and be sure to follow all the directions on the registration page!

Jazz Mass on May 21

On May 21 at 7PM the St. John's Sanctuary will be filled with singers and musicians from across the country, raising their voices to sing the traditional mass set to the Jazz music, composed by our own James Kevin Gray and Rick Bean. The choir will be led by Maestro Sonja Sepulveda, a nationally known and loved choral conductor, and will feature soloists Dawn Anthony and Herbert Johnson. This same group will be joined by several other choirs on June 25 at Carnegie Hall to give this work its New York City debut; but you will have heard it first!

We hope to see you there! There is no cost to attend.

Most of these singers will be coming from other cites and few of them could use housing. If you would be willing to house a singer on Friday May 20, please contact Kevin Gray at kgray@sjcharlotte.org or 803-524-0287.

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane,

Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Worship on May 8:
Graduate Recognition Sunday
Worship Theme:
How God Leads Us
Proclaimers:
Lee Gray & Dennis Foust
Sermon Title:
"BASSACKWARDS WALKING:
Living with God's Values
in a Price-tag Switching World"
Scriptures:
Gospel of Matthew
5:43-46; 6:19-24

This Week at St. John's

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Sunday, May 1	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 International Ministries (Chapel)
Monday, May 2	9:30 am	Shepherd's Center Adventures in Learning
		(Broach Hall & Room 226)
	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	2:00 pm	Staff meeting/ worship planning (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Tuesday, May 3	9:30 am	Music Class/ WDS (Lasater Hall)
	11:00 am	Tuesday Bible Study (Zoom)
	1:00 pm	Soccer Shots/ WDS (Gym)
	7:00 pm	Sherrill basketball (Gym)
Wed., May 4	6:00 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
	7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Thursday, May 5	5:30 pm	Handbells (Room 225)
	6:00 pm	Team Hope (Gym)
Friday, May 6	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, May 7	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:30 am E	Borgnis Spring Recital (Broach Hall)
	8:00 pm	Together We Rise NA (Lasater Hall)

Membership and Ministry

If you would like information on how you can become a member of St. John's, please call the church office (704.333.5428) or fill out one of the "For Our Guests" cards found on the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate. One of our ministers 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.

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	
Church Staf	ff
Administrative Assistant	Jenny Godfrey
Administrative and Communications Support	Mallory Brown
Church Administrator	Jacquelyn McAbee
Custodians	Chris Mullis, Debora Thon
Organist	J. Noel Lance
Weekday School Director	Lvdia Olmstead



Second Sunday of Eastertide
Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 10:30AM
ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA