

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

\*Invites the congregation to stand

**Gathering Music** Angela Swicegood

**Greeting** Rev. Lee Gray

**2022-2023 Leadership Report** Sally Young

**\*Prayerful Call to Worship** Rev. Gray

ONE: Gracious God, we gather to celebrate Your acts of creation,

**ALL: Your making of humanity in Your image,**

ONE: and Your presence in all life.

**ALL: Renew us in worship to be faithful in witness to your power and love.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** *Praise to the Living God*  
DIADEMATA S.M.D

Praise to the living God, the God of Love and light,  
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,  
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,  
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting toward God's goal,  
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.

Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,  
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.  
God toils where 'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;  
And deep within the human heart, God leads us forward still.

Praise to the living God, around, within, above,  
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as Love.  
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,  
May we bear witness to the way, O source, and goal of life

**Reading from the Gospel** Phil Vavra  
John 17:14-21

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes, I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

'I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## Moments for Reflection

What kind of church is needed in today's culture?



**\*Hymn** *The Church's One Foundation*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 272, vs. 1&2 FOUNDATION

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;  
We are his new creation by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and sought us to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood, he bought us, and for our life, he died.

Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
Our charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name professing and at one table fed,  
To one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.

**The Church at Prayer and the Lord's Prayer** Haley Blackwell

**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

Tarsha Williams, Arnold Philemon, Martha Brown, Martha Bryson,  
Joyce Ehrenberger, Sue Veach, Sierra Leone

**\*Hymn** *Community of Christ*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 655, vs. 1, 2, & 4 LEONI

Community of Christ, who makes the cross your own,  
Live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:  
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,  
Whose children are of every race and every song.

Community of Christ, look past the church's door  
And see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.  
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,  
Take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,  
The climate of the world be peace and Christ it's sun;  
Our currency be love and kindness our law,  
Our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

**Message** Rev. Dennis W. Foust PhD  
What's Right About the Church?

**\*Hymn of Discipleship** *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 461, vs. 1 & 4 BEACH SPRING

Lord whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed: we, your  
servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart, consecrating  
to Your purpose every gift that You impart.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to  
the child, the youth the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and  
health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that  
you servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.

**Offertory Prayer** Dale Johnson

**Offertory Anthem** Chancel Choir  
*Lord, Here Am I* John Ness Beck

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.

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

**\*Postlude** Angela Swicegood

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 2022 Global Missions Offering

Our goal for this year's annual Global Missions Offering is \$25,000. Help us reach our goal! So far, we have raised \$15,935!



### Where will this offering go?

\$20,000 will go to support our friends at the Nyarweng School, South Sudan. \$5,000 will go to Project Ruth to support those affected by the war in Ukraine. You can give towards this goal today by donating online and specifying Global Missions or by writing "Global Missions" in the memo line on your check.

## Women of the Church Luncheon

Ladies of St. John's, after a two-year hiatus, the Women of the Church luncheon will be held in Broach Hall on Sunday, September 18 at 11:45 AM. We are excited to gather again for food, fun, and fellowship, and to celebrate the history of the WMU in the life of Baptist women here at St. John's.

Reservations are REQUIRED. You may sign up via Realm (scan QR code) or by submitting the paper form and a check for \$12.00 to Amanda Morrison or Nancy Wilson by September 11. Nancy Wilson will be available to receive reservations from 10:00 - 10:25 AM outside the Church Office on Sunday, August 28 and September 11. Reservations received after Sept. 11 are limited and will require a \$15 payment at the door. In the spirit of WMU, we will be collecting donations of feminine hygiene products, lotion, and deodorant at the door.



Please register yourself (and a friend or relative) and join us as we return for our 12th Annual Women of the Church Luncheon!

## Craft Fair & Bake Sale on Sunday, October 16

The Needle and Craft ministry will be having a Craft Fair & Bake Sale this fall on October 16 after the worship service. Our proceeds will be donated to a worthy cause, not yet determined. Please put this date on your calendars and plan to come and purchase crafts and baked goodies for a cause. We need your help with any craft items or baked goods you could donate to sell. We also need some help with sewing some items we would like to offer. We have some fabric and can cut the items out if you could help us with sewing them.

Please call Tricia Miller (704-562-4818) if you can help. Looking forward to having this annual event up and running in 2022.

## St John's is looking for Greeters! Are you interested in serving?

St. Johns is looking for 5-10 Greeters to welcome members and guests on Sunday morning between Sunday School and Worship Service in the 10:05 - 10:35 time slot. You will only need to serve one Sunday every couple of months or more often if you wish. If you are interested and can spare a few minutes in this time slot on Sunday mornings please send Jeff Almond a note or give him a call at [Jeff.Almond@me.com](mailto:Jeff.Almond@me.com) or 704-957-6018.



## Faith Journey Book Study Announcement

Faith Journey Book Study books (*What Good Is God?* by Philip Yancey) are available in the church office for \$12. There are extra books if you have not preordered. The study starts on Monday, September 12 at 11:30 in the church lounge. All are welcome!

## St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204  
704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## The St. John's Pulpit

Worship on Sept. 4

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust PhD

Sermon Theme: God is Love

Sermon Title: 'Love Never Fails - But Love is Hard Labor'

Scriptures: Matthew 5:43-48; Mark 12:28-31; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

## This Week at St. John's

Sun., Aug. 28	9:15 am	Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	3:00 pm	CROP - Walk Team Captains meeting (Lasater Hall)
Mon., Aug. 29	9:30 am	Adventures in Learning-Shepherd's Center (Broach Hall)
	2:00 pm	Staff meeting/worship planning (Conference Room)
	6:30 pm	Charlotte Contemporary Ensemble Practice (Choir Room)
Tuesday, Aug. 30	7:00 pm	Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Aug. 31	All Day	Weekday School Back to School Night
Thursday, Sept. 1		
Friday, Sept. 2		
Saturday, Sept. 3	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	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  
Minister for Youth and Young Adults..... Haley Blackwell  
Senior Minister .....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

### Church Staff

Custodians..... Chris Mullis, Debora Thon  
Media Coordinator ..... Mallory Brown  
Ministry Coordinator.....Amanda Morrison  
Organist ..... J. Noel Lance  
Weekday School Director..... Lydia Olmstead



## The God Who Calls Us to Follow Jesus

Sunday, August 28, 2022, at 10:30 AM  
**ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**