

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Please silence all electronic devices.

*Invites the congregation to stand

Gathering Music Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Organ Hymn Raymond Haan

Greeting Rev. Dennis W. Foust PhD

***Call to Worship** Rev. Lee Gray

ONE: Great God who has called us together.

ALL: We praise You with our hearts, voices, and deeds!

ONE: Thank you for the gift of Your son, Jesus, who transformed our understanding of You.

ALL: We will follow him in our daily lives gathered and scattered, proclaiming his gospel to the world.

***Prayer of Submission** Rev. Gray

***Hymn of Praise** When Morning Gilds the Skies
Chalice Hymnal No. 100 LAUDES DOMINI

Reading from the Gospel Anna Cushman
Matthew Luke 15:1-13

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinner and eats with them." So, he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So, he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn** God's Great Love is So Amazing
Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette CONVERSE

God's great love is so amazing! See — a shepherd with his flocks!
Ninety-nine are safely grazing; one is lost among the rocks.
That good shepherd goes and searches till he finds the one astray.
So God says to fill our churches with the ones who've lost their way.

God in love is always seeking! See — a woman with her broom!
For a single coin she's sweeping every corner of the room.
When it's found she calls each neighbor, telling friends from all around.
So God says to search and labor till God's precious ones are found.

God keeps waiting, searching, yearning! See — a father's heartfelt joy!
Thankful for his son's returning, he runs out to greet his boy.
To the angry older brother, hear the father's patient call.
So God says to love each other, for in Christ, God loves us all.

Reading from the Gospel Cole Turner
John 3:16-21

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Choir Response Chancel Choir
God So Loved the World John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The Church at Prayer Haley Blackwell

Prayer Concerns

Tarsha Williams, Arnold Philemon, Martha Brown,
Joyce Ehrenberger, Rob Peacock, Sierra Leone

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



***Hymn** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Chalice Hymnal No. 558, vs. 1 & 3 BRADBURY

Message Dr. Foust
Saved from What, To What, For What

***Hymn of Discipleship** We are Living, We are Dwelling
HYMN TO JOY

We are living, we are dwelling, in a grand and awesome time,
In an age on ages telling, to be living is sublime.
See the waking of the nations to a wider unity.
Here it sounding: all creation's groaning to be whole and free.

Will you play, forever stalling? Will you dally far behind?
Up! to work! For God is calling! Give your strength, your heart, your mind!
See the plan of God unfolding. Seek for good with all your might.
Still the cross of Christ beholding, on, right onward for the right!

Offertory Prayer Gearlene Hoffman

Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir
Give Me Jesus Arr. Tom Fettkke

In the morning, when I rise, in the morning, when I rise.
In the morning, when I rise, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

O, when I am alone, O, when I am alone
O, when I am alone, give me Jesus.

From depths of sin, I cry. From depths of sin, I cry,
From depths of sin I cry, give me Jesus.

O, when I come to die. O. when I come to die.
O, when I come to die, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

***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

Presentation of New Members M.C. Sorrell

Haley & Austin Blackwell, Amanda Morrison

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 Lord's Prayer** The Lord's Prayer
Chalice Hymnal No. 307 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** Dr. Manwarren
Fanfare on ENGELBERG Craig Phillips

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

Salt Shakers: Are you registered?

At St. John's we have few occasions to get together informally and meet new members or get better acquainted with people we pass in the hall or see in the Sanctuary. Salt Shakers is a church-wide effort to provide a setting for this fellowship...an opportunity to get to know one another a little better! Sponsored by the Ministry Panel, Salt Shakers is designed to provide four evenings of dinner and conversation for any adult who wants to participate. Each dinner is hosted in a different home and attended by a different group of seven or eight people.



Scan this QR code for more info!



Scan this QR code to register online!

AI Staggs: October 15, 2022



This fall, two years after our original plan with AI Staggs, we finally have him coming to St. John's to present his dramatic play from the Sanctuary on Saturday, October 15 at 6PM. This play, "A View from the Underside," brings the life of one of the great heroes of the twentieth century, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, to the stage. The audience is brought into the prison cell where Bonhoeffer awaits execution and listens to his struggles with evil, injustice, and God.

Join us as AI Staggs presents his depiction of Bonhoeffer. On Sunday morning, October 16 during worship, AI will present his depiction of Clarence Jordan. Purchase your \$10 tickets TODAY through Eventbrite. Scan the QR Code here to purchase your tickets today.



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 Oct. 2
Proclaimer: Rev. Lee Gray
Sermon Theme: God as Compassionate Love
Sermon Title: *You Answer with Your Life*
Scriptures: Luke 10:25-37; Mark 15:33-39

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Sept. 25	9:15 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) New Deacon Orientation Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) Youth SNL
Mon., Sept. 26	11:00 am 2:00 pm	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge) Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Tuesday, Sept. 27	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	NAMI "Family to Family" class (Lounge) Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Sept. 28	6:00 pm	Lewis - Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Sept. 29		
Friday, Sept. 30		
Saturday, Oct. 1	6:30 am 8:00 pm	Benton Basketball (Gym) 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
Associate Organist.....Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Children's Music Director..... Chloe Hall
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 10:30 AM
ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Join us for the Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 16!

The Walk has a flexible start at 1:30 p.m. (each group can begin walking as soon as they are ready). We are walking around the field at Memorial Stadium, so you can walk as little or as much as you like or come sit in the stands and cheer on the walkers. Micah Belong is our team captain and you can reach them at e-mail micahbenjibelong@gmail.com or by text or phone at 541-210-1357.

Links to the signup page coming soon!