

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Please silence all electronic devices.

*Invites the congregation to stand

Gathering Music Dr. Matthew Manwarren

Greeting Rev. Lee Gray

***Call to Worship** Rev. Kheresa Harmon

ONE: The earth proclaims the goodness and faithfulness of God!

ALL: We praise with voices loud and with lives well lived.

ONE: God calls us here for a holy purpose.

ALL: Let that purpose radiate through the world as we follow Jesus, who brings God's character into full view.

***Prayer of Submission**

***Hymn of Praise** Great is Thy Faithfulness
Chalice Hymnal No. 86 FAITHFULNESS

Family Dedication Blinn & Anna Cushman present:
Alexandra Lawrence Cushman & Julien McLeod Cushman

The Dedication Covenant Dr. Foust

MINISTER: Do you, Blinn & Anna, covenant together to raise Alexandra & Julien in an environment of Christian love, harmony, and peace?

PARENTS: We do.

MINISTER: Do you covenant together to grant Alexandra & Julien the benefits of communal fellowship by nurturing them within the church, the corporate body of Christ?

PARENTS: We do.

MINISTER: Do you, congregation, covenant together as the larger family of God to create an atmosphere of support and guidance whereby these children can come to know and serve the Lord Jesus Christ?

CONGREGATION: We do.

MINISTER: Do you pledge to make your witness of such quality as to instruct them in Christian discipleship?

CONGREGATION: We do.

MINISTER: Then, recognizing the covenant accepted this day by Blinn & Anna and by the congregation, I offer Alexandra & Julien these certificates acknowledging their formal introduction to this family of God.

Presentation of the Child and Prayer of Dedication Alexandra

Song of Blessing Congregation

Alexandra, Alexandra, God claims you;
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.
We this day do all agree a child of God you will always be.
Alexandra, Alexandra, God claims you;
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Presentation of the Child and Prayer of Dedication Julien

Song of Blessing Congregation

Julien, Julien, God claims you;
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.
We this day do all agree a child of God you will always be.
Julien, Julien, God claims you;
God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Reading from the Gospel
Luke 4:1-13 Caitlin Wallace

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Luke: 22:39-49 Dick Hester

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

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.

Song for Centering Come and Find the Quiet Center
BEACH SPRING

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Words to Reflect on Congregation

" Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."

Sung: Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

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,
Joyce Ehrenberger, Rob Peacock, Sierra Leone

Choral Anthem Chancel Choir
Psalm 139 Allen Pote

Lord, you have searched me and known me, you know everything I do.
When I rise up, when I lie down, you are with me through and through.
Before a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say, your presence follows me day by day.
Where can I flee from your spirit?
Where can I go to run away?
If I go to heaven, or live in hell, you are there.

Message Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Your Commitment Creates Your Reality

***Hymn of Praise** O Jesus, I Have Promised
Chalice Hymnal No. 612 vs. 1, 3, & 4 ANGEL'S STORY

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide.

O, let me hear Thee speaking, in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O, speak to reassure me, to hasten, or control;
O, speak, and make me listen, thou Guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory there shall Thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;
O, give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

Offertory Prayer Bert Green

Offertory Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Jesus Loves Me Al Travis

***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** Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Fanfare C.S.Lang

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 two worthy causes: expanding our Sunday ministry for young children & hunger (Loaves & Fishes)

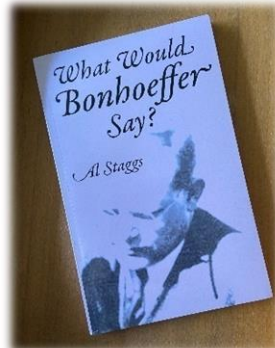
We need your help with any craft items or baked goods you could donate to sell. We also need some help with sewing some items we would like to offer. We have some fabric and can cut the items out if you could help us with sewing them.

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

Al Staggs: October 15, 2022



This fall, two years after our original plan with Al 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 Al Staggs presents his depiction of Bonhoeffer. On Sunday morning, October 16 during worship, Al will present his depiction of Clarence Jordan. Purchase your \$10 tickets TODAY through Eventbrite. Scan the QR Code here to purchase your tickets today.



Books available for sale in the church office: \$15 per book.

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. Register online by scanning this QR code.



COVID-19 & Flu Shot Clinic

Sunday October 16, 11:30 – 1:30

St. John's Gymnasium

Vaccines are made available by Mecklenburg County Public Health. Vaccines available are: First, Second, and Booster Doses for all available ages 6 months+, Flu Shots. Come one, come all!

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. 16

Proclaimer: Al Staggs portraying Clarence Jordan

Worship Theme: The Kingdom of God

Sermon Title: "The God Movement"

Scriptures: Matthew 25: 31-46

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Oct. 9	Matthew 5:27-32 9:15 am Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 am Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) 5:00 pm Youth SNL
Mon., Oct. 10	Matthew 5:33-37 9:30 am Adventures in Learning - Shepherd's Center (Broach Hall) 11:00 am Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge) 2:00 pm Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Tuesday, Oct. 11	Matthew 5:38-42 10:45 am Immigrant & Refugee Ministry Group (Room 204) 6:30 pm NAMI "Family to Family" class (Lounge) 7:00 pm Sherrill Basketball (Gym)
Wed., Oct. 12	Matthew 5:43-48 6:00 pm Lewis - Basketball (Gym)
Thursday, Oct. 13	Matthew 6:1-4
Friday, Oct. 14	Matthew 6:5-15 10:00 am Needle Ministry (Lounge) 8:00 pm Together in Christ 10 th Anniversary Dinner (Broach Hall)
Saturday, Oct. 15	Matthew 6:16-18 6:30 am Benton Basketball (Gym) 6:00 pm Al Staggs as Bonhoeffer (Sanctuary) 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 Children and Their Families Kheresa Harmon
Minister for Youth and Young Adults Haley Blackwell
Senior Minister Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Church Staff

Custodians Chris Mullis, Debora Thon
Church Administrator Jill Rackley
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

The Way of Jesus



God Who Welcomes Our Commitment to God's Will

Sunday, October 9, 2022, at 10:30 AM
ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA