

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP THE GOD OF VISION

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

Gathering Music J. Noel Lance

Greeting & Words of Gathering Rev. Lee Gray

Passing of the Peace The Worshipping Community

Call to Worship Rev. Gray

ONE: Like robins winging their way home in springtime,

**ALL: We return to your sanctuary, O God of our salvation.**

ONE: Like daffodils stretching toward the sun,

**ALL: we reach toward you, O Eternal Light.**

Preparing our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle: **Matteo Augilera**

Prayer of Submission Rev. Kheresa Harmon

\*Hymn of Praise, No. 16 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
NETTLETON

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S MESSAGE

Litany of Confession Haley Blackwell

ONE: We need you to embrace us by your hand, O Lord,

**ALL: for we are sinking down from a lack of faith.**

ONE: We are distracted from your purpose and intimidated by our circumstances.

**ALL: Reach out your hand of saving mercy, O God.**

ONE: Lord, you walk atop the waters of our turmoil.

**ALL: We need your transforming vision, O God of our salvation.**

Declaration of Forgiveness Haley Blackwell

Our God of salvation sees all, knows all, forgives all, restores all.  
Through Jesus Christ. Let it be so! Amen.

### Colossians 3:13

Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

The Reading of the Gospel

Matthew 14: 22-33

Bret Marshall

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So, Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

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.**

\*The Hymn of Discipleship, No. 558 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*  
BRADBURY

A Conversation about Vision Dr. Dennis Foust & Dr. Paul Baxley

## WE PRESENT OUR GIFTS AND PROCLAIM GOD'S VISION

The Offertory Prayer Meredith Sorrell

The Presentation of Tithes and Offering

The Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir  
*Above All Else, Lord* by Joel Raney

Lord, you have called us chosen and beloved, beloved. And you have held us close and made us your own, your very own. Fill our hearts with kindness, teach us forgiveness and compassion. Let our song resound, let our song resound, our song resound, our song resound in perfect harmony.

Above all else, Lord, above all else Lord, above all else, Lord, bind us in love, in love. Lord, bind us in love, in love. Filled with gentle, quiet understanding may we forever strive for justice and peace, God's perfect peace. Humble and willing, loving, accepting one another. Grateful hearts we bring, matchless grace, matchless grace we sing, as we have been forgiven, we forgive.

Above all else, Lord, above all else, Lord, above all else, Lord, bind us in love. Above all else, Lord, above all else, Lord, above all else, Lord, bind us in love, in love. Lord, bind us in love, in love.

\*The 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.

Message

'Transforming Vision'

Dr. Baxley

\*Hymn of Missional Vision

*Go to the World*  
SINE NOMINE

Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth, following Jesus' transforming vision.

Go to the world! Go into every place. Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace. Go seek God's presence in each time and space, following Jesus' transforming vision.

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant church, you follow Christ's own way, following Jesus' transforming vision.

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you 'til the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen," following Jesus' transforming vision.

## WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD'S MISSIONAL VISION

\*The Commissioning Dr. Foust

The Postlude J. Noel Lance



### WE WELCOME THE REV. DR. PAUL BAXLEY TO THE ST. JOHN'S PULPIT TODAY

Paul is the fourth executive coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) with ministries throughout the world and offices in Atlanta, Georgia. Before becoming executive coordinator of CBF, Paul served as senior minister of First Baptist Church in Athens, GA. Paul is a native of Winston-Salem, NC. He served in pastoral and ministry positions in North Carolina and Virginia. He is a graduate of Wake Forest University (Bachelor of Arts – Religion, 1991), Duke Divinity School (Master of Theological Studies, 1996) and Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond (Doctor of Ministry, 2003). Paul and his wife, Jennifer, a licensed physical therapist, have four children: Olivia, Maria and twins Caroline and Matthew. He enjoys reading, especially history, fiction and biography books and cheers for the Wake Forest Demon Deacons and Georgia Bulldogs.

St. John's has been a ministry partner of CBF throughout its thirty-two-year history. CBF is a diverse community of local churches, individuals, and partners inviting one another into deeper expressions of active faith by equipping each other for ministry. We are committed to God's missional vision of spiritual transformation through practices of religious freedom, congregational autonomy, soul competency and collaborative ecumenical and interfaith global efforts. The need for CBF emerged as free and faithful Baptists rejected political fundamentalism in the 1980s. CBF was formed officially in 1991. Today, CBF includes thousands of congregations, more than 1,000 endorsed chaplains and pastoral counselors, many field personnel serving around the world, 17 state and regional organizations, dozens of theological schools, and ministry partners. St. John's collaborates closely with CBF as we respond to global disasters and support theological education.

CBF helps us do with others what we could never accomplish by ourselves.

## Announcements

### Churchwide Easter Eggstravaganza! | Sunday, April 2

Get those Easter baskets and your cameras ready and join us for an intergenerational Churchwide Eggstravaganza on Sunday, April 2 at 11:30am in Broach Hall. Before festivities begin, we'll hop over to the buffet line for lunch. **There's something for all ages, so register today!**

**We need eggs! Donations of unfilled, plastic, Easter eggs may be placed in collection bins in our Giving Nook at the Main Entrance or in Kheresa's office. Please have all donations in by March 29.**

### Brewery Night at Olde Mecklenburg Brewery | Friday, March 31

St. John's young adults are invited to come to Olde Mecklenburg Brewery (4150 Yancey Rd, Charlotte, NC, 28217) on Friday, March 31 from 6:30-8:30pm. Questions? Call or text Haley Blackwell at 620-515-3558.

### Thursdays on the Town | April 13 for Parents with Children

Parents of children birth to 5th grade are invited to join us on Thursday, April 13 from 6-8 PM for dinner at Mama Ricottas (601 S Kings Drive AA). Childcare at the church is provided at no cost. Register by April 10 on Realm or let Kheresa Harmon know you plan to attend.

### On the Way: St. John's Retired Adults and Friends

On Wednesday, April 19 we will be On the Way to Winston-Salem for a day-trip to Reynolda Museum, Gardens, and Shops. We will also have lunch at the Village Tavern that day. Please let Lee Gray lgray@sjcharlotte.org know if you plan to attend so additional driving arrangements can be made if needed. We will meet at the church at 9:00am to leave by 9:15am and will return to the church between 5:30 and 6:00pm.

### Youth Mission Auction | Coming April 30!

Join us on Sunday, April 30 at 11:30am in Broach Hall for our 2023 Youth Mission Auction! Proceeds from the auction will fund our youth mission trips in 2023 and 2024. Join the fun and register for a bidder number with the QR code to the right through Give Butter.



Also, please make reservations for lunch on Realm or scan the QR code to the left. Lunch: BBQ, Mac 'n Cheese, baked beans, salad, rolls, dessert Cost: \$15 for adults; \$10 for 5th graders and younger; free for those under 3; pay online via Realm or by check (SJBC) to Amanda Morrison. Register for lunch and a bidder number by April 23.



For more information about any of the above opportunities and more, please subscribe to our Family News by scanning the QR code here. We send one newsletter per week throughout the year.

**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:** April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday  
**Worship Theme:** Jesus' Sacrificial Attitude and Actions  
**Scripture:** John 18:28-19:18  
**Message:** 'No Worship without Sacrifice'  
**Proclaimers:** Rev. Dennis W. Foust PhD

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Mar. 26	<b>9:00 am</b> 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am <b>11:30 am</b> <b>12:30 pm</b>	<b>Mark 15:33-41</b> <b>Snapshot Sundays (Main Entrance Lobby)</b> Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) <b>Artful Lent (Lounge)</b> <b>Snapshot Sundays (Main Entrance Lobby)</b>
Mon., Mar. 27	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm	<b>Mark 15:42-47</b> Make & Grow (Lasater Hall) Shepherd's Center/AARP Tax Assistance Program (Parking Lot) Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge) Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Tuesday, Mar. 28	10:00 am 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	<b>Mark 16:1-3</b> Shepherd's Center/AARP Tax Assistance Program (Parking Lot) NAMI Family Support Group NAMI Peer Support Group
Wed., Mar. 29	<b>12:00 pm</b> 7:15 pm	<b>Mark 16:4-8</b> <b>Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Service &amp; Soup Lunch (Sanctuary &amp; Broach Hall)</b> Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, Mar. 30		<b>Mark 16:9-13</b>
Friday, Mar. 31	<b>6:30 pm</b> 8:00 pm	<b>Mark 16:14-20</b> <b>Brewery Night (offsite)</b> Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Apr. 1	7:00 am 8:00 pm	<b>Luke 1:1-4</b> Benton Basketball 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

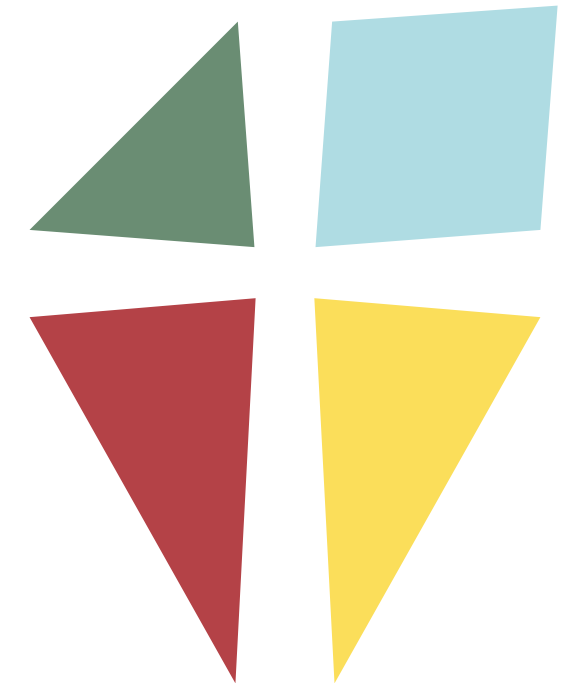
*Every participant in God's Servant Church*

### Equipping Ministers

Minister for Youth and Young Adults..... Haley Blackwell  
Interim Minister for Music and Worship.....Dr. Jared Daugherty  
Senior Minister.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
Minister for Congregational Care .....Rev. Lee Gray  
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Kheresa Harmon

### Church Staff

Academy of the Arts Director.....Jessica Borgnis  
Media Coordinator .....Mallory Brown  
Children's Music Director .....Chloe Hall  
Organist .....J. Noel Lance  
Associate Organist..... Dr. Matthew Manwarren  
Custodians..... Chris Mullis, Debora Thon  
Ministry Coordinator..... Amanda Morrison  
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted  
Church Administrator..... Jill Rackley



# St. John's

## BAPTIST

A SERVANT CHURCH

The Way of Jesus: Attitudes & Actions

Sunday, March 26, 2023, at 10:30 AM

**ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**