

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

\*Invites the congregation to stand

## Words of Gathering and Greeting

Rev. Lee Gray

## Call to Service

Anna Cushman

May 3: Building a Better World: In Solidarity with Immigrant Children and Families

## Passing of the Peace

## Processional

*Praise His Holy Name!*

Chancel Choir  
by Keith Hampton

Entrance of the Christ Candle: **Alexander Norris**

Sing till the power of the Lord come down.  
Shout Hallelujah!  
Praise His Holy name!

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me:  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
Was blind, but now I see.  
Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee!  
Shout Hallelujah! Chorus

Jesus faced the cross alone,  
So all the world could see  
That evil does not speak the last,  
Love claimed the victory.

Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee!  
Shout Hallelujah!

Let us Praise His Name, Hallelujah, Lord!  
Holy Jesus, Praise His Name.  
Oh, Hallelujah! Praise His Name.  
Praise His Holy Name, Praise Him!

## Call to Worship

Addison Norris

ONE: Sing a new song to the Lord,  
For he has done wonderful things!

**ALL: Christ was dead and now he's risen!**

ONE: His right hand has won a mighty victory;  
His holy arm has shown his saving power!

**ALL: Christ was dead and now he's risen!**

ONE: The Lord has made known his saving power,  
And every corner of the earth has seen God's love and  
faithfulness!

**ALL: Christ was dead and now he's risen!**

ONE: People of the Living Savior,  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**ALL: Rejoice out loud!**

ONE: Sing God's praises!

**ALL: Christ was dead and now he's risen! Alleluia!  
He's risen indeed!**

## Prayer of Submission

Rev. Gray

## \*Hymn of Praise

*Christians We Are Made for Laughter*  
by Jo Cassidy-Maloney

Christ was dead and now he's risen! Isn't that a cause for glee? Love has shattered all the prisons we have built so carefully. Now unfettered, free as breezes, giggles, snorts, and glee abound! Even when our laughter wheezes, we praise God with every sound.

Christians, we are made for laughter, born to giggle and guffaw! Even in the great hereafter mirth is interspersed with awe. So don't hold back, let it fill you, let your muscles do their thing! Don't you worry, we won't drill you! Just let go and laugh and sing.

This is how our great God made us – faces, lungs, and hearts for glee  
And it's how God would parade us, showing forth most joyously All the  
love and all the gladness, such a great capacity For the joy that drives all  
sadness out of every you and me.

We are people with a Savior who was not above a joke. Play with words  
was his behavior, he loved puns with all the folk. Joy Christ showed us,  
joy Christ showers everywhere on everyone. Turn your face up like the  
flowers, catch the joy and have some fun!

## The Reading of Hebrew Scripture

Joanne Compton

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

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.**

## Church at Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Haley Blackwell

Martha Brown, Barbara McElwey, Melanie Foust, Anna Lynn Kears, Emily Batts, Parker Fields

**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.**

## \*Hymn No. 143

*Joy to the World*

Chalice Hymnal

ANTIOCH

## Offertory Prayer

Gearlene Hoffman

## Offertory Anthem

*There is a Happy Land*

Dr. Matthew Manwarren  
arr. George Shearing

## \*Doxology

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.

OLD HUNDREDTH

## Message

'The Pouty Prophet and His Pumpkin'

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

## \*Hymn of Discipleship No. 479

Chalice Hymnal

*We Have Heard a Joyful Sound*  
JESUS SAVES

## Commissioning of the Scattered Church

Rev. Harmon

## Postlude

*Ain't A That Good News!*

Dr. Manwarren  
Arr. Marianne Kim



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Volunteers Needed for the Uptown Men's Shelter Next Friday

St. John's serves at the Uptown Men's Shelter on the third Friday of every month. As of now, we only have three committed to making banana pudding and no one committed to serving dinner at the shelter. Please scan the QR code to check out this sign up for more details and sign up today to help with this impactful ministry.



### On the Way to Winston-Salem & Flat Rock

On Thursday, May 25 we will be On the Way to Flat Rock NC to watch the play Steel Magnolia's at 2pm. We have a 15-passenger bus and 25 tickets reserved. **We need to know if you plan to go by Wednesday April 19. I can drop extra tickets without penalty by April 20, and will drop all unclaimed tickets on that date.** Please plan on paying \$60 to the church for the price of the play ticket and transportation on the day of departure. You will also need your own lunch money to at a site to be determined by consulting our participants. The timeframe for the trip is departure at 9:30 am and return at 6:00 pm. Please let Lee Gray LGray@sjcharlotte.org know if you plan to participate.

### Youth Mission Auction & Luncheon on 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. Please make reservations for lunch on Realm or with Amanda Morrison in the office by April 23. Lunch will include BBQ, mac and cheese, baked beans, salad, rolls, and dessert. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger, and free for those under 3.

### Building a Better World:

#### In Solidarity with Immigrant Children & Families

Please join us in Broach Hall for a buffet meal on May 3 at 5:30 PM followed by a conversation that focuses on immigrant children and families who are our neighbors---challenges they face, their resilience and triumphs, and how we can participate in welcoming them. Sharing experiences and insights with us will be Sil Ganzo, Lindsey Goehring, and Gricelda de la Cruz. Please register on Realm if you plan to have dinner. No reservations are needed if you plan to attend the program only that starts at 6PM.

### Church Work Day on April 22

We have identified several projects to spruce up our facilities. We need about 30 volunteers to give some time on Saturday, April 22nd, between 9:30 and 12:30. Come and pitch in so we get it all done. The Brotherhood of the Biscuit is committed to lead out in the Courtyard Project but welcomes your help. Volunteer by emailing Amanda Morrison at amorrison@sjcharlotte.org

## 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 23

Worship Theme: God's Vision of Love Shines Brightly After the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Scripture: John 21:1-18

Message: 'What is on the Other Side of Shame?'

Proclaimers: Rev. Dennis W. Foust PhD

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Apr. 16	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am	<b>Luke 4:1-13</b> Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Apr. 17	10:00 am 11:00 am 6:30 pm	<b>Luke 4:14-22</b> Adventures in Learning Shepherd's Center (Broach Hall) Faith Journey Book Study Ministries Deacon Panel Meeting (Room 204)
Tuesday, Apr. 18	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	<b>Luke 4:23-30</b> Finance Resource Team (ZOOM) Sandwich Ministry Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Wed., Apr. 19	7:15 pm	<b>Luke 4:31-37</b> Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, Apr. 20	10:00 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	<b>Luke 4:38-39</b> Alliance of Baptists Annual Meeting in Atlanta Shepherd's Center Volunteer Appreciation Lunch WOC Spiritual Growth Team (Prayer Room) Historic Elizabeth Community Foundation Meeting (Broach Hall)
Friday, Apr. 21	6:30 am 8:00 pm	<b>Luke 4:40-41</b> Alliance of Baptists Annual Meeting in Atlanta Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge) Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Apr. 22	7:00 am 8:00 pm	<b>Luke 4:42-44</b> Alliance of Baptists Annual Meeting in Atlanta 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



## Bright Sunday

Sunday, April 16, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

**St. John's Baptist Church**  
**Charlotte, North Carolina**