

# Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

Please turn off all electronic devices

## WELCOME TO THE WORSHIP OF GOD

**Prelude** J. Noel Lance  
*Crown Him with Many Crowns* Arr. Jason D. Payne

**\*Proclamation of New Beginnings** Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

ONE: Beloved Church, behold the victory of our God!  
God has raised Jesus from the grave offering new beginnings to all!

**ALL: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

ONE: Neither sin nor death should cause us to shrink with fear.

**ALL: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

ONE: Yes, Christ is risen!

**ALL: He is risen indeed!**

**\*Hymn of Celebration** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 216 EASTER HYMN

† *Entrance of the Christ Candle carried by David Wallace*

**Moments with The Younger Church** Rev. Kheresa Harmon  
*‘Easter in Color’*

**The Musical Verse of Witness** *He Lives, (vs. 1)*  
ACKLEY

I serve a risen savior, he’s in the world today,  
I know that he is living whatever others say,  
I see his hand of mercy; I hear his voice of cheer;  
And just the time I need him, he’s always near.  
He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

**The Easter Story from Scripture** Nancy Wilson  
*Gospel of Luke 23:50-24:5 and Gospel of John 20:19-31*

“Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment. But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “*Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.*”

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “*Peace be with you.*” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “*Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.*” When Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “*Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.*” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, “*We have seen the Lord.*” But he said to them, “*Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.*”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “*Peace be with you.*” Then Jesus said to Thomas, “*Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.*” Thomas answered him, “*My Lord and my God!*” Jesus said to him, “*Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.*” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.”

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.**

**\*Hymn of Exultation** *Christ Arose*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 224 CHRIST AROSE

**Proclamation of New Beginnings** Rev. Lee Gray

ONE: The Living God has provided us with eternal hope! Christ is risen!  
**ALL: He is risen indeed!**

**Prayers of God’s Easter People** Rev. Gray

**The Musical Verse of Witness** *He Lives, (vs. 3)*  
ACKLEY

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!  
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;  
none other is so loving, so good and kind.  
He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.  
He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

**An Opportunity to Invest in New Beginnings for Others** Bert Green

A Word about Our Community & State Mission Offering for Habitat  
Goal: \$7,500

**Offertory Prayer** Russell Norris

**Offertory Anthem** Chancel Choir  
*All Things New* Elaine Hagenberg

Light after darkness, gain after loss, strength after weakness, crown after cross; sweet after bitter, hope after fears, home after wandering, praise after tears. Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, He is making all things new, Springs of living water shall wash away each tear. He is making all things new, He is making all things new. Sight after Mystery, oh sun after rain, joy after sorrow, peace after pain. Near after Distant, oh gleam after gloom, oh love after loneliness, life after tomb. Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end, He is making all things new. Springs of living water shall wash away each tear. He is making all things new. He is making all things new. He is making all things new.

**\*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** Dr. Foust  
*‘What Will You Do with the Dilemma of Easter?’*

**\*Hymn of Joyful Witness** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*  
Chalice Hymnal No. 606 NETTLETON

**\*A Look at Eastertide and New Beginnings** Ministry Staff

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

**\*Choral Benediction** Chancel Choir & Congregation  
*“Hallelujah” Chorus from Messiah* George F. Handel

**\*Postlude** J. Noel Lance  
*Toccata – from Symphony V* C.M. Widor

*\*Invites the congregation to stand.*

† *At the conclusion of our expression of worship on Palm/Passion Sunday, the Christ candle was carried out of the sanctuary after the reading of Jesus’ seven words spoken from the cross and symbolizing his death. Today, the Christ candle re-enters the sanctuary symbolizing God’s resurrection of Jesus Christ. God’s light cannot be extinguished and is continually penetrating darkness. Today, the Christ candle is carried by a new disciple of Jesus, David Wallace, who was baptized earlier this year. He carries the Christ candle to represent how each follower of the way of Jesus carries the light of Christ in our commitment to Jesus as Lord of life.*



**Cover art and banners:**  
**“Sunshine Cloud II” by**  
**Roger Wright, 1992, a**  
**member of St. John’s**  
**Baptist Church**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming Event: On the Way to Winston-Salem

On Wednesday, April 19, St. John's retired adults and friends 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. Cost for the Reynolda Museum is \$18. Reynolda Gardens are free. Please give \$40 check to Lee Gray the day of departure to cover the cost of the museum and bus rental. 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 9AM to leave by 9:15AM and will return to the church between 5:30 - 6:00PM.

### 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 or let Kheresa know you plan to attend.

### Youth Mission Auction & Luncheon

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. It is not too late to donate an item for the auction. Use the QR code to submit the donation. Deadline for donation is April 21!



Also, 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, Executive Director of ourBridge for Kids; Lindsey Goehring, a Charlotte immigration attorney who works with children and families; and Gricelda de la Cruz, Director of the Charlotte office of Church World Service and the Home Study and Post Release Services program. 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.

**The church offices are closed on Monday, April 10, for Easter Monday.**

### Prayer Concerns

Martha Brown, Barbara McElwey, Nyandheng Mijak, Melanie Foust, Jan Kerley, Anna Lynn Kearse, Emily Batts, Parker Fields

**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 16 Joy Sunday  
**Worship Theme:** God Gives Humanity Victory Over Despair in Jesus Christ  
**Scripture:** Jonah 3:10 - 4:11  
**Message:** 'The Pouty Prophet and His Pumpkin'  
**Proclaimers:** Rev. Kheresa Harmon

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Apr. 9	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am	<b>Luke 2:8-20</b> Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Apr. 10	<b>ALL DAY</b>	<b>Luke 2:21-40</b> <b>Church Offices Closed for Easter Monday</b>
Tuesday, Apr. 11	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 10:45 am 7:00 pm	<b>Luke 2:41-52</b> Make & Grow Camp Shepherd's Center/AARP Tax Assistance Program (Parking Lot) Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room) Immigration & Refugee Ministry Group (Conference Room) Pastoral Deacon Panel Meeting (ZOOM)
Wed., Apr. 12	9:00 am 7:15 pm	<b>Luke 3:1-6</b> Make & Grow Camp Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, Apr. 13	10:00 am 6:00 pm	<b>Luke 3:7-14</b> Needle Ministry (Lounge) Thursdays on the Town @ Mama Ricotta's
Friday, Apr. 14	9:00 am 8:00 pm	<b>Luke 3:15-20</b> Make & Grow Camps Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Apr. 15	7:00 am 8:00 pm	<b>Luke 3:21-38</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



## EASTERTIDE: A Season of New Beginnings

**Sunday, April 9, 2023**

**Easter Sunday**

**10:30 AM Worship**

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