

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please silence all electronic devices.

**Invites the congregation to stand*

Gathering Music J. Noel Lance

Today, we worship The Living God who has a vision for the Church.

Words of Greeting and Gathering Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

Just as the first disciples of Jesus found new beginnings emerging after God's resurrection of Jesus, so we, as God's Easter People, discern what new beginnings are emerging today.

Entrance of the Christ candle: **Addison Norris**

***Hymn of Praise to God, No. 7** *When in Our Music God is Glorified*
Chalice Hymnal ENGELBERG

Prayer of Submission Dr. Foust

Reading of the Epistle Kristin Wallace
Ephesians 4:17 – 5:2

Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer walk as the gentiles walk, in the futility of their minds; they are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart. They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. That is not the way you learned Christ! For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Reading of the Gospel Kristin Wallace
John 2:13-17

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the moneychangers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the moneychangers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'

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 Identity in Christ** *Believers All, We Bear the Name*
Composed by Milburn Price EDGE

Believers all, we bear the name of Christ, our living Lord;
As Christians in the world today, we hold fast to the Word.
From simple trust to growing faith our pilgrimage we trace
T'ward full maturity in Christ, led there thro' God's good grace.

Believers all, our common task is service in His name
As we, in word and song and deed, God's saving grace proclaim.
Yet, ministry has broader aims, so we pursue the goal
Of meeting persons' fuller needs of body, mind, and soul.

Believers all, in unity we follow God's commands;
Diverse in gifts, but one in Christ, we offer outstretched hands
To all within the bonds of faith, to those outside faith's call,
That thro' our love the world may know our God as Lord of all.

Prayers of the People Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Martha Brown, Barbara McElwey, Emily Batts, Arnold Philemon,
Jack Crymes, Jane Starnes, Raleigh Godsey

LORD'S PRAYER

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 of Proclamation, No. 272** *The Church's One Foundation*
Chalice Hymnal AURELIA

Offertory Prayer Kevin Turner

"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir
Be Thou My Vision arr. Paul Basler
horn player: Byron Johns

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true child,
O thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.
Amen.

***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 Rev. Bill Leonard, PhD
'Tender Hearts and Righteous Anger: Gospel Imperatives'

***Hymn of Response, No. 470** *When the Church of Jesus*
Chalice Hymnal KING'S WESTON

Commissioning the Gathered Church for Ministry in Daily Life as the Scattered Church Dr. Foust

Postlude J. Noel Lance



Dr. Bill Leonard, Founding Dean of Wake Forest University Divinity School, is one of the most influential Baptist leaders today and has expressed excellent leadership in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship over the past 30 years. Bill is a long-time friend of St. John's and a historian who watches how history is being made. He is with us today, during worship and afterwards for a leadership Lunch & Learn in Broach Hall, to offer perspective as to how a local church like St. John's can impact our world in this 21st century.

CONNECTING SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH DAILY LIFE

To support your spiritual growth, we encourage you to invest in contemplation each day. These thoughts may help you in your reflections.

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Romans 12:9-18

"Do the best you can until you know better.
Then, when you know better, do better."
Maya Angelou

"Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ."
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bounce Into Summer: Sunday, June 4 after Worship

Children and families, let's bounce into summer with a bounce house, bubbles, chalk art, ice cream sundaes, and more after worship on Sunday, June 4. Sign up on Realm today or contact Kheresa!

Mercy Bags Collection for the Homeless

Our children are receiving donations and assembling Mercy Bags for the homeless in the Charlotte Metro Area. Please consider donating one or more of the following items to help us fill our bags:

- 8 oz. bottles of water, peanut butter crackers, granola bars, individual packets of mixed nuts and/or trail mix, snack size boxes of dried fruit, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, travel size bottles of hand sanitizer, pocket size Wet Ones singles

Our children will receive donations through June 4. Please place your donations in bins in our Giving Nook.

Charlotte PRIDE Festival & Parade Leadership Needed

St. John's has been a regular participant in the Charlotte Pride Festival & Parade for many years, manning a booth at the festival and marching in the parade while chanting "God Loves Everyone!" The 2023 Festival and Parade are August 19-20, and we need assistance with planning and recruiting volunteers. If you would like to join the team that leads our Pride efforts, please contact Todd at stillerman@gmail.com or 704-763-6611.

Wonderful Wednesdays for Children: Registration Open for June 14

- [Wednesday, June 14, 10am-12pm, Splash Pad at First Ward Park: REGISTER ON REALM TODAY or contact Kheresa by email at \[kharmon@sjcharlotte.org\]\(mailto:kharmon@sjcharlotte.org\).](#)
- Wednesday, July 19, 2-4pm., NASCAR Hall of Fame
- Wednesday, August 2, 4-6pm., Big Air Trampoline Park

Summer Opportunities for Youth

- June 4 - Senior Sunday
- June 4 from 5-8pm, Youth Banquet with a Sleepover Theme
- June 18-24 - Washington D.C. Trip for High School students
- July 10-14 - Unidiversity Camp for all youth
- August 5-8 - In-Town Immersion Trip for all youth

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Worship: May 28

Pentecost Sunday

Message by members of St. John's and Together in Christ International Ministries

This Week at St. John's

Sun., May 21	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 3:30 pm	Luke 12:1-12 Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) Leadership Lunch and Learn (Broach Hall) Wayfinders Camp Kick-off Party (Broach Hall)
Mon., May 22	10:00 am 11:00 am	Luke 12:13-34 Adventures in Learning Shepherd's Center (Broach Hall) Faith Journey Book Study
Tuesday, May 23	8:00 am 10:30 am 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Luke 12:35-59 Finance Resource Team (Zoom) Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room) NAMI Family Support Group NAMI Peer Support Group
Wed., May 24	11:00 am 11:30 am 7:15 pm	Luke 13:1-17 Weekday School Graduation (Memorial Garden) Weekday School End of Year Picnic Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, May 25	9:00 am	Luke 13:18-35 On the Way Trip to Flat Rock
Friday, May 26	8:00 pm	Luke 14:1-24 Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, May 27	7:00 am 8:00 pm	Luke 14:25-35 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..... Rev. Haley Blackwell
Interim Minister for Music and Worship.....Dr. Jared Daugherty
Senior Minister.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Minister for Congregational CareRev. Lee Gray
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Church Staff

Academy of the Arts Director.....Jessica Borgnis
Media CoordinatorMallory Brown
Children's Music DirectorChloe Hall
OrganistJ. Noel Lance
Associate Organist..... Dr. Matthew Manwarren
Custodian..... Chris Mullis
Ministry Coordinator..... Amanda Morrison
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, May 21, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

St. John's Baptist Church

Charlotte, North Carolina