

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please silence all electronic devices.

**Invites the congregation to stand*

The Church Gathers to Worship the Living God

Gathering Music Dr. Matthew Manwarren

Words of Greeting & Gathering Rev. Kheresa Harmon

***Passing of the Peace** Congregation

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship Dr. Manwarren

Entrance of the Christ Candle, presented by Alexander Aguilera

Prayer of Submission Rev. Harmon

***The Hymn of Praise** *Lift High the Cross*
Chalice Hymnal, No. 108 CRUCIFIER

The Reading of Scripture Eric McCombs
Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 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. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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 Justice and Righteousness** *Community of Christ*
Chalice Hymnal, No. 655 LEONI

The Church at Prayer & the Lord's Prayer Rev. Lee Gray

Arnold Philemon, Jack Crymes, Joyce Ehrenberger, Mary Rickenbaker

The 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Diaconate and Worshippers

Choral Anthem Chancel Choir Directed by Dr. Lillian Quackenbush
Blest Are They by David Haas

Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.

Refrain:
Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones, they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst, they shall have their fill.

Refrain: (congregation please join us)
Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they who show mercy, mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart, they shall see God!

Refrain: (congregation please join us)
Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they who seek peace, they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs.

Refrain: (congregation please join us)
Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.

Refrain: (congregation please join us)
Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God!

***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

The Message Dr. Foust
Dress for Success

The Hymn of Stewardship and Service *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*
Chalice Hymnal, No. 602 MARYTON

The Commissioning Dr. Foust

The Postlude Dr. Manwarren

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 on God's Truth.

When Jesus told Nicodemus that he needed to "being born of water and Spirit... You must be born from above" (John 3:5-7), he was pointing out the need to change in order to enter the kingdom of God. The idea conveyed here, and in our scripture reading in worship today from Colossians 3, is that to follow Jesus and pursue the will of God as our salvation we must change. Jesus suggests it is like a second birth. Paul proposes it is like changing clothes and wearing certain garments – compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

When did you decide to follow Jesus?

Did your commitment bring about a change in you?

What changes do you still need to make to pursue the life of Christ?

What do you need to "put off" and "put on" to mature in the life of Christ?

"The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you really are." – Carl Jung

ANNOUNCEMENTS

End-of-Summer Cookout for Children and Families

Let's wrap up summer with a cookout at the home of Anna and Blinn Cushman (4601 Truscott Road, Charlotte, NC 28226) at 11AM on Saturday, September 9! We'll grill hamburgers and hotdogs, play games, and simply fellowship. Hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns will be provided. Register on Realm so we know who will attend.



Please sign up to bring the condiments, sides, desserts, beverages, and paper products with QR code by September 5. Questions? Please email or text Kheresa at kharmon@sjcharlotte.org or 910-890-3392.

Women of the Church Luncheon: Sunday, September 17

The Women of the Church are looking forward to the Annual Luncheon held in Broach Hall on Sunday, September 17 at 11:45AM. We are excited to gather again for fellowship and good food, catered by Anderson's, and to begin exploring this year's theme of *Embodied Faith*.

We are delighted to have as our guest speaker, Dr. Lillian Quackenbush, Interim Minister for Worship & Music. She will share how she Embodies Faith Through Music! Reservations are REQUIRED by September 10. You may register via Realm (scan QR code) or by submitting the paper form and a check for \$15.00 to Nancy Wilson. For your convenience, you may also place the form and your payment in the after-hours drop box outside the Church Office. Nancy Wilson will be available to receive reservations from 10:00 - 10:25AM outside the Church Office on Sundays, September 3 and 10.



In the spirit of WOC, donations to Dove's Nest of brushes and combs (especially for thick hair), feminine hygiene products, lotion, and deodorant will be collected at the door.

Faith Journey Book Study Resumes!

The Faith Journey book study resumes meeting on Monday, September 11 at 11AM in the McLeod/Brown Sunday Room. Our book will be *The Seeds of Heaven: Sermons on the Gospel of Matthew* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Let Joy Jarrett know if you are in need of the book. If you have never been a part of this before please note that this "book study" group meets to read and study books that may help us deepen our relationship with God. Its goal is to assist members in finding ways to grow this relationship in order to be nurtured and strengthened to be active and loving servants in our community and world.

Ministry in Daily Life: Do you speak Spanish?

Would you like to be contacted by a member of the ministerial staff about beginning a new dimension of Ministry in Daily Life in which we explore ways we can make worship and formation more welcoming and accessible for persons whose first language is not English? If so, please email or text Kheresa at kharmon@sjcharlotte.org or 910-890-3392.

St. John's Baptist Church

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

The St. John's Pulpit

Worship: September 10, 2023
Scripture: Ruth 1:15-18 & 1 Kings 2:7
Message Title: *Transformational Servant Leadership*
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Sept. 3	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am	John 15:18-25 Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Sept. 4	All Day	John 15:26-16:3 <i>Church offices closed for Labor Day Holiday</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 5	8:00 am 10:30 am	John 16:4-11 Weekday School Begins Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Wed., Sept. 6	5:30 pm 7:15 pm	John 16:12-15 Personnel Resource Team Meeting Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, Sept. 7	6:00 pm	John 16:16-24 Carolina Premier Practice (Gym)
Friday, Sept. 8	8:00 pm	John 16:25-28 Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Sept. 9	6:30 am 11:00 am 8:00 pm	John 16:29-33 Benton Basketball (Gym) End of Summer Cookout (Offsite) 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
Senior Minister.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
Minister for Congregational CareRev. Lee Gray
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Kheresa Harmon
Interim Minister for Music and Worship.....Dr. Lillian Quackenbush

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
Church Administrator..... Amanda Morrison
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, September 3, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

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