

# 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** J. Noel Lance

**Words of Greeting & Gathering** Rev. Haley Blackwell

**\*Passing of the Peace** Congregation

**Preparing Our Hearts for Worship** J. Noel Lance

*Entrance of the Christ Candle, presented by Kayleigh Mac Whipple*

**Prayer of Submission** Rev. Blackwell

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

**The Church at Prayer** Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Arnold Philemon, Jack Crymes, Joyce Ehrenberger,  
Mary Rickenbaker, Warren Lineberger, Jane Starnes

## 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.**

**The Homily** Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
'Transformational Servant Leadership'

*Ruth 1:15-18*

So she said, 'See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.' But Ruth said, 'Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!' When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

*1 Kings 2:7*

Deal loyally, however, with the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table; for with such loyalty, they met me when I fled from your brother Absalom.

**The Offertory Prayer** Bert Green

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings** Diaconate and Worshippers

**Choral Anthem** Chancel Choir Directed by Dr. Lillian Quackenbush  
*And the Father Will Dance* by David Haas

And the Father will dance over you in joy! He will take delight in whom He loves! Is that a choir I hear singing the praises of God? No the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in song.

My soul will make its boast in God, for He has answered all my cries. His faithfulness to me is as sure as the dawn of a new day.

Awake my soul and sing! Let my spirit rejoice in God! Sing O daughter of Zion with all of your heart. Cast away fears for you have been restored! Put on the garment of praise as on a festival day. Join with the Father in glorious jubilant song! And He will joy over you in song!

**\*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

**A Word About Ordination** Dr. Foust & David Allen

## A PRAYERFUL LITANY OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Russell Norris Chair of Diaconate

LEADER: Eternal God, as we worship You on this Lord's Day, we begin a new church year by renewing our commitments to be transformational servant leaders among Your people. Guide us as we follow Jesus' example of compassion, vision, and spiritual depth. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve You and others in the spirit of Christ.

**PEOPLE: Lord, we thank You for our deacons. We ask You to bless them with clarity, wisdom, and pathways of influence and impact as they guide us in the ways of Jesus.**

PASTOR: Living God, we set apart Kimberly Follis, Jamie Loftis, and Rick Walker as new deacons in the ministry of Your Church. Shape their commitments and gifts for ministry in the spirit of Jesus Christ who took a towel and a basin to show us the pathway of servant leadership.

DEACONS: As part of our commitment to You, O God, we dedicate ourselves to pursue the spiritual health and ministry vitality of St. John's. We will invest ourselves in leading by example. Take our lives and let them be consecrated Lord, to Thee.

**PEOPLE: Lord, as the people of St. John's, we promise to pray for our deacons, co-labor with them, and enjoin our commitments with theirs by investing ourselves in the mission of Christ's Church.**

**ALL: We offer this prayer to God, through Jesus Christ, who is the head of the Church. Amen.**

**The Solo** Dave Quackenbush, tenor  
*Consecration* John Ness Beck

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee. Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee. Take my voice and let it sing, always, only for my King. Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use every power as Thou shalt choose. Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal Throne. Take my love, my Lord I pour at Thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee!

**\*The Church Ordains New Deacons** Laying On of Hands

**Kimberly Follis, Jamie Loftis, and Rick Walker**



**\*The Commissioning** Dr. Foust

**\*Hymn of Commitment, No. 614** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*  
Chalice Hymnal I'M GONNA LIVE

**The Postlude** J. Noel Lance

**The Church Scatters to Serve as Ministers in Daily Life**

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## LAYING ON OF HANDS

For millennia, God's people have participated in Laying On of Hands to "set apart" or ordain persons for servant Leadership in the Church. This act of blessing imparts the expression of unity through the Holy Spirit of God. Please notice the colorful cards in your pews on which you can write a note to the three ordinands. Baskets have been placed beside their chairs for you to give them your cards.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### St. John's Pulpit Guest Speaker, Sunday September 17



Jason Smith is the Executive Director of Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. BPFNA has been one of our residential ministry partners since 2012. The mission of BPFNA is "Witnessing to God's peace, rooted in justice; working together until it comes." They state their vision with the following words: "We envision a world where all people, following Jesus, listen with openness; speak with conviction; resist evil; receive hostility and return love; break silences which harm; resist cooperation with structures that cause hardship and suffering; practice healing; mend creation's wounds; offer hospitality to the refugee and the sojourner; insist on human rights; love friend and stranger, ally and enemy; and point with their words, attitudes and actions to the acceptable year of God."

### 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 TODAY. You may register via Realm (scan QR code) or by submitting the paper form and a check for \$15.00 to Nancy Wilson. *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.

### Children Receiving Donations for Mercy Bags

Following worship on Sunday, October 22, our children will make mercy bags for our homeless sisters and brothers. Place all donations between today and October 20 in the Giving Nook at the Main Entrance. 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, Beef jerky (lunch pack size), Individual packets of mixed nuts, Snack-size boxes of dried fruit, Hand warmers

### Shred-A-Thon with the Shepherd's Center of Charlotte

Mark your calendars and join the Shepherd's Center Charlotte on September 23rd from 10:00am - 1:00pm for our Shred-A-Thon Event right on campus at St John's Baptist Church. There will be a shredder for all those important documents, food trucks, activities for children, community resources and much more. It will be a fun, intergenerational event for all ages!

## 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: September 17, 2023

Scripture: Gospel of Mark 4:1-9

Message Title: *Roots for Peace*

Proclaimer: Jason Smith (Executive Director of BPFNA)

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Sept. 10	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am	<b>John 17:1-5</b> Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Sept. 11	11:30 am 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	<b>John 17:6-19</b> Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114) <b>Administrative Deacon Panel (Conference Room)</b> <b>Ministries Deacon Panel (Room 204)</b> <b>Pastoral Deacon Panel (Broach Hall)</b> <b>ALL Deacon Meeting (Broach Hall)</b>
Tuesday, Sept. 12	7:30 am 10:30 am 10:45 am	<b>John 17:20-26</b> Charlotte Mecklenburg Special Election (Broach Hall) Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room) Immigration & Refugee Ministry Group (Room 204)
Wed., Sept. 13	7:15 pm	<b>John 18:1-11</b> Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, Sept. 14	10:00 am 6:00 pm	<b>John 18:12-18</b> Needle Ministry (Parlor) Carolina Premier Practice (Gym)
Friday, Sept. 15	8:00 pm	<b>John 18:19-27</b> Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Saturday, Sept. 16	6:30 am 8:00 pm	<b>John 18:28-32</b> Benton Basketball (Gym) 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

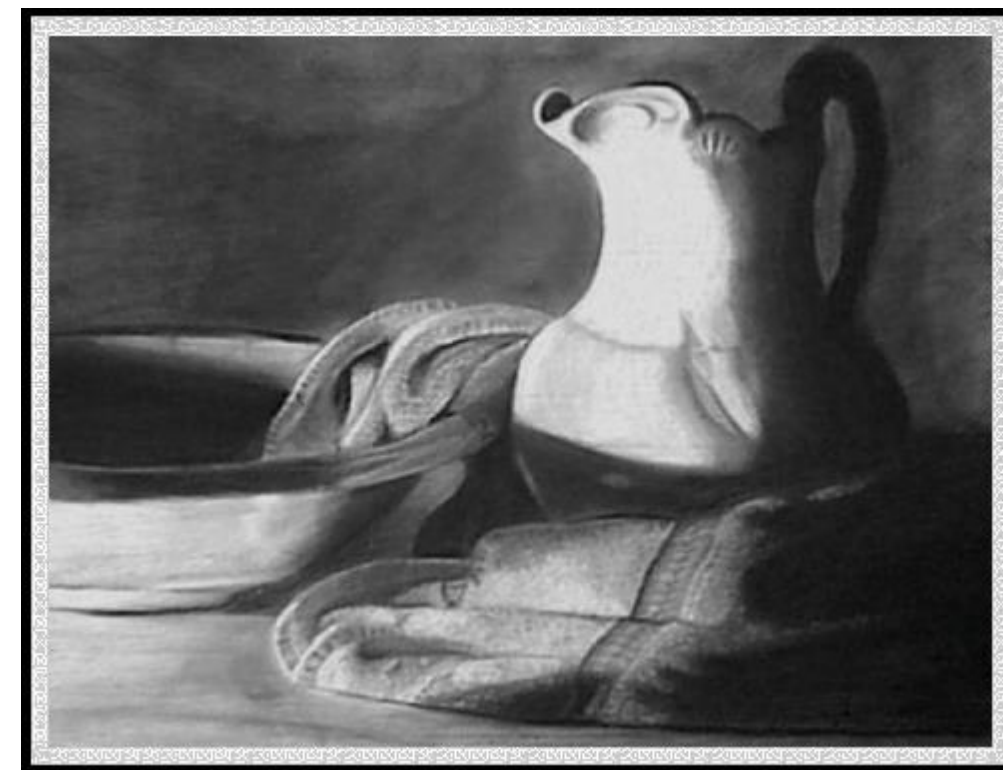
### Equipping Ministers

Minister for Youth and Young Adults..... Rev. Haley Blackwell  
Senior Minister.....Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD  
Minister for Congregational Care .....Rev. 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 Coordinator .....Mallory Brown  
Children's Music Director .....Chloe Hall  
Organist .....J. Noel Lance  
Associate Organist..... Dr. Matthew Manwarren  
Custodian..... Chris Mullis  
Church Administrator..... Amanda Morrison  
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted

# Deacon Ordination



Sunday, September 10, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

St. John's Baptist Church  
Charlotte, North Carolina