

Welcome to the Worship of God	
Please silence all electronic devices. *Invites the congregation to stand	
A Season of Spiritual Renewal Renewing Our Commitments to be Stewards of Prayer	
The Gathering Music	J. Noel Lance, Organist
The Words of Greeting	Rev. Lee Gray
Call to Service	Todd Stillerman
Passing of the Peace	Congregation
“The peace of Christ be with you. And also, with you.”	
The Prayer of Submission	Rev. Gray
The Choral Call to Worship	Chancel Choir
Hymn # 593 Lead Me, Lord	Based on Psalms 5:8; 4:8
Presentation of the Christ Candle by Tallon Cardella	
*The Hymn of Praise, No. 72	To God Be the Glory
Chalice Hymnal	TO GOD BE THE GLORY
The Reading of Scripture	Rev. Richard Hester, PhD
Gospel of John 17:1-5	
“Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.”	
Moments with The Younger Church	Rev. Kheresa Harmon
*The Hymn of Commitment, No. 606	God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
Chalice Hymnal	NETTLETON
The Church at Prayer	Rev. Haley Blackwell
Micah Belong, Tom Bryson, Nancy Burgess, Jack Crymes, Joyce Ehrenberger, Jan Kerley, Arnold Philemon, Mary Rickenbaker, Annie Sam, Jane Starnes	
We express sympathy to the family and friends of Barbara Holland who passed on ahead of us on Monday, November 13 th .	
The Lord’s Prayer	
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth and 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 Reading of Scripture	Rev. Hester
Gospel of John 17:6-19	
Jesus continued his prayer, “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”	
The Chancel Choir Anthem	Directed by Dr. Lillian Quackenbush
All Good Gifts	David Schwoebel
All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord for all His love. We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand. He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord for all His love. He, only, is the maker of all things near and far, He paints the wayside flower, He lights the evening star; the wind and waves obey Him, by Him the birds are fed; much more to us His children, He gives our daily bread. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord for all His love. We thank Thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good; the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. Accept the gifts we offer for all Thy love imparts, and what Thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord for all His love.	
*The Doxology	OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen	

The Reading of Scripture	Pastor and People
Gospel of John 17:20-26	
PASTOR: Jesus continued his prayer, “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.”	
PEOPLE: “As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”	
PASTOR: “The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”	
PEOPLE: “Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.”	
PASTOR: “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”	
PASTOR: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the Living Word of God.	
PEOPLE: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.	
The Message	Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD
‘The Church that Prays Together’	
Portion of St. John’s Church Covenant:	
“In the spirit of this Covenant, we pray together: Almighty God, Father of us all, witness this Covenant which we make with each other and with Thee. Guide us as we try to do that which pleases Thee, to the glory of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”	
*The Hymn of Discipleship, No. 572	Take Time to Be Holy
Chalice Hymnal	HOLINESS
The Commissioning	Dr. Foust
The Postlude	J. Noel Lance
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.	
A Prayer for Thanksgiving Day from The Book of Common Prayer:	
“Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.”	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Join us for the 9th annual Seniors' Christmas Gathering on Dec. 7 in Broach Hall from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM. Your Pastoral Deacon will be contacting you before Thanksgiving. Watch the mail for your invitation and be sure to put this fun event on your calendar. *Sponsored by Women of the Church*

Winter Drive for Church World Service

As you’re digging into your closet to pull out a suitable coat when the cold weather decides to stay, are you finding gently used coats, sweaters, gloves, scarves, or hats? Church World Service is having a winter coat drive for the unaccompanied immigrant children they serve (ages 2-17). Adult sizes are a help, too, as some kids’ sponsors express a need and teens can often wear adult sizes. You’re welcome to drop any donations in the giving nook by the main entrance. We’re collecting now through December 3.

Holly Jolly Parents’ Night Out

It’s a jolly time of year, and SJBC wants to make it even more jolly for parents and kids! Parents, drop your kids off at church at 6:00pm on December 15 for a jolly evening of slime-making, game-playing, cookie-decorating, and movie-watching! Childcare for babies - two years of age will be provided by Mon Aye and Rosa Matos, WDS teachers. They will be accompanied by SJBC youth. SJBC youth, Haley, and Kheresa will be having a jolly time with children 3 years of age through 5th grade. The cost of the event is \$10 per child, which will help cover the costs associated with dinner, snacks, and supplies. The merriment concludes at 9:00pm. Register on Realm.

The Great ADVENTure: Sunday, December 3

Advent is our time of waiting. During Advent, we wait, and we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Advent is our great ADVENTure! On Sunday, December 3, immediately following worship, children and their families are invited to experience the SJBC Great ADVENTure in Broach Hall.

Registration for The Great ADVENTure has opened. Sign up today! You’ll receive your “passports” soon.

WDAV Lessons & Carols LIVE from St. John's: Tuesday, December 5 at 7pm

Join us for the annual WDAV Lessons and Carols LIVE from the St. John's Sanctuary at 7pm on Tuesday, December 5. There will be a reception afterward with light refreshments. Admission is FREE and open to the public. We can’t wait to see you!

Stewardship Update for 2024

Have you turned in your pledge commitment to the 2024 Financial Ministry Plan at St. John's? So far, we have received 112 commitments, totaling \$707,440. We are so grateful for your support year after year. If you have not turned in your pledge, please do so by mailing in your pledge card, calling the church office, or on Realm.

St. John’s Baptist Church

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

The St. John’s Pulpit

Worship: November 26, 2023
Scripture: Luke 15:11-32
Message Title: “What Story Do You Tell Yourself?”
Proclaimer: Rev. Lee Gray

This Week at St. John’s		
Sun., Nov. 12	8:30 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person)
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Room in the Inn Meeting (Conference Room)
	12:00 pm	Children’s Ministry Friendsgiving! (Independence Park)
	5:00 pm	Youth SNL
Mon., Nov. 13	10:00 am	Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall)
	11:30 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114)
Tues., Nov. 14	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Zoom)
	10:00 am	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	10:30 am	Staff Meeting & Planning (Conference Room)
Wed., Nov. 15	7:15 pm	Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thurs., Nov. 16	ALL DAY	Church Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Day!
Friday, Nov. 17	ALL DAY	Church OFFICES CLOSED!
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Nov. 18	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	8:00 pm	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, November 19, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

St. John’s Baptist Church

Charlotte, North Carolina