

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please silence all electronic devices.

**Invites the congregation to stand*

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

A Season of Spiritual Renewal

Renewing Our Commitments to God in Worship and Stewardship

The Gathering Music J. Noel Lance, Organist

The Words of Greeting Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Words About Our Commitment Walk Todd Stillerman,
Stewardship Resource Team

The Call to Worship Todd Stillerman

ONE: As part of a long line of disciples of Christ, we gather to worship and invest our lives in God's vision for the world.

ALL: We honor those sisters and brothers who have passed on ahead of us as we also make commitments to bless those who come behind us.

ONE: Because of our love of God and other persons, we make new investments in God's servant church to build a better world.

ALL: Let us worship God by expressing our praise and gratitude. Amen!

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle Carried by **Cardella Family**

The Prayer of Submission Rev. Foust

***The Hymn of Praise, No. 637** *For All the Saints*
Chalice Hymnal SINE NOMINE

Moments with the Younger Church Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Moments for Reflection J. Noel Lance

The Chancel Choir Anthem Directed by Dr. Lillian Quackenbush
Lux Aeterna: Requiem John Rutter

Soloist: Amanda Williams

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors.

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine.

Eternal light shine upon them, O Lord.

Cum sanctis tuis in aeternum quia pius es.

With your saints, dwelling forever within Thy mercy.

Requiem aeternam, dona eis Domine.

Lord, give them eternal rest.

Remembering St. John's Saints Rev. Lee Gray

Members of St. John's Who Passed on Ahead of Us This Past Year

**Lewis Lowder, Martha Bryson, Jim Austin,
Betty Hastings, Stacey Almond, Betty Taylor**

The Church at Prayer Rev. Gray

We pray for Micah Belong, Nancy Burgess, Jack Crymes, Joyce Ehrenberger,
Jan Kerley, Arnold Philemon, Mary Rickenbaker, Jane Starnes

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 Hymn of Witness, No. 86** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Chalice Hymnal FAITHFULNESS

The Litany of Faithfulness Deacon, Meredith Sorrell

ONE: Faithful God, you inspire us through people who have passed on ahead of us. Their footprints still guide us on the path of discipleship.

ALL: Today, we make new footprints on the path of discipleship. Our footprints will provide guidance for those who come behind us.

ONE: Through our commitments, we pledge ourselves to support St. John's ministries in 2024 and we prepare ourselves to accomplish our goals so we can prosper in the work you entrust to us.

ALL: Faithful God, we ask that you multiply our financial gifts and commitments for 2024 as we hold your people in our hearts.

The Offertory Prayer Meredith Sorrell

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Diaconate and Worshippers

As the offering plate is passed down the aisle, make sure you touch it. Trace the outer circle of the plate with your finger and contemplate the world that your gifts support. Observe the way that the plate reflects light, just as your gifts reflect your commitment. Rub the fuzzy felt inside the plate and think of a warm memory from the St. John's community. Feel the weight of the plate in your hands and remember the impact your gifts have on our church, our community, and our world.

The Solo *Here I Am, Lord* Amanda Williams

***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 Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22 Jordan Benton

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

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 Homily 'Images, Commitment Cards, and Ships' Rev. Foust

Portion of St. John's Church Covenant: Congregation

"We will be faithful to the public worship of God, gathering with the family of the Church to celebrate God's glory and remember God's grace."

"We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us, contributing our financial support for the Church and its ministries and offering ourselves for God's work in the world."

The Financial Commitment Walk Congregation

***The Hymn of Loyalty, No. 611** *Rise Up, O Saints of God!*
Chalice Hymnal FESTAL SONG

The Commissioning Rev. Foust

The Postlude for Reflection and Commitment 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.

1. How are you abiding by the following commitments in our St. John's Church Covenant:

"We will be faithful to the public worship of God, gathering with the family of the Church to celebrate God's glory and remember God's grace."

"We will be faithful stewards, as God has prospered us, contributing our financial support for the Church and its ministries and offering ourselves for God's work in the world."

2. How does your participation in congregational worship reflect your spiritual growth?

How does your financial stewardship reflect your spiritual growth?

How does your participation in congregational worship influence your spiritual growth?

How does your financial stewardship influence your spiritual growth?

3. In the teachings of Jesus, you will find that:

- One sixth of all Jesus' teachings are related to financial stewardship.
- Almost 50% of Jesus' parables speak about financial stewardship.
- Jesus spoke five times more about financial stewardship than he did about prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! Craft & Bake Sale

The Needle and Craft Ministry will be having a Craft and Bake Sale after worship today in Lasater Hall from 11:30 to 1:00. All proceeds will go to support the children's ministry playground fund.

Children's Ministry Friendsgiving Picnic: Sunday, November 19

Food just tastes better when we eat it together. Join us for a Friendsgiving Picnic at Independence Park (the park down from the church) following worship on Sunday, November 19! Hawthorne's will bring the pizza. You bring your family's favorite side dish or dessert. Be creative! Friends share stories, so make sure that your side dish or dessert tells us something about the story of your family. In addition to sharing food and fun, we will have an opportunity to meet Missy Wilson, KinderMusik educator, and her family. Missy provides KinderMusik for our Weekday School.

Register on Realm today!

Sunday Night Live for Youth Needs Your Help!

Our weekly Sunday night youth program is in need of help with providing meals and second adults to help Haley as needed. Haley usually has an idea of how many will need to be fed a few days before Sunday Night Live. Please reach out to Haley at hblackwell@sjcharlotte.org or 704-333-5428 ex. 2013 if you are interested in helping!

Below are the dates when help is needed: 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/10, 12/17

On the Way: Wednesday, November 8 at Hawthorne's

Please join us for lunch on Wednesday, November 8 at 11:30 am at Hawthorne's (1701 E 7 Street) just down the street from the church. Parking is limited at Hawthorne's so let's plan on meeting in the church lot by Broach Hall and walk down and carpool down to Hawthorne's at 11:20am. We will make sure that anyone who would like a ride has one. While Hawthorne's does serve pizza they also serve a good variety of pasta dishes, sandwiches, and salads. Please let Lee Gray LGray@sjcharlotte.org know if you plan to join us by November 6.

Grant Writer Needed for SJBC Playground

We are hoping to update the playground at St. John's and need the help of an experienced grant writer! Do you have experience writing grants, particularly grants for early childhood education?

If so, please contact Kheresa.

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. Seniors will receive a printed invitation the first full week in November. 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

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 12, 2023
Scripture: Gospel of John 20:24-31
Message Title: 'Living Your Best Life'
Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

This Week at St. John's

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|-----------------|---|---|
| Sun., Nov. 5 | 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am | Sunday School/ Learning Groups (Virtual/ in-person) Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) Craft & Bake Sale (Lasater Hall) |
| Mon., Nov. 6 | 10:00 am 11:30 am | Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall) Faith Journey Book Study (Room 114) |
| Tues., Nov. 7 | ALL DAY 10:30 am | Election Day! (Broach Hall) Staff Meeting & Planning (Conference Room) |
| Wed., Nov. 8 | 7:15 pm | Choir Practice (Choir Room) |
| Thurs., Nov. 9 | 10:00 am | Needle Ministry (Parlor) |
| Friday, Nov. 10 | 8:00 pm | Eastway AA (Lasater Hall) |
| Sat., Nov. 11 | 6:30 am 8:00 pm | 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 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 5, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

St. John's Baptist Church

Charlotte, North Carolina