

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

March 10, 2024

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

Gathering Music

J. Noel Lance, Organist

Words of Greeting

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

& Announcements of Church Life

The Call to Worship

Rev. Foust

ONE: A love that never ceases,

ALL: A creativity that designed the universe,

ONE: A hope that cannot be quenched,

ALL: A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost:

ONE: These are the things that are of God,

ALL: Then let us worship God.

Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What is Good." Used with permission.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle: Alex Norris

Prayer of Submission

Rev. Foust

*Hymn of Praise No. 72

To God Be the Glory

Chalice Hymnal

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Moments with the Younger Church

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Reading of the Pentateuch

Rev. Haley Blackwell

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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.



Prayers of Confessions

Rev. Lee Gray

Current Prayer Concerns

Shirley Ballard, Tom Bryson, Joyce Ehrenberger, Michael Farnsworth, Linda Finger, Arnold Philemon, Jane Winn

Sympathies

We express our sympathies to the family of Dick Schafer who passed on ahead of us on Monday, March 4th. Our prayers for Barbara, his wife of 65 years, and the family will continue into the coming weeks. We will celebrate Dick's life and ministry this afternoon, March 10th, at 2:00 pm, in the sanctuary of St. John's Baptist Church. A reception will follow in Lasater Hall.

Celebrations

We extend congratulations to Missy and John Holloway on the birth of their son, Nash Lee Holloway, on February 29! The proud grandparents are Jim and Linda Nash. The rose at the front of the church is in honor of Nash.

Assurances of Forgiveness

Rev. Gray

Reading from the Gospel of John

Cole Turner

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

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 Offertory Prayer

Alice Wirz

The Presentation of Tithes Plus Offerings

Deaconate and Congregation

The Chancel Choir Anthem

Directed by Russell Nelson

God So Loved the World

by John Stainer

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, That whoso believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; But that the world through Him might be saved.

*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 Homily

'Lifting Up Jesus'

Rev. Kathy Turner

*Hymn of Commitment

Remember God Is Gracious

AURELIA

Remember God is gracious, and know what God has done! God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. Now all those who believe him, who trust in Jesus Christ, Can know they will not perish; they'll have eternal life.

God did not send us Jesus in judgment—to condemn; He sent him as a promise, so we'd be saved through him. Our savior came to free us—not just for heaven's joy But here, where so much need is, where sin seeks to destroy.

Your love, Lord, leads us outward to love the world you freed— To care for your creation, to help all those in need; We welcome in the stranger for we were strangers too. O God, we pray for courage to love the world with you.

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used by permission.

Converge Update and Feedback

St. John's as a Steward Church and Worshipping Church

The Commissioning

Rev. Foust

The Postlude

J. Noel Lance



Kathy is an Ordained Board-Certified Clinical Chaplain and currently working on a podcast called Angels 2nd Class. She is providing stories of hope and inspiration from her experiences as a chaplain to a broader community. Kathy and Kevin have been members of St. John's since 2015, and their children, Cole and Natalie participated in the youth group and continue to be involved in the church.

A Divine Center	
Monday, March 11, 2024: Psalm 107:1-16	Residents of Charlotte Living on the Streets
Tuesday, March 12, 2024: Exodus 15:22-27	The Person Who Checks You Out at the Grocery Store
Wednesday, March 13, 2024: Hebrews 3:1-6	School Bus Drivers
Thursday, March 14, 2024: Isaiah 30:15-18	Children in Your Family and Care Circles
Friday, March 15, 2024: Psalm 51:1-12	People You Know Who are Grieving
Saturday, March 16, 2024: Jeremiah 31:31-34	School Counselors & Social Workers
SUNDAY, March 17, 2024: John 12:20-33	Persons Sitting Near You in Worship Today

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE for Converge on April 21 at 9am
Please save the date and plan to attend our Converge meeting on April 21 at 9am (tentative). During Converge, we will discuss and collaborate about the future direction of our church - our goals, areas of focus, needs, and more. We need your voice at the table.

Join us for our Second Annual Easter EGGstravaganza!
In Broach Hall at 11:30 am on Sunday, March 24, we will gather for lunch and Easter fun. We will lunch catered by Anderson's. There will be an Easter Egg hunt for all ages, please bring something to collect eggs in! Cost is \$12 per person. You can pay online through Realm or at the door with cash or check. Checks must be made to St. John's Baptist Church. **Please register on Realm or scan QR code by March 19 so we know how much food to order.**



Heritage Sunday: March 17 during Worship featuring Dr. Corey D.B. Walker
Please mark your calendars for Heritage Sunday! The celebration of our 102nd year at the corner of 5th and Hawthorne will be on Sunday, March 17. Our proclaimer will be Dr. Corey D.B. Walker, Dean of the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. Join us!

Thursdays on the Town: Lang Van
Parents of children, ages birth - 5th grade, please join us on Thursday, April 11 at 6:00pm at Lang Van. Free childcare will be provided at the church. Please register and reserve childcare by April 8 on Realm or with Kheresa.

Brotherhood of the Biscuit featuring Russell Nelson
Next Friday, March 15 at 6:30 AM in the 1st Floor Church Lounge. Our new Minister for Music & Worship, Russell Nelson will share some of his life journey with us. Please email Lee Gray at LGray@sjcharlotte.org if you can join us on Friday, March 15 so we can get the correct number of biscuits.

- A Collection for Refugee Support Services**
Refugee Support Services is asking the community to provide a couple of items to support their ongoing services to refugees in Charlotte.
- Small vases (glass or plastic) for displaying flowers, handmade by ladies in their Knit Together Group and sold at Pop-Up sales around Charlotte.
 - Clean egg cartons for packing eggs contributed by local chicken farmers and distributed at the RSS weekly food distribution.

If you wish to donate either or both of these items you may leave them on the table inside the main entrance by the "Giving Nook."

Men's Shelter Service and Banana Puddings
For Friday, March 15, need 5 more puddings and several people to serve at the men's shelter. We hope you will join us as we serve the third Friday of each month. Sign up by scanning the QR code.



St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit
Worship: March 17, 2024, Fifth Sunday of Lent
Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33
Message Theme: 'A Desire to See Jesus'
Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Corey D. B. Walker,
Dean of Wake Forest University School of Divinity

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Mar. 10	8:30 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Church Council (Conference Room) Sunday School Worship (Broach Hall) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) Youth SNL
Mon., Mar. 11	11:00 am 6:30 pm	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge) Ministries Deacon Panel (Room 204)
Tues., Mar. 12	10:30 am 10:45 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room) Immigration & Refugee Ministry Group (Room 204)
Wed., Mar. 13	7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs., Mar. 14	10:00 am	Needle Ministry (Lounge)
Friday, Mar. 15	ALL Day 6:30 am 8:00 pm	NC CBF Annual Meeting (Winston-Salem) Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge) Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Mar. 16	6:30 am 10:00 am 8:00 pm	Benton Basketball (Gym) AGO Summer Recital for Kids (Sanctuary) 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
Minister for Worship and Music.....	Russell Nelson

Church Staff

Media Coordinator	Mallory Brown
Children's Music Director	Chloe Hall
Organist	J. Noel Lance
Custodian.....	Chris Mullis
Church Administrator.....	Amanda Morrison
Weekday School Director.....	Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, March 10, 2024
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina