

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

September 22, 2024

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

Gathering Music J. Noel Lance, Pianist

Words of Greeting & Announcements of Church Life Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Foust

Stewardship Moment Todd Stillerman

Prayer of Submission Todd Stillerman

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Entrance of the Christ Candle by Amelia Benton

The Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Foust

ONE: God has gathered us to this place,

ALL: Where we hear those stories which show us what the kingdom of God is like.

ONE: God summons us to this place,

ALL: Where we can learn how to serve our God without reservation, or hesitation.

ONE: God will send us from this place,

ALL: To tell others of God's hopes and dreams, so they, too, can choose to follow God.

Written by Thom Shuman.

***Hymn Of Praise, No. 618** *How Firm a Foundation*
The Chalice Hymnal FOUNDATION

Moments With the Younger Church Rev. Kheresa Harmon



Reading of the Epistle Rev. Haley Blackwell
I Peter 1:22-2:10

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord endures forever." That word is the good news that was announced to you. Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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 Church at Prayer Rev. Lee Gray

Current Prayer Concerns

Charles Gordon, Kaden Haver, Arnold Philemon, Jeck Warren

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.

***Hymn of Discipleship, No. 272** *The Church's One Foundation*
The Chalice Hymnal AURELIA

The Offertory Prayer Tallon Cardella

The Presentation of Tithes Plus Offerings Diaconate and Congregation

The Chancel Choir Anthem Directed by J. Noel Lance
Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God By Carl F. Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God;
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
And take not thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
And uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;
And sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God!

***The Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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The Homily Rev. Dr. Foust
'Does God Need a Church?'

***Hymn of Witness, No. 494** *They'll Know We Are Christians*
The Chalice Hymnal ST. BRENDAN'S

The Commissioning Rev. Dr. Foust

The Postlude J. Noel Lance

**Next Sunday, we will return to the Sanctuary.
But we need your help!**

If you can volunteer to help us give a thorough cleaning to the Sanctuary, please meet us **tomorrow, Monday September 23 at 1 PM.** We will disinfect and clean to remove all allergens from our worship space. If you have feather dusters, dusting rags and/or extension poles please bring them with you. We will supply cleaning solutions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Food Drive for Nourish Up

During the month of September, St. John's will have a Nourish Up Drive collecting food items (see list below) for the approved folks.

Especially needed:

- Beans, canned or dried (Not green beans), canned corn, peas, cereal, canned peaches, flour, sugar, salt, pepper, preserves (any kind), peanut butter, oatmeal

Food can be left in the grocery cart in the **Giving Nook** at the Main Entrance.

Rise Against Hunger on September 29

Let's work together to end global hunger. Please join us and congregants from several other local congregations for our Rise Against Hunger Packing Event on Sunday, September 29, immediately after worship.

How can you serve?

1. Greeters
2. Parking Attendant Greeters
3. Hospitality Table in Broach Hall
4. Lunch (Our meal will be provided by Together in Christ International Ministries and St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, but assistance with setup and clean up are needed.)
5. Donate to Rise Against Hunger

Contact Kheresa Harmon by September 25 and tell her how you will help.

God's Tapestry: Woven Together in Power and Purpose Today is the LAST day to Register!

Women of the Church, you are invited to attend our 2024 Women's Retreat **November 1-3** at the Blowing Rock Conference Center. Sabrina Gilchrist will be our facilitator for the weekend.

We hope you can join us! The cost for the whole weekend - including room, food, all sessions, and activities - will be \$185 and must be prepaid. Register on Realm or scan QR code.



Children's Sabbath

Please join us for worship on Sunday, October 6, World Communion Sunday, as our children lead us in all aspects of worship - from singing and reading Scripture to leading in prayer and taking communion. This is a special Sunday and we hope you will plan to join us at 10:30am, our regular worship time.

Churchwide Potluck Lunch & Converge Report October 6

On Sunday, October 6, we will gather in Broach Hall for a potluck lunch between worship and CROP Walk. The program for lunch will include a report from the Church Council on the CONVERGE information gathered last spring.

Here is how the potluck works.

- The church budget will pay for the meat.
- If your last name begins with A - L, you bring a vegetable/side dish.
- If your last name begins with M - Z, you bring a dessert.

Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk on October 6

We have another opportunity to work together to improve the quality of life of people suffering from hunger and poverty! Please join the SJBC team and other local congregations on October 6 as we join hands and feet in Memorial Stadium to make a difference in the lives of so many here in our community and around the world. Register today (by scanning the QR code) to begin fundraising. Please see St. John's Family News or contact Debbie Pittman and James Laney for more information about the Walk.



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 29, 2024
Message: "And Bring Your Stir Stick"
Scripture: Hebrews 10:23-25
Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Foust

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Sept. 22	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship (Broach Hall)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:45 am	Reception for Haley Blackwell (Broach Hall)
Mon., Sept. 23	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Sept. 24	10:30 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
	6:30 pm	NAMI Family Support (Room 114)
	6:30 pm	NAMI Peer-to-Peer Support (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Elizabeth Community Association Meeting (Broach Hall)
Wed., Sept. 25	4:30 pm	Communities In Schools Drive Through Event (Main Entrance)
	6:30 pm	Yoga for Mental Health with NAMI (Lasater Hall)
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs., Sept. 26		
Friday, Sept. 27	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Sept. 28	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	9:00 am	Shred-A-Thon with Shepherd's Center (Main Parking Lot)
	8:00 pm	Together We Rise NA (Lasater Hall)
Sun., Sept. 29	11:30 am	Rise Against Hunger (Broach Hall & Gym)

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
Minister for Worship and Music.....Russell Nelson

Church Staff

Media CoordinatorMallory Brown
Children's Music DirectorChloe Hall
OrganistJ. Noel Lance
Church Administrator..... Amanda Morrison
Custodian..... Chris Mullis
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, September 22, 2024
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church