

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

September 8, 2024 *Ten-Thirty in the Morning*

Gathering Music J. Noel Lance, Organ

Words of Greeting & Announcements of Church Life Rev. Haley Blackwell

Call into Church Conference

Leadership Report Russell Norris and M. C. Sorrell

Call to Service CROP Walk Debbie Pittman and James Laney

Prayer of Submission Rev. Blackwell

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship
Entrance of the Christ Candle by Joy Follis

The Call to Worship Rev. Blackwell

ONE: What would God have us do?

ALL: What gifts do we have that can serve God?

ONE: Lord, guide our lives and our service.

ALL: Lord, call us to ministries of hope and promise.

ONE: Help us, O Lord, to look beyond words.

ALL: Help us, O Lord, to see ways of service.

ONE: Open our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your guidance.

ALL: Help us to be those people who will bring good news to those in darkness and doubt.

ONE: Come, let us worship God with thanksgiving for gifts of ministry.

ALL: Let us praise God with joyful hearts for opportunities to serve. Amen.

***Hymn Of Praise, No. 93** *Praise Him! Praise Him!*
The Chalice Hymnal JOYFUL SONG

Moments With the Younger Church Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Reading of the Epistle
Acts 2:38-42 Jim Keesee

Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

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

Kathleen Bumgardner, Carolyn Hall, Lanny Loftis,

Arnold Philemon, Shelly Zeigler

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.

A Word About Ordination Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Foust

The Homily Rev. Dr. Foust

The Offertory Prayer Marc Cardella

The Presentation of Tithes Plus Offerings
Diaconate and Congregation

The Chancel Choir Anthem Directed by Russell Nelson
Lord, Here Am I By John Ness Beck

Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey;
Only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.
Teach me the mission appointed for me,
What is my labor and where it shall be.
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross;
Willing to suffer reproaches and loss;
Willing to follow if Thou will but lead;
Only support me with grace in my need.
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Living or dying, I still would be Thine.
Yet I am mortal while Thou art divine.
Pardon, whenever I turn from the right;
Pity, and bring me again to the light.
Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

***The Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below:
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

A PRAYERFUL LITANY OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Russell Norris and Rev. Dr. Foust

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 Kelli McCombs, Debbie Pittman, Aidan Salmeron, and Suzanne Taylor 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 Church Ordains New Deacons** Laying On of Hands

***Hymn of Witness, No. 442** *We Are Walking*
The Chalice Hymnal SIYAHAMBA

The Commissioning Rev. Dr. Foust

The Postlude J. Noel Lance

Deacons Rotating On This Year:

Administrative Deacons	Pastoral Deacons
Todd Stillerman	Jeff Almond
Ashley Maready	Suzanne Taylor
Doug Hammond	Kelli McCombs
Kevin Benton	Debbie Pittman
	Ethel Harris
Ministries Deacons	Nancy Fuller
James Laney	Selina Swafford
Aidan Salmeron	Treva Bridges
Elizabeth Whipple	Mary Jo Breckenridge (2 year)
Ryan Crowder	
Delbridge Narron (2 year)	Life Deacons
Nancy Wilson (2 year)	Kim Allen
	David Allen
	M.C. Sorrell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating the 30+ Anniversary of Hope Chapel

The United Baptist Association (currently consisting of the following churches - Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist, Park Rd Baptist, Sardis Baptist, & St. John's Baptist) invites you to attend a special worship service at Hope Chapel on Sunday, September 15. Worship begins at 8:00 am followed by breakfast at 8:30 am. The address of Hope Chapel is 125 E. Wadsworth Place, Charlotte NC 28206. (This is just behind the Auto Bell on North Tryon Street.) No RSVP is needed, just show up for worship and breakfast and there is ample time to return to St. John's for Sunday School.

Women of the Church Annual Luncheon: REGISTER BY TODAY

The Women of the Church are looking forward to the Annual Luncheon and Business Meeting to be held in Broach Hall on Sunday, September 15 at 11:45AM. We are excited to gather again for fellowship and food as we begin exploring this year's theme of *God's Tapestry: Woven Together in Power and Purpose*. We are delighted to welcome our own Lynn Erdman, as our guest speaker as she speaks about her work at Dove's Nest.



Reservations are **REQUIRED** by September 8 and the cost is \$15.00/person. Register through Realm or submit the paper form and a check made payable to St. John's Baptist Church. For more information, please see Nancy Wilson or scan the QR Code.

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 with a fellowship lunch. Together we will package 20,000 meals on site for hungry people around the world.



You may register by scanning QR code to serve in up to 3 ways:

1. Event set-up with Rise Against Hunger staff from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
2. Meal packaging from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
3. Event cleanup with Rise Against Hunger staff from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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 **Giving Nook** at the Main Entrance.

God's Tapestry: Woven Together in Power and Purpose

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. What a joy it will be to spend the weekend with her as she leads us in focusing on Mary and Elizabeth as models of women affirming each other's gifts and using their example to build our SJBC sisterhood in nurturing each other for spiritual growth and service in Christ's name! The weekend will offer us deepened fellowship, good food and treats, worship, meaningful study, and fun activities. In addition to the whole group sessions with Sabrina, we will have opportunities to participate in optional sessions. 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 below or on Realm. If you prefer, paper registration forms will be available at the WOC luncheon on September 15 or in the church office. **Deadline to register is September 22.**



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 15, 2024

Message: 'A Church That Keeps First Things First'

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Proclaimer: Dr. Todd Still, Dean of Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Sept. 8	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship (Broach Hall)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Sept. 9	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
	6:30 pm	Administrative Deacon Panel (Conference Room)
	6:30 pm	Ministries Deacon Panel (Room 204)
	6:30 pm	Pastoral Deacon Panel (Lounge)
	7:30 pm	ALL Deacon Meeting (Broach Hall)
Tues., Sept. 10	10:30 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Wed., Sept. 11	7:15 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs., Sept. 12		
Friday, Sept. 13		
Sat., Sept. 14	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (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



Ordination & Installation Sunday

Sunday, September 8, 2024

10:30 AM Worship

St. John's Baptist Church