

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

March 2, 2025

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

The Gathering Music J. Noel Lance, Organist

**The Words of Greeting
& Announcements Of Church Life** Rev. Lee Gray

Basketball Presentations Todd Stillerman

Community and State Missions Offering Debbie Pittman
& James Laney

Prayer of Submission Rev. Gray

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle by Hailey McCombs

***The Call to Worship** Rev. Kheresa Harmon

ONE: Disciples of Christ, today your Savior calls you to come up the mountain and pray. Will you come?

ALL: We will go wherever Jesus leads us.

ONE: Will you follow when Christ's glory overwhelms your senses, and you sit astounded at God's greatness?

ALL: We will go wherever Jesus leads us.

ONE: Will you follow when Jesus won't let you stay on the mountaintop, insisting that you return to the valley where people are hurting and in need of good news?

ALL: We will go wherever Jesus leads us.

ONE: Disciples, come! Let us worship God, whose glory shines on the mountaintop and in the eyes of our neighbors.

ALL: Come, let us worship God, whose glory shimmers all around us, even now!

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.

***Hymn of Praise, No. 91** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*
The Chalice Hymnal CORONATION

Moments With the Younger Church Rev. Harmon

Reading of the Epistle Suzanne Taylor
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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.

Hymn of Prayer, No. 259 *Spirit of the Living God*
The Chalice Hymnal LIVING GOD

The Church at Prayer Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Current Prayer Concerns

Joseph Freeman, Anne Sutton

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. 450** *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*
The Chalice Hymnal HYFRYDOL

Reading of the Gospel Alex Norris
Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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 Jason Benton

The Presentation of Tithes Plus Offerings Diaconate
& Congregation

The Chancel Choir Anthem Directed by Russell Nelson
Be Thou My Vision arr. Carlton Young

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord
Thou my Great Father and I thy true son
O thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

High King of Heaven my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
O still be my vision thou ruler of all.

***The Doxology** LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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!

Words ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House.
Used by permission. CCLI License No. 1596646.

The Message Rev. Foust
'A Pastor's Role in Your Church'

***Hymn of Witness, No. 625** *Precious Name*
The Chalice Hymnal PRECIOUS NAME

The Commissioning Rev. Foust

The Postlude J. Noel Lance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ash Wednesday Service March 5 at 6:30 PM

God's Forgiveness of Sin

Homily: 'Sins of Ignorance Can Be Hard to Forgive'

Luke 23:32-34 - "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

Children & Youth Basketball Banquet:

The Children & Youth Basketball Banquet will be TODAY, Sunday, March 2 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM in the Church Lounge.

The 100th Anniversary books have arrived!!

Pre-ordered books may be picked up in the Heritage Room (next to the Church Parlor) today, March 2nd from 10:00-10:30 and immediately after worship. If you need to arrange pickup at another time, please contact Fredda Kimball. A limited number of extra books are available for sale (\$20).

Community & State Mission Offering

This year's Community & State Mission Offering will follow a "Loving Our Neighbors" focus. We will love our neighbors in Western NC still recovering from Helene and also our immigrant and refugee neighbors here in Charlotte in need of welcome and support. The offering will be split between our ministry partners: Mars Hill Baptist Church; OurBridge for Kids; Refugee Support Services; Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency; and our local Immigrant Solidarity Fund.

Families with Children

Thursdays on the Town: March 20

Our next Thursdays on the Town for parents will be on March 20, beginning at 6:00 pm, at Puerta (1961 E. 7th Street). Free childcare is provided.

Snack Collection for Hospice

The Levine-Dickson Hospice Houses at both Aldersgate and Southminster desperately need snacks for the families of those in care. Donations of single-serving wrapped items would be greatly appreciated. Examples of items are as follows:

single bags of chips - any kind, cheese crackers, peanut butter crackers, fruit snacks (ex. Welch's), breakfast bars, Pop Tarts, Granola bars, Individual packs of cookies, small candy bars, Any other snack type item deemed appropriate

On The Way for March 21

St. John's Retired Adults & Friends head to Shelby, NC!

On Friday March 21 we will go to Shelby for an early lunch at Red Bridges Barbecue, followed by a visit to the Earl Scruggs Center in the old Cleveland County Courthouse.

We will meet at the church at 9:50 am and leave at 10:00 am. We will return that day by 3:00 pm. The cost will be \$20 (for a spot on the bus and admission into the Earl Scruggs Center) plus purchasing your own lunch at Bridges. Please email Lee Gray LGray@sjcharlotte.org if you plan to participate.

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 9, 2025 | **First Sunday of Lent**

Scripture: Luke 23:39-43

Message Title: "Promises for a Desperate People"

Proclaimer: Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Mar. 2	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Syrup Sunday (Broach Hall)
Mon., Mar. 3	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Mar. 4	10:30 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
Wed., Mar. 5	9:00 am	Kindermusik with Missy (Room 125)
	6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thurs., Mar. 6		
Fri., Mar. 7	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Broach Hall)
Sat., Mar. 8	6:30 am	Benton Basketball (Gym)
	8:30 am	Kindermusik with Missy (Room 125)
	8:00 pm	Together We Rise NA (Lasater Hall)

Membership and Ministry

If you would like information about the church or 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. You can also scan the included QR code to fill out the guest card online. 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

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
Weekday School Assistant Director.....Kristina Hartzell
OrganistJ. Noel Lance
Handbell Director.....Jacquelyn McAbee
Church Administrator..... Amanda Morrison
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted



Sunday, March 2, 2025
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church