

Welcome to the Worship of God

Please turn off all electronic devices

*Indicates for the congregation to stand as able

August 24, 2025 *Ten-Thirty in the Morning*

Gathering Music Delbridge Narron
Greeting and Our Life Together Rev. Kheresa Harmon
Preparing Our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle: Riley Cardella

*Call to Worship Rev. Lee Gray and Congregation

Leader: Beloved of God, we gather as one body, remembering the words of Paul: “*I thank my God every time I remember you.*”

People: **We come to receive the blessing of God’s heart to our hearts.**

Leader: “Shalom” is not just a word to close a service. It is a prayer—may you be full of well-being, full of God’s wholeness.

People: **Even in suffering, conflict, challenge, and change, God’s shalom is our peace.**

Leader: In a world that fragments our hearts and divides our loyalties, we come seeking God’s undivided wholeness.

People: **We choose to live as the Church - not just a place, but a people shaped by God’s love.**

Leader: The One who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.

All: **We worship in gratitude, we walk in wholeness, and we greet one another in the blessing of Shalom!**

*Prayer of Submission Rev. Gray

*Hymn Of Praise, No. 25 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
Chalice Hymnal LOBE DEN HERREN

Scripture Reading Paula Foust
Philippians 1:3-6

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Leader: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the Living Word of God.

People: **Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.**

*Offertory Hymn No. 433 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*
Chalice Hymnal DENNIS

Offertory Prayer Kevin Benton

Offertory Chancel Choir
An Expression of Gratitude David Schwoebel

*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.*

Antiphonal Prayer Sally Young and Leslie Bragg

Current Prayer Concerns

Anna Lynn Kearse, Judy Kersey, Carl Phillips, Ken Sanford

Choral Reflection Chancel Choir and Tatiana Karpova, violin
Shalom Dan Forrest

Peace. Shalom.
Peace, I leave with you; peace I give to you; Peace. Shalom.
Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you; Peace. Shalom.
Not as this world gives, I give to you, do not be afraid.
Shalom, my peace I give to you.
Peace. Shalom.

Message “Shalom!” Rev. Foust



The Celebration of Communion Rev. Foust

Serving of the Bread

Reading of Jesus’ Words Matthew 26:26 Rev. Gray

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”

Serving of the Cup

Reading of Jesus’ Words Matthew 26:27-28 Rev. Harmon

Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

Words of Recognition Todd Stillerman and Jason Benton

Today we joyfully recognize Dr. Dennis W. Foust for 50 years of faithful ministry and 15 years of devoted service in the life of St. John’s Baptist Church. With gratitude, we honor his vision, leadership, and pastoral care that have shaped our congregation and touched countless lives. Dennis has given generously of his wisdom, compassion, and energy, guiding us in worship, mission, and community. We give thanks for his years of dedication, his steadfast work, and the spirit of shalom he has so faithfully embodied among us.

*Commissioning Rev. Foust

*The Lord’s Prayer MALOTTE

**Our Father, which 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.**

*Postlude J. Noel Lance

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## Instructions for Lunch in Broach Hall

- **Please remain in the sanctuary** after worship so the Foust family and special guests may move to Broach Hall.
- Use the Narthex stairs or the stairs near the choir room to go downstairs. If needed, the elevator beside the Library Commons is available. **The Broach elevator is unavailable.**
- In the hallway downstairs, you may pick up a card to write a note for Dennis and Paula or place any notes you brought in the box on the Registration Table.
- At the ramp, **divide into two lines by last name.** Pick up your nametag, then follow your serving line to receive your prepared plate. Helpers are available to assist. Beverage tables are inside Broach Hall.
- Reserved tables for special guests and staff are at the front and on the stage. All other tables are open—please fill seats beginning near the windows. ***If you are on the have not registered, please wait at the end of the line to see if space and food allows.***
- There is no charge for the meal, however a donation jar will be at the Registration Table.
- After the program, Dennis and Paula will greet guests at the top of the downstairs ramp.

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Survey for St. John’s Baptist Church Pastoral Search Process

The St. John’s Pastor Search Team is tasked with identifying and recommending the next Senior Minister following Dr. Foust’s retirement in August, and your perspective on the type of candidate we should look for is important. We are asking for your participation in two ways:

- 1.Step 1 is completing a quick survey to capture your thoughts on the demographics, background, and characteristics of an ideal candidate.

2.Step 2 will come on September 21 when we gather as a church for a conversation based on the survey results, and to further refine any input on key priorities for the Search Team.
- Details on what we are asking you to do now:
- Please take a few minutes now to complete the anonymous survey by scanning the QR code. Or pick up a paper copy of the survey by contacting the church office at 704-333-5428 ext.0



## Fall Kickoff Cookout for Children & Their Families

Let’s "fall into Fall 2025" with a cookout at the home of Kelli, Eric, Hailey, and Grayson McCombs (6508 Calvert Commons Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078) at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 6! **Please RSVP on Realm by September 1.**

## Women of the Church – Annual Luncheon & Business Meeting

Join us or the **Women of the Church Annual Luncheon & Business Meeting** on **Sunday, September 14**, in **Broach Hall** following worship. Guest speaker: **LeDayne Polaski**, Executive Director, Mecklenburg Metropolitan Interfaith Network. **Cost: \$15 - Registration open Aug. 18** **Reconnect, enjoy fellowship, and invite someone we haven't seen in a while!**

## Rise Up Against Hunger

Our SJBC family is invited to rise up against hunger this fall. There are two ways to that you can ensure that our food insecure neighbors can have nourishing meals.

**Rise Against Hunger** on Sunday, September 28, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., at SJBC

**Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk** on Sunday, October 19, beginning at 2:00 p.m., at Providence Baptist Church

## Message from Dr. Foust

Beloved, my journey now reaches a new hinge point. I love you and have been blessed by serving you. Thank you for allowing the hinges to swing my way so I had this opportunity. Below you will find our contact information for the next few months.

Dennis & Paula Foust Home Contact Information:

5202 Strawberry Hill Drive  
Apartment C  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
Paula – 704.705.0203 or paula7674@att.net  
Dennis – 704.533.0303 or dwfoust88@gmail.com

St. John’s Baptist Church  
300 Hawthorne Lane  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204  
704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## The St. John’s Pulpit

**Worship:** August 31, 2025

**Scripture:** John 3: 1-10, 7: 45-52

**Message Title:** ‘The Speed of Change’

**Proclaimer:** Rev. Lee Gray

## This Week at St. John’s

|                 |          |                                                      |
|-----------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun., Aug. 24   | 9:15 am  | Sunday School                                        |
|                 | 10:30 am | Worship (Sanctuary)                                  |
|                 | 10:30 am | Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) |
|                 | 11:45 pm | Retirement Luncheon Honoring Dr. Foust               |
| Mon., Aug. 25   | 9:30 am  | Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall)                 |
| Tues., Aug. 26  | 10:00 am | Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)     |
|                 | 6:30 pm  | NAMI Support Meetings                                |
| Wed., Aug. 27   | 5:45 pm  | Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Suite)                  |
|                 | 7:15 pm  | Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)                        |
| Thurs., Aug. 28 |          |                                                      |
| Fri., Aug. 29   | 8:00 pm  | Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)                            |
| Sat., Aug. 30   | 6:30 am  | Benton Basketball (Gym)                              |
|                 | 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 Care .....Rev. Lee Gray  
Minister for Children and Their Families..... Rev. Kheresa Harmon  
Minister for Worship and Music.....J. Noel Lance

## Church Staff

Stratus Custodians.....Pray & Thomas Chanwal  
Children’s Music Director .....Chloe Salmeron  
Weekday School Assistant Director.....Kristina Hartzell  
Church Administrator..... Amanda Morrison  
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted  
Sunday Custodian.....Joshua Overbay  
Media Coordinator.....Liza Tindall



# SHALOM

I THANK MY GOD  
EVERY TIME I REMEMBER YOU  
PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6



Sunday, August 24, 2025  
10:30 AM Worship  
St. John’s Baptist Church