

Welcome to the Worship of God

We invite you to silence your electronic devices so we can fully share this time together.
An asterisk (*) invites the congregation to stand as you are able.

September 21, 2025Ten-Thirty in the Morning

Gathering MusicDelbridge Narron

Greeting and Our Life TogetherRev. Kheresa Harmon

*Passing of the PeaceCongregation

Preparing Our Hearts for WorshipJ. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle – Hannah Harmon

Call To WorshipAshley Maready and Congregation

Leader: Always give thanks to God for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: With thankful hearts, we lift our voices to God.

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

People: Even in sorrow, we will give thanks, for God is our help and our hope.

Leader: You have turned our mourning into dancing; you have clothed us with joy.

People: With grateful hearts, we will not be silent, but give thanks to you forever.

Leader: Let us worship the Lord with a spirit of gratitude, in every season of life.

People: With thankful hearts, we come to praise the God who redeems, restores, and makes all things new.

Prayer of SubmissionAshley Maready

*Hymn Of Praise, No. 715Now Thank We All Our God
Chalice HymnalNUN DANKET

Moments with the Younger ChurchRev. Harmon

Scripture ReadingRichy Castellanos
Psalm 30

I will exalt you, LORD,
for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
LORD my God, I called to you for help,
and you healed me.
You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.
Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.
For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.
When I felt secure, I said,
“I will never be shaken.”
LORD, when you favored me,
you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face,
I was dismayed.
To you, LORD, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy:
“What is gained if I am silenced,
if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it proclaim your faithfulness?
Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me;
LORD, be my help.”
You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.
LORD my God, I will praise you forever.

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.

Choral ReflectionChancel Choir
There’s a Wideness in God’s MercyKaren Marrolli

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgement given.
For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would rest upon God’s Word,
And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.
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And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

The Church at PrayerRev. Lee Gray

Current Prayer Concerns

Mary Jo Breckenridge, Carl Phillips, Joe Trull

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.

*Offertory Hymn No. 528Give Thanks
Chalice HymnalGIVE THANKS

Offertory PrayerSelina Swofford

OffertoryJ. Noel Lance

*DoxologyTALLIS’ CANON

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.

MessageA Thankful HeartDr. Don Gordon, D.Min

Hymn of Gratitude No. 605For Each Day of Life We Thank You
Chalice HymnalCHARLESTOWN

*CommissioningDr. Gordon

*PostludeJ. Noel Lance

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Rise Against Hunger – September 28 – NEXT SUNDAY!

We’re coming together to pack 15,000 meals for families in need around the world! Partnering with Rise Against Hunger, an international humanitarian organization, we’re joining a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives, and responding to emergencies. Since its founding, Rise Against Hunger has packaged and distributed over 600 million meals to countries worldwide. This is a unique, family-friendly way to make a real impact – join us and be part of something bigger! Register Today by visiting: stjohnsbaptistchurch.org/rise25 or scanning the QR Code!



Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk

October 19, 1:00 - 4:00 pm at Providence Baptist Church, 4921 Randolph Road 1:00 Registration and activities including bounce house, CWS Kit packing, and more! 2:00 Walk in the neighborhood or walk on the church track, followed by a treat!



On the Way

On the Way will go to House of Pizza on Thursday September 25 at 11:00 am. In addition to pizza, their menu includes salads, sandwiches, and pasta. We will meet at the restaurant 3640 Central Ave. Please email Lee Gray LGray@sjcharlotte.org if you plan to participate.

Thursdays on the Town at the Urban District Market

Families, join us on Thursday, October 9, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at the Urban District Market for good food and fellowship! There is something for everyone, so bring the kids! Register soon!



A Note from Dr. Gordon

Dr. Gordon would love to get to know more of the members of SJBC while serving as the Interim Senior Pastor. If you would like to have lunch with him on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, simply email him at dgordon@sjcharlotte.org

Children’s Sabbath & World Communion Day

Our St. John’s children will lead our worship for Children’s Sabbath and World Communion Sunday on **October 5**. Please join us for this extra special Sunday.

Global Mission Offering Update

- Inspired by teaching under a tree on his first visit home, Lubo dreamed of a permanent primary school in Nyarweng. With St. John’s mentor Phillips Bragg and Patricia Shafer of the nonprofit Mothering Across Continents, the “Raising South Sudan” campaign was born.
- Results so far
 - Two primary schools (Nyarweng & Gumriak) now educate 1,000+ children each year and routinely place in the top five for exam performance in their counties.
 - Teacher dorms, solar wells, and a feeding program were added; the third campus in Aliap is slated to open in 2025.
 - Annual operating cost ≈ \$200,000 (≈ \$250 per student); graduates from the first cohort returned in 2024 as tablet-equipped teaching fellows—evidence that education is already “multiplying hope.”

St. Johnsians, please let’s keep this ministry strong at the Nyarweng School in South Sudan through generous giving by September 30! The children and teachers of Nyarweng need our support and Christ calls us to respond to their need and to be peacebuilders in the world.

Global Missions Offering Goal - **\$23,000**
Amount Received through August 27 - **\$18,170**

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 28, 2025

Scripture: Psalm 8

Message Title: "God is Awesome"

Proclaimer: Dr. Don Gordon, D. Min

This Week at St. John’s

Sun., Sept. 21	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Churchwide Meeting (Broach Hall)
Mon., Sept. 22	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Sept. 23	10:00 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning (Conference Room)
	4:00 pm	Communities In Schools: Safe Journey Program Kick Off (Main Parking Lot)
	6:30 pm	Worship Resource Team Meeting (Conference Room/Zoom)
	6:30 pm	NAMI Support Groups
Wed., Sept. 24	5:45 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Suite)
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
Thurs., Sept. 25		
Fri., Sept. 26	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Sept. 27	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

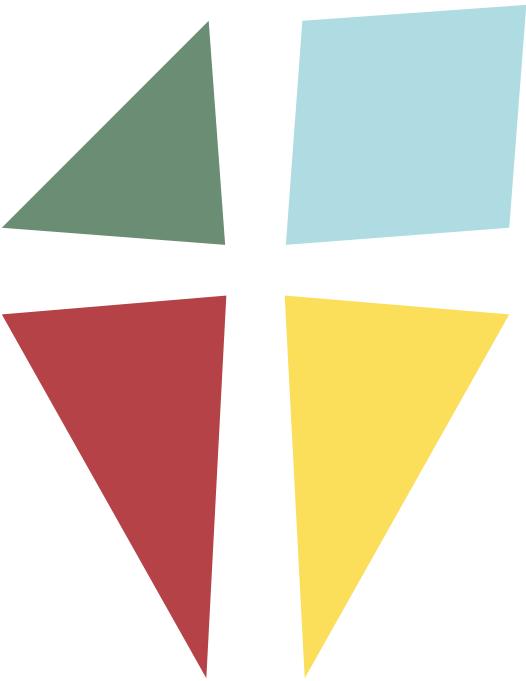
Every participant in God’s Servant Church

Equipping Ministers

Interim Senior Minister.....Dr. Don Gordon
Minister for Congregational CareRev. 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
Office Assistant.....Stephen Davis
Weekday School Assistant Director.....Kristina Hartzell
Church Administrator.....Amanda Morrison
Weekday School Director.....Lydia Olmsted
Custodial/Maintenance Associate.....Herb Parrott
Children’s Music DirectorChloe Salmeron
Media Coordinator.....Liza Tindall



St. John’s
BAPTIST

A SERVANT CHURCH

Sunday, September 21, 2025
10:30 AM Worship
St. John’s Baptist Church