

JESUS CHRIST IS BORN!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this;
He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this!

Joy has dawned! The angels are singing. Christ is born this holy night.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Welcome the Child, the King forever.
Hope has come tonight in Bethlehem. Go, worship the newborn King!

Born to reign in us forever, born to set his people free.
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching over silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth!

Joy has dawned, hear the angel’s song, that Jesus Christ is born!
Jesus Christ is born!

***CAROL, NO. 167** (verse 1 only - with refrain) *Go Tell it on the Mountain*
Chalice Hymnal GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNATIN

***COMMISSIONING** Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

***POSTLUDE**

JOY HAS DAWNED

presented by

ST. JOHN’S BAPTIST CHANCEL CHOIR

and members of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra

Leigh Marsh – Violin 1
David Strasberg – Violin 2
Matthew Darsey – Viola
Liz Burns – Cello
Jan Mixter – Double Bass
Amy Orsinger Whitehead – Flute
Reese Manceaux – Clarinet
Elizabeth Sullivan – Oboe
Brice Burton – Percussion
Jesse Roberts – Piano

J. Noel Lance – Conductor

Narrated by Phil and Sarah Vavra

A special thank you is extended to sound engineers Matt Comer and Ryan Crowder.

Today’s bulletin cover art is a beautiful contribution from **Jan Kerley**, whose creativity adds a special touch to our worship this morning.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

PJs & Pancakes Parents’ Night Out

Children, babies through 12 years of age, are invited to join us on Friday, December 19, 6-8:00 p.m., for PJs & Pancakes. Wear your favorite Christmas pajamas and get ready to play, bounce, and eat pancakes! The cost is only \$15 per child. Register by TOMORROW December 15.



Room In the Inn 2025-2026

Room In The Inn 2025 season we'll be hosting our unhoused neighbors for 8 nights between December - March. We need volunteers for a variety of positions. Please scan the QR code to sign up and access more details. Donations are also needed, a list of items needed can be found in the Giving Nook or in this past week’s Family News. Donations should be placed in the designated bins inside the Giving Nook.



Brotherhood of the Biscuit

Young men of all ages are welcome to join us for the **Brotherhood of the Biscuit** on Friday, December 19th at 6:30 am in the church lounge. Pablo Fernando will share some of his life’s story with us that morning and biscuits, coffee, and orange juice will be there for all who join us. Please email Lee Gray @ LGray@sjcharlotte.org if you would like to participate.

You're Invited: Common Table Christmas Reception

Our ecumenical community ministry, Common Table, is holding a Christmas reception and fundraiser on Thursday, Dec. 18. Christmas-themed interactive activities, music, and a chance to learn more about where we’ve been and where we’re going. Learn more and get tickets (\$25) at commontableclt.com/gathering

The **St. John’s Neighbor Christmas Card Box** is down in the gym foyer.
Please turn in all cards before worship on December 21st.

This Week at St. John’s

Sun., Dec. 14	8:00 am	Church Council (Conference Room)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Choir Christmas Lunch (Broach Hall)
Mon., Dec. 15	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Dec. 16	8:00 am	Finance Resource Team (Zoom)
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting/Worship Planning
	10:00 am	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
Wed., Dec. 17	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
Thurs., Dec. 18	10:00 am	Women of the Church Spiritual Growth Team (Prayer Room)
Fri., Dec. 19	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Dec. 20	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.



Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 14, 2025
10:30 AM Worship
St. John’s Baptist Church