

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.

Listening assistance devices are available for use and may be found in the basket at the front of the sanctuary on the piano side.

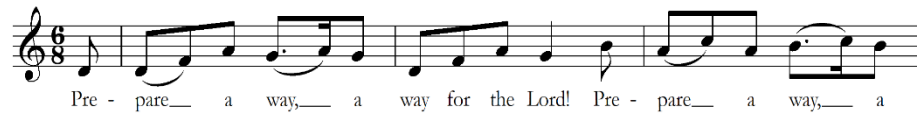
March 29, 2026

Ten-Thirty in the Morning



Entrance of the Christ Candle – Mae Redding

*The Palm Processional Chancel and Children’s Choirs; Congregation



*Hymn of Praise, No. 192

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Chalice Hymnal

ST. THEODULPH

Words of Greeting & Gathering

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Prayer of Submission

Rev. Harmon

Reading of the Gospel

Amanda Morrison

John 12:12-19

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been

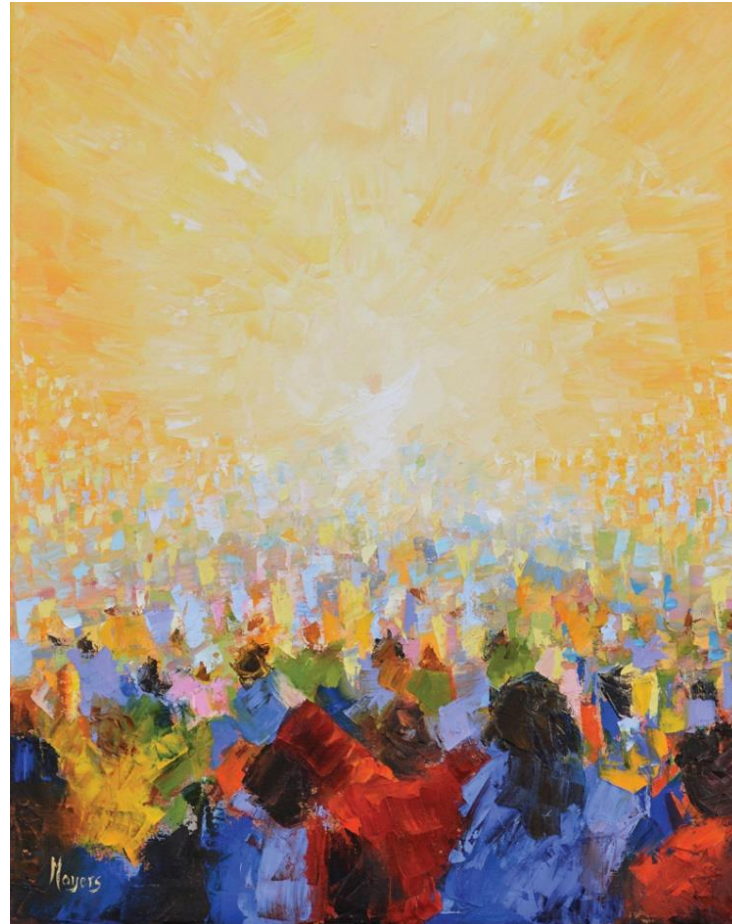
with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, “You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!”

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.

Moments with the Younger Church

Rev. Harmon



Hallelujah by Mike Moyers

*Hymn of the Season, No. 193

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

MORNING SONG

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Lee Gray

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Gray

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.

Choral Response

Chancel Choir

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

Gilbert Martin

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hear all the tribes hosannas cry;
O Savior meek, pursue your road with palms and garments stowed.
Hosanna, hosanna!

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, your triumphs now begin o’er death and conquered sin.
Hosanna, hosanna!

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die,
Bow your meek head to mortal pain then take your power and reign.
Hosanna, hosanna!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

“Keeping Your Head, When the World Wants to Put a Crown On It”

*Offertory Hymn, No. 190

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

Chalice Hymnal

STORIES OF JESUS

Offertory Prayer

Lynn Bishop

Offertory

Handbell Choir

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!

arr. Barbara B. Kinyon

During the Offertory, you are invited to give as an expression of gratitude and generosity. If you prefer, a QR code is provided as a convenient option for digital giving.



*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.

Our Life Together

Rev. Gordon

*Commissioning

Rev. Gordon

*Postlude

Jesse Roberts, organ

Prayer Concerns

Dale Johnson, Gayla Tyson, Sue Veach

Today’s bulletin cover art is a beautiful contribution from church member, Jan Kerley.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

St. John's Tenebrae Service – April 2 at 7:00 PM

You are invited to join us for a deeply meaningful combined Maundy Thursday and Tenebrae Service. Together, we will remember the night Jesus shared a final meal with his disciples and offered the commandment to love one another, drawing us into the richness of Christ's compassion, humility, and sacrificial love. Following this remembrance, we will move into the solemn practice of Tenebrae, a service of shadows that reflects on the final hours of Christ's journey to the cross. Through scripture, music, and the gradual dimming of light, we enter a space of quiet reflection as we prepare our hearts for the mystery and hope of Good Friday. All are welcome to share in this sacred evening of contemplation and worship.

Book Signing – Today!

Steve Harmon will sign copies of his new book *Encountering Pope Leo XIV: Baptist Reflections on the Beginning of a Pontificate* today during our Easter EGGstravaganza in Broach Hall following the service. Copies of the book are available for purchase for \$20 (cash, check, and card/electronic payment accepted). He will also have copies of his related book *Baptists, Catholics, and the Whole Church: Partners in the Pilgrimage to Unity* for available for purchase and signing for \$25.

Congregational Listening Session: Lay Leadership Structure - April 12

The Church Council will hold the first congregational listening session on Sunday, April 12, at 8:00 a.m. in Broach Hall. This gathering will provide an overview of the proposed lay leadership framework and offer time for questions and shared perspectives. Additional Zoom sessions will follow for those unable to attend in person. All are encouraged to participate as we discern together how our leadership structure can best support shared ministry and the life of our congregation.

Youth Mission Auction: April 19

This year's Youth Mission Auction will be held on April 19, 2026 in Broach Hall. BBQ Lunch tickets are \$20 for adults. Lunch is free for children 12 & under. Childcare will be provided.



Update from the Pastor Search Team

Since last May, the Pastor Search Team has prayerfully listened to the equivalent of nearly a year' worth of sermons and reviewed extensive materials from a strong pool of candidates. Through this process, we have seen and felt God's guidance clearly. We are thrilled to share that we have **unanimously identified** our final candidate and are currently working through the details of the call which will include a request for endorsement by our church leadership. We look forward to introducing this candidate to you on **Sunday, April 26** so please mark your calendar! There will be a presentation and Q & A during the Sunday School hour, followed by an opportunity to vote at a church conference at the end of worship that day. Thank you for your continued prayers and trust. We are excited for what God has in store for St. John's!

-Becky, Bret, Don, Dylan, Ellen, Jason, Kimberly, Leslie, Meredith, and Randy

St. John's Baptist Church
300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Worship: April 5, 2026 | **Easter Sunday**

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-3

Sermon Title: *Defense of Resurrection*

Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Mar. 29	9:15 am	Sunday Growth Groups
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	11:30 am	Easter EGGstravaganza (Broach Hall)
Mon., Mar. 30	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Mar. 31		
Wed., Apr. 1		
Thurs., Apr. 2	5:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
	5:30 pm	Personnel Resource Team (Conference Room)
	7:00 pm	Tenebrae Service (Sanctuary)
Fri., Apr. 3	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Apr. 4	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.....Rev. 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
Interim Weekday School Director.....Kristina Hartzell
Church Administrator.....Amanda Morrison
Custodial/Maintenance Associate.....Herb Parrott
Children's Music DirectorChloe Salmeron
Media Coordinator.....Liza Wade



Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church