

# 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 8, 2026

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

## Gathering Music

### Greeting and Our Life Together

Rev. Lee Gray

### \*Passing of the Peace

Congregation

### Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

J. Noel Lance

Entrance of the Christ Candle – Hailey McCombs

### Call to Worship

Rev. Gray

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: *let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

People: *let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Leader: For the Lord is a great God,

People: *and a great King above all gods.*

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth;

People: *the heights of the mountains are also his.*

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it;

People: *and the dry land, which his hands have formed.*

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,

All: *let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!*

### Invocation

Rev. Gray

### \*Hymn of Praise, No. 16

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Chalice Hymnal

NETTLETON

### Reading of the Old Testament

Jan Kerley

Exodus 17:1-7



From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Leader: This is the written word of God for the people of God.

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

### Moments with the Younger Church

Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

### \*Hymn

Come to the Waters

1. Come to the wa - ters, who - ev - er is thirst - y; drink from the  
 2. Come to the Riv - er that flows thro' the ci - ty, forth from the  
 3. Come to the Foun-tain with - out an - y mon - ey; buy what is  
 4. Come to the Well of un - mer - it - ed fa - vor; stretch out your  
 5. Come to the Sav - ior, the God of sal - va - tion. God has pro -

Foun-tain that nev - er runs dry. Je - sus, the Liv - ing One, of - fers you  
 throne of the Fa - ther and Son. Je - sus the Sav - ior says, "Come and drink  
 giv - en with - out an - y cost. Je - sus, the gra - cious One, wel - comes the  
 hand; fill your cup to the brim. Je - sus is such a com - pas - sion - ate  
 vid - ed an end to sin's strife. Why will you suf - fer the Law's con - dem -

mer - cy, life more a - bun - dant in bound - less sup - ply.  
 deep - ly." Drink from the pure, in - ex - haust - i - ble One.  
 wea - ry; Je - sus, the self - less One, died for the lost.  
 Sav - ior. Draw from the grace that flows free - ly from Him.  
 na - tion? Take the free gift of the wa - ter of life.

## The Church at Prayer

Rev. Gordon

### Current Prayer Concerns

Renee Hutchison, Dale Johnson, Gayla Tyson

### Sympathy

Please remember in prayer Leonard Balentine & Selina Swofford in the death of their sister Syble Carson. A service to honor Syble's life will take place on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at Christ Episcopal Church - 1412 Providence Rd.

The memorial service for Anne Sutton will be held on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Lady's Funeral Home in Kannapolis, NC at 1:30 pm.

### 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. 351

Fill My Cup, Lord

Chalice Hymnal

FILL MY CUP

### Offertory Prayer

Debbie Pittman

### Offertory

Chancel Choir

Come, Meet Jesus at the Well

Kurt Kaiser

Jesus, Jesus, dearest friend, You have known my every sin.

To Your well I bring my tears, my failures, sorrows, doubts, and fears.

Living water, freely poured, You have given me, oh Lord, cleansing me of all my sin.

You have made me whole again.

Jesus, dearest friend.

Boundless love and ceaseless grace I have known in Jesus' face.

Every friend I now must tell, "Come meet Jesus at the well."



*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.

### Sermon

The Woman at the Well

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

### \*Hymn No. 556

Trust and Obey

Chalice Hymnal

TRUST AND OBEY

### \*Commissioning

Rev. Harmon

### \*Postlude

J. Noel Lance

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## The Season of Lent & Easter

- Elizabeth Communities of Faith (ECOF) Lenten Services
  - o Hosted by Caldwell Presbyterian: February 25–April 1 at 12:00pm
    - St. John's to lead on March 11
- Palm Sunday Service: March 29
- Easter EGGstravaganza: March 29 – 11:30 AM
- Maundy Thursday Service: April 2 – 7:00 PM
- Easter Service: April 5

## Women of the Church Retreat – Saturday, March 14

The Spiritual Growth Committee invites all women to a one-day retreat led by Stephanie Massey. Together, we'll explore returning to altars of compassion through stillness, community, and shared growth.



**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Broach Hall

**Fee:** \$20 (includes materials, lunch, and refreshments)

**Registration Deadline:** March 9, 2026

## Thursdays on the Town



Families, join us on **Thursday, March 12, 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!

## Easter EGGstravaganza 2026!

Save the date for this year's Easter EGGstravaganza on **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> after worship**. This year we will be having a potluck lunch! More information and registration details coming soon.

## ON THE WAY

St. John's retired adults and friends will eat at Portofino - 5126 Park Rd, Unit 1C, Charlotte NC 28209 - at 11:30 am on Tuesday, March 17th. Wear green for this **St. Patrick's Day** lunch and let Lee Gray know if you plan to attend by emailing him at [LGray@sjcharlotte.org](mailto:LGray@sjcharlotte.org) so we can confirm our number to the restaurant on the Sunday before we go out to eat.

The bulletin cover features *Woman at the Well*, graciously shared by Jan Kerley. We give thanks for her beautiful and prayerful expression of this sacred story.

## 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:** March 15, 2026

**Scripture:** Exodus 13:21-22; 14:1-31

**Sermon Title:** *The Road Is Long*

**Proclaimer:** Rev. Dr. Martha Kearse

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Mar. 8	9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 4:00 pm	Sunday Growth Groups Worship (Sanctuary) Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel) End of Year Celebration for St. John's Basketball
Mon., Mar. 9	10:00 am 11:00 am	Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall) Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Mar. 10		
Wed., Mar. 11	<b>12:00 pm</b> 5:45 pm 7:15 pm	<b>ECOF Lenten Service (Caldwell Presbyterian)</b> Handbell Rehearsal (Handbell Suite) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
Thurs., Mar. 12	10:00 am	Needle Ministry (Lounge)
Fri., Mar. 13	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Mar. 14	<b>9:00 am</b> 8:00 pm	<b>Women of the Church Retreat (Broach Hall)</b> 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 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  
Office Assistant.....Stephen Davis  
Interim Weekday School Director.....Kristina Hartzell  
Church Administrator.....Amanda Morrison  
Custodial/Maintenance Associate.....Herb Parrott  
Children's Music Director .....Chloe Salmeron  
Media Coordinator.....Liza Wade



**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

**10:30 AM Worship**

**St. John's Baptist Church**