

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.

April 12, 2026 *Ten-Thirty in the Morning*

Gathering Music

Greeting and Our Life Together Rev. Lee Gray

Update from the Pastor Search Team Meredith Sorrell

Call to Service – Youth Auction Steven Follis and Todd Stillerman

*Passing of the Peace Congregation

Call to Worship Rev. Gray

Leader: Come, all who seek—those full of faith and those full of questions.

People: *We come as we are, bringing both belief and doubt.*

Leader: Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know.

People: *Like the disciples, we gather behind closed doors, hoping for peace.*

Leader: Christ comes to us in the midst of our uncertainty.

People: *Christ speaks peace into our fear and our wondering.*

Leader: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.

People: *Lord, help our unbelief, and strengthen our faith.*

Leader: In every question, in every hesitation, God is near.

People: *We come to worship the One who meets us where we are.*

All: *Let us worship God.*

*Hymn of Praise, No. 72 *To God Be the Glory*
Chalice Hymnal TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Reading of the Gospel Amanda Morrison
John 20:24-31

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you

have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

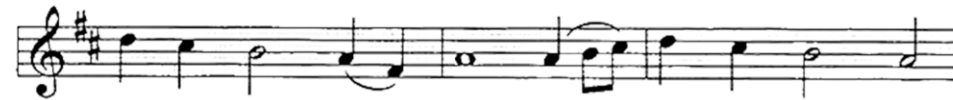
People: *Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.*

*Hymn

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
DUNLAP’S CREEK



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e’er spoke: “My peace be with you here.”
we re - jice and cry, “My Lord and God!”
you are near and seek where you are found.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

The Church at Prayer

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Current Prayer Concerns

Dale Johnson, Gayla Tyson

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 Reflection

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Chancel Choir
Jay Althouse

Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know.
If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go?
Oh, Lord, I give my soul to you; I seek your care and love.
No other blessings do I need but those from you above.
Lord, I ask you: give me faith, and help me understand.
And, Lord, when I this life I leave, just hold me in your hand.
Lord, I stretch my hands to you, no other help I know,
If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go?
Oh, Lord, I stretch my hands to you. Amen.

Sermon

Faith and Doubt

Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

*Offertory Hymn, No. 537

Chalice Hymnal

My Hope Is Built
THE SOLID ROCK

Offertory Prayer

Jeff LeVie

Offertory

Blessed Assurance

J. Noel Lance
arr. Mark Hayes

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

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Commissioning

Rev. Gordon

*Postlude

J. Noel Lance

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Youth Mission Auction: April 19



GalaBid Auction Registration.

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.

If you plan to attend in person you need to register BOTH on Realm for lunch and on GalaBid for the auction itself.



Realm Lunch Registration.

Update from the Pastor Search Team

We began not with a name, but with a calling—seeking whom God is preparing to walk with this congregation into its next chapter. Listening closely to your hopes, values, and vision, we reviewed a diverse group of candidates and continually asked where the Spirit was most clearly at work. We were drawn to a candidate whose calling, leadership, and spirit align deeply with who we are as a church. Thank you for your trust and prayers. We will present this candidate to the Diaconate on Thursday, April 23, and to the congregation during Sunday School on April 26, followed by a church conference at the end of worship to vote on the call. We are excited about where God is leading St. John's and look forward to introducing our candidate to you.

Grace and peace, Leslie Bragg (Chair, Pastor Search Team)

During the churchwide Q/A session on April 26, nursery and Sunday school classes for children will NOT be held. Children of all ages are invited to attend the Q/A session. Nursery will be provided during the worship hour. Worship care for preschool children will be available as well.

Brotherhood of the Biscuit

On Friday, April 17th, at 6:30 am in the church lounge, Don Gordon will be our speaker and will share Part Two about his work with creation care - "What Science teaches us about Creation Care." Please email Lee Gray at LGray@sjcharlotte.org if you plan to attend so we can have the appropriate amount of biscuits.

On the Way

St. John's retired adults and friends will be **On The Way** to **Lexington Barbecue** for lunch and a train ride at the **North Carolina Transportation Museum** in Spencer on **Thursday, April 30th**. Please email Lee Gray at LGray@sjcharlotte.org by Sunday, April 26th at the latest if you plan to attend. That way, we can provide transportation for everyone from to the church. The cost will be \$40 (please pay day of the trip) and will cover your lunch, the train ride and museum entrance, and transportation there and back. Meet at the church at 9 am, and we should return by 4:30 pm on April 30th.

C3 Nature Walk

SJBC will host a C3 (Christians Caring for Creation) Nature Walk on Saturday April 18 at 9:00am at James Boyce Park. We will meet at the playground for opening instructions for a 30-45-minute walk through trails at the park. At the conclusion, we will gather for a time of reflection, facilitated by our Interim Senior Minister Don Gordon. The entire experience will last about one hour, giving people time to come to church and help set up for the Youth Auction if needed. You can bring a dog on a leash if you like. We also ask you to bring your own water bottle, so we don't have to distribute more plastic bottles into our ecosystem. Invite a friend if you wish. This will be a low key, easy-going event. The purpose of this nature walk is simply to help us connect with God's creation and benefit from the all-healing powers God's world has for us.

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 19, 2026

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Sermon Title: *The Focus of Our Attention*

Proclaimer: Rev. Lee Gray

This Week at St. John's

Sun., Apr. 12	8:00 am	Congregational Listening Session (Broach Hall)
	9:15 am	Sunday Growth Groups
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
Mon., Apr. 13	9:30 am	Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall)
	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Apr. 14		
Wed., Apr. 15	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
Thurs., Apr. 16	10:00 am	Women of the Church Spiritual Growth Team (Prayer Room)
Fri., Apr. 17	6:30 am	Brotherhood of the Biscuit (Lounge)
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Apr. 18	9:00 am	C3 Nature Walk (Boyce Park)
	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



Sunday, April 12, 2026
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church