

# 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 19, 2026 *Ten-Thirty in the Morning*

## Gathering Music

Greeting and Our Life Together Rev. Kheresa Harmon

\*Passing of the Peace Congregation

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship J. Noel Lance

*Entrance of the Christ Candle* - Grace Harmon

Call to Worship Rev. Harmon

Leader: Jesus entered Jericho, and all eyes were on Him—  
some curious, some skeptical, some too distracted to truly see.

**People: We come today with many distractions,  
our attention divided, our hearts pulled in many directions.**

Leader: Zacchaeus climbed above the crowd to catch a glimpse—  
yet it was Jesus who truly saw him.

**People: Open our eyes, Lord, that we may see You clearly.  
Lift our gaze above the noise and busyness of life.**

Leader: Too often, like the rhythms of life we know so well,  
we are consumed with what seems urgent—  
work, success, the passing moments—  
while the deeper call of love and presence slips by.

**People: Refocus our hearts, O God.  
Turn our attention to what truly matters.**

Leader: For when Christ calls our name,  
He invites us not just to look—but to follow,  
not just to notice—but to be transformed.

**People: Be Thou our vision, O Lord of our hearts.  
Let nothing else capture our attention more than You.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who sees us,  
calls us, and restores us.

**People: We will fix our eyes on Christ,  
and receive Him with joy.**

**All: Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn of Praise, No. 4 Holy, Holy, Holy  
Chalice Hymnal NICEA

Reading of the Gospel James Laney  
Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

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. Harmon

Musical Moment Doug Burns, guitar  
*Cat's In the Cradle* Harry and Sandra Chapin

Sermon *The Focus of Our Attention* Rev. Lee Gray

\*Hymn of Response, No. 586 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*  
Chalice Hymnal OPEN MY EYES

The Church at Prayer Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

## 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.

Offertory Hymn *Be Thou My Vision*  
Chloe and Aidan Salmeron, vocals  
Doug Burns, guitar  
(Congregation, please join on verse 3)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy, presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord  
Thou my redeemer, my love thou has won,  
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

**Great God of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Offertory Prayer Jason Benton

Offertory Steven Follis, saxophone  
*Be Thou My Vision* arr. Brant Adams

**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.

\*Commissioning Rev. Gray

\*Postlude J. Noel Lance

# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Update from the Pastor Search Team

On Sunday, April 26, we are excited to present our candidate for Senior Minister at 9:15 a.m. in Broach Hall. Children of all ages are welcome to attend. Please note that childcare will not be provided that morning so that our volunteers may participate in this special time. The search team will offer a 30-minute presentation, followed by 30 minutes for questions and discussion. Afterward, we will move to the sanctuary for worship. In keeping with SJBC tradition, we will hold a church conference that morning. At the request of our ministers, this will take place at the conclusion of the worship service to avoid disrupting the livestream.

### How will this work?

Following the service, we will have a brief intermission to allow guests to depart, families to pick up their children, and childcare volunteers to join us in the sanctuary. We will then reconvene for the vote. All members present are eligible to vote, which will be conducted by a show of hands. We are grateful to be part of this sacred moment in the life of St. John's and look forward to seeing you on April 26!

## 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](mailto: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.

## Sundaes on Sunday April 26

Children and families, let's make sundaes on Sunday! Join us in **Broach Hall** following worship on **Sunday, April 26** for an ice cream sundae bar. After a sweet treat, we will make door decor for 32 families living at the Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte. *Please bring a lunch from home to enjoy with your family.* Beverages and the ice cream sundae bar will be provided.



## ZOOM Congregational Listening Session: Lay Leadership

Over the past several weeks, church leaders have been listening and reflecting together on what kind of leadership structure will best support St. John's life and ministry in the years ahead. This work grows out of our shared commitment to **discernment, good stewardship, and the Baptist conviction that leadership is a shared calling of the whole congregation.**

More detailed information about the proposed structure, including written responses to common questions, will be shared with the congregation in next week's Family News. Those materials will describe where we are in the process and what opportunities remain for conversation before a congregational vote later this spring.

As part of that process, everyone is invited to a Zoom information and conversation session on Monday night, April 20 at 6:00pm. This session is especially intended for those who were unable to attend the April 12 congregational gathering and will focus on why this structure is being proposed, what it is designed to address, and what it does—and does not—decide. Details for joining the Zoom were shared in this past week's Family News or can be received by contacting the church office.

We are grateful for the congregation's care, patience, and engagement as we continue this discernment together. - Church Council

**St. John's Baptist Church**  
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Charlotte, North Carolina 28204  
704.333.5428 | [www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org](http://www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org)

## The St. John's Pulpit

**Worship:** April 26, 2026

**Scripture:** Luke 2:41-52

**Sermon Title:** *The Jesus Revolution*

**Proclaimer:** Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

### This Week at St. John's

Sun., Apr. 19	9:15 am	Sunday Growth Groups
	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	10:30 am	Together in Christ International Ministries (Chapel)
	<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Youth Mission Auction (Broach Hall)</b>
Mon., Apr. 20	9:30 am	Adventures in Learning (Broach Hall)
	11:00 am	Faith Journey Book Study (Lounge)
Tues., Apr. 21		
Wed., Apr. 22	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Suite)
Thurs., Apr. 23	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Special ALL Deacons' Meeting (Broach Hall)</b>
Fri., Apr. 24	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Apr. 25	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

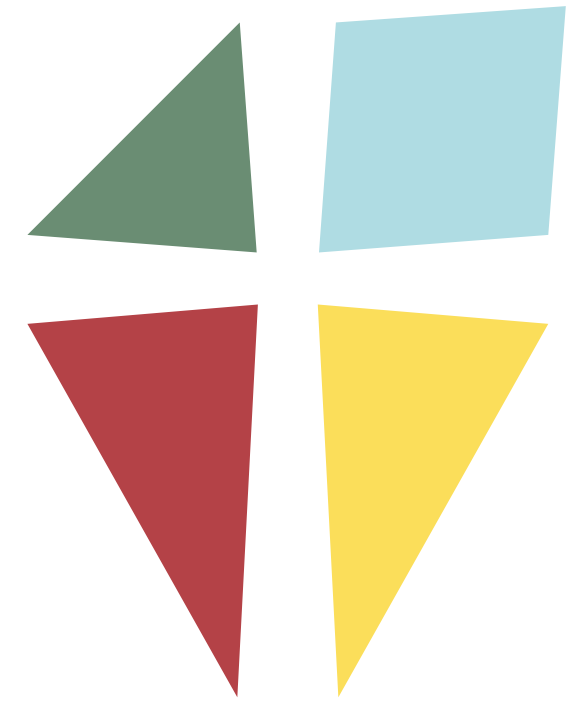
*Every participant in God's Servant Church*

## Equipping Ministers

Interim Senior Minister.....Rev. Dr. Don Gordon  
Minister for Congregational 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  
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



**St. John's**  
BAPTIST

A SERVANT CHURCH

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**10:30 AM Worship**

**St. John's Baptist Church**