

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.

July 19, 2026

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

Gathering Music

Greeting and Our Life Together

Call to Service

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

How Like a Gentle Spirit

Entrance of the Christ Candle - Aaron Carney

Call to Worship

Amanda Morrison

Amanda Morrison

Chancel Choir

SURSUM CORDA

Rev. Dr. Don Gordon and Congregation

Leader: Come, people of God. Come carrying your joys and your questions, your hopes and your burdens. Come just as you are.

People: We come because God welcomes us with grace and steadfast love.

Leader: Today we celebrate new life, we bless those called to serve, and we gather seeking the peace that only God can give.

People: We trust the One who holds every life with compassion and every future with hope.

Leader: Our hope is not found in certainty, but in the faithful presence of God, who walks with us every step of the journey.

People: We place our lives, our loved ones, and our future into God's loving hands.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise, No. 69

Chalice Hymnal

Family Dedication

Rev. Gordon

How Like a Gentle Spirit

SURSUM CORDA

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Kera and Mike Hemstreet

present

Rory Lennon Hemstreet

The Dedication Covenant

Rev. Harmon

MINISTER: Do you, Kera and Mike, covenant together to raise Rory in an environment of Christian love, harmony, and peace?

PARENTS: We do.

MINISTER: Do you covenant together to grant Rory the benefits of communal fellowship by nurturing Rory within the church, the corporate body of Christ?

PARENTS: We do.

MINISTER: Do you, congregation, covenant together as the larger family of God to create an atmosphere of support and guidance whereby Rory can come to know and serve the Lord Jesus Christ?

CHURCH: We do.

MINISTER: Do you pledge to make your witness of such quality as to instruct Rory in Christian discipleship?

CHURCH: We do.

MINISTER: Then, recognizing the covenant accepted this day by Kera and Mike, and by the congregation, I offer Rory this certificate acknowledging his formal introduction into this family of God.

Presentation of Rory	Rev. Gordon
Prayer of Dedication for Rory	Rev. Gordon
Song of Blessing	Congregation
Rory, Rory God claims you; God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Rory, Rory God claims you; God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.	
The Church at Prayer	Rev. Lee 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.	
Scripture Reading	Caleb Carney
Matthew 6:25-34	
“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.	
“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”	
Leader: Through these written words of scripture, we listen for the Living Word of God.	
People: Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.	

Offertory Hymn, No. 86	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	
Chalice Hymnal	FAITHFULNESS	
Offertory Prayer	Kelli McCombs	
Offertory	Anne Hager, soloist	
<i>I Will Wait for You</i>	Matthew Merker, Keith Getty	
	Jordan Kauflin and Stuart Townend	
Out of the depths, I cry to You. In darkest places, I will call.		
Incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.		
You to count my sinful ways, how could I come before Your throne?		
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze. I stand redeemed by grace alone!		
I will wait for You, I will wait for You. On Your Word I will rely.		
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, 'til my soul is satisfied.		
So put Your hope in God alone; take courage in His pow'r to save.		
Completely and forever won by Christ emerging from the grave.		
I will wait for You, I will wait for You. On Your Word I will rely.		
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, 'til my soul is satisfied.		
Now He has come to make a way. And God Himself has paid the price		
That all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice.		
I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the storm and through the night.		
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, for Your love is my delight!		
I will wait for You, I will wait for You. On your Word I will rely.		
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, 'till my soul is satisfied.		
<i>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.</i>		
		
*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	<i>Anxiety: The Emotion of Our Age</i>	Rev. Gordon
*Hymn, No. 475 (vs. 1, 3, and 5)	<i>The Church of Christ in Every Age</i>	WAREHAM
Chalice Hymnal		
*Commissioning	Rev. Gordon	
*Postlude	J. Noel Lance	

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ON THE WAY

St. John's retired adults and friends will be on the way to Captain Steve's Family Seafood Restaurant (5645 NC-49, Harrisburg, NC) for lunch on **Thursday July 23rd at 11:30 am**. Please email Lee Gray at LGray@sjcharlotte.org by Monday, July 20th if you plan to attend. This allows us to verify our numbers with the restaurant and organize carpools.

Charlotte Pride: August 15-16.

St. John's will participate in the Interfaith Service at Trinity Lutheran Church (1900 The Plaza) on Sunday, August 9th at 4 PM. Charlotte Pride 2026 is Saturday and Sunday, August 15 & 16, at First Ward Park and surrounding streets in Uptown Charlotte. St. John's you are challenged to show Charlotte that "God Loves Everyone!" **On Sunday, August 16th, join us to shout, "GOD LOVES EVERYONE!" along the Charlotte Pride parade route on N. Tryon Street, Uptown.** All walkers will get a brand-new St. John's Pride T-shirt. When registering to walk please make sure you include your T-shirt size.

Back to School Breakfast August 23

Children & their families are invited to the annual Back to School Breakfast in the Library Commons from 9:30 am - 10:15 am on Sunday August 23rd.

Annual Cookout for Children and Their Families

Let's celebrate the beginning of a new church year and welcome our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Laura Heikes! Join us for a cookout on Saturday, August 29, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at the home of Anna and Blinn Cushman. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided. Let's bring the rest! Sign up by August 23.

Fall 2026 Save the Dates:

- **Rev. Dr. Laura Heikes First Sunday: September 6**
- Toddler Time at Noah's Art: September 12
- **Women of the Church Luncheon: September 20**
- Rise Against Hunger: September 27
- **Fall Festival, Trunk-or-Treat, and Craft & Bake Sale: October 25**
- NAMI Walks: November 7
- **Thursdays on the Town at Urban District Market: November 12**
- CROP Walk: November 15 (tentative)
- **Friendsgiving: November 15**
- Senior Christmas Gathering: December 3
- **Children's Nativity Play with Churchwide Lunch: December 13**
- Cookies and Cocoa Parents' Night Out: December 18
- **Christmas Caroling for Children and Their Families: December 20**

St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, North Carolina 28204
704.333.5428 | www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

The St. John's Pulpit

Worship: July 26, 2026
Scripture: Jonah 3:1-10
Sermon Title: *Failure: When We Blow It*
Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Don Gordon

This Week at St. John's

Sun., July 19	8:30 am	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., July 20		
Tues., July 21	10:00 am	Sandwich Ministry (Lounge)
	6:00 pm	ZOOM Listening Session
Wed., July 22		
Thurs., July 23	7:00 pm	ZOOM Listening Session
Fri., July 24	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., July 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 CareRev. Lee Gray
Minister for Children and Their Families.....Rev. Kheresa Harmon
Minister for Worship and Music.....J. Noel Lance

Church Staff

Office Assistant/Media Coordinator.....Megan Beach
Stratus Custodians.....Pray & Thomas Chanwal
Weekday School Director.....Kristina Hartzell
Church Administrator.....Amanda Morrison
Custodial/Maintenance Associate.....Herb Parrott
Children's Music DirectorChloe Salmeron



Sunday, July 19, 2026
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church