

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 26, 2026

Ten-Thirty in the Morning

Gathering Music

Greeting and Our Life Together

Passing of the Peace

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Praise to the Lord!

Entrance of the Christ Candle – Hailey McCombs

Call to Worship

Leader: There is no life beyond the reach of God's grace, no heart beyond God's compassion, and no story beyond God's redemption.

People: We come to the One who meets us with mercy and offers us a new beginning.

Leader: When we stumble, God lifts us. When we wander, God calls us home. When we fail, God does not abandon us.

People: God is faithful, forgiving, and always at work making us new.

Leader: Come with humble hearts and hopeful spirits, for God's mercy is fresh every morning.

People: We will worship the Lord with gratitude, trusting in God's unfailing love.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

Hymn of Praise, No. 16

Chalice Hymnal

Rev. Kheresa Harmon

Congregation

Steven Follis, saxophone

arr. Brant Adams

Rev. Harmon and Congregation

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Reading of the Scripture	Kimberly Follis
Jonah 3:1-10	

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree

of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.” When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

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.



Moments with the Younger Church	Rev. Harmon
*Hymn, No. 544	No, Not One!
Chalice Hymnal	HARPER MEMORIAL
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.

*Offertory Hymn

Beginning Again
GORDON

O God, when we wan - der and lose our own way,
When fear steals our cour - age and our hope grows dim,
Your grace writes to - mor - row though yest - er - day's gone;
So lead us, O God of be - gin - ning a - gain.

You seek us with mer - cy and show us the way;
Your prom - ise stands firm though our faith may grow thin;
You streng - then our hearts to faith - fully keep on.
With hearts that are hum - ble and spir - its set free;

Though of - ten we've fail - ed You, Your lo - ve still re - mains,
You meet us with kind - ness more pat - ient than pain,
No life is be - yond Your com - pas - sion - ate reign,
we'll trust in Your mer - cy through joy and pain.

For You are the God of be - gin - ing a - gain.

Offertory Prayer	Kevin Benton
Offertory	Steven Follis, saxophone
Where He Leads Me/He Leadeth Me	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.		
Sermon	<i>Failure: When We Blow It</i>	Rev. Dr. Don Gordon
*Hymn, No. 518	<i>This Is a Day of New Beginnings</i>	
Chalice Hymnal		BEGINNINGS
*Commissioning		Rev. Gordon
Church Conference		Phillips Bragg
*Postlude		J. Noel Lance

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

St. John's @ Charlotte Pride 2026!

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 26	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 27		
Tues., July 28	6:30 pm	NAMI Support Groups
Wed., July 29		
Thurs., July 30		
Fri., July 31		Last Day of Summer School for Weekday School
	8:00 pm	Eastway AA (Lasater Hall)
Sat., Aug. 1	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

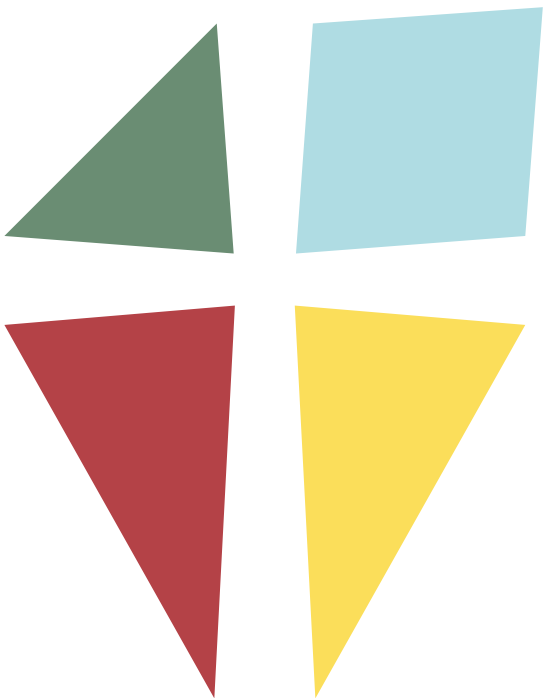
Every participant in God's Servant Church

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



St. John's

BAPTIST

A SERVANT CHURCH

Sunday, July 26, 2026
10:30 AM Worship
St. John's Baptist Church