

# St. John's Baptist Church

February 14, 2010

Transfiguration Sunday

**S**uddenly they saw him the way he was,  
the way he really was all the time,  
although they had never seen it before,  
the glory which blinds the everyday eye  
and so becomes invisible.

This is how he was, radiant, brilliant, carrying joy  
like a flaming sun in his hands.

This is the way he was – is –  
from the beginning, and we cannot bear it.  
So he manned himself, came manifest to us;  
and there on the mountain they saw him,  
really saw him, saw his light.

We all know that if we really see him we die.

But isn't that what is required of us?

Then, perhaps, we will see each other, too.

— Madeleine L'Engle  
*The Irrational Season*

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise  
*Maureen Howell, organ*

Emma Lou Diemer

## WORDS OF GREETING

Layne Smith

### AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

*We encourage all worshipers to complete the Friendship Register located at the end of each pew.*

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me:

People: **Let us go into the house of the Lord!**

## PRAISING THE GOD WHO GIVES US LIFE

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 66

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*ST. DENIO*

## RESPONSIVE READING

Lee Gray

Leader: We come again to the mountaintop and witness the splendor of the Almighty. Let us leave behind the confusion of this world and gaze into visions of holiness.

People: **We long to be transformed into God's presence. We dream of ways to "be still and know."**

Leader: Our doubts and fears have obscured the possibilities of the Eternal too long. The glimmer of God's imagination has yet to be fulfilled.

People: **May the experiences we share this day reveal to us truths beyond what eyes have seen or ears have heard.**

Leader: Let us contemplate the mystery of whose we are and search deeply for God's purposes and desires for us.

People: **Through the power of the Omnipotent One we open our lives to transforming love.**



# GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

A MOMENT FOR CHILDREN

Martha Kearse

## READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

### **2 Corinthians 3:17-4:2**

**N**ow the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

## READING FROM THE GOSPEL

### **Luke 9:28-36**

Lia Benton

**N**ow about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

\*HYMN

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

BEECHER

**Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, heaven's voice, the dazzling light;  
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!  
Peter, James, and John fall silent, turning from the summit's rise  
Downward toward the shadowed valley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.**

**Glimpsed and gone the revelation, they shall gain and keep its truth,  
Not by building on the mountain any shrine or sacred booth,  
But by following the Savior through the valley to the cross  
And by testing faith's resilience through betrayal, pain, and loss.**

**Lord, transfigure our perception with the purest light that shines,  
And recast our life's intentions to the shape of your designs,  
Till we seek no other glory than what lies past Calvary's hill  
And our living and our dying and our rising by your will.**

— Thomas H. Troeger, 1985

SERMON

**“Don't Just Do Something. Stand There!”**

Layne Smith

## **RESPONDING TO THE GOD'S CALL**

### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP 586

Open My Eyes, That I May See

SCOTT

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: Open our eyes to the possibilities before us, God. Transform our gifts into hope for justice, our time into signs of service . . .

People: . . . **our talents into acts of ministry, and ourselves into expressions of faithfulness. Amen.**

## ANTHEM

Praise Christ, Alleluia!

Eugene Butler

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Christ! For by his mercy we have been born anew to a living hope, through Jesus Christ! Believe in him and rejoice with exalted joy! Therefore, gird up your minds, be sober, set your hope upon the grace that is coming to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. But as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct. (1 Peter:1)*

## \*PRESENTATION

*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him, above, ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. O praise Him, O praise Him.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE AND ANTICIPATION

## STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

## PRAYER AND PASTORAL BLESSING

## POSTLUDE

Toccata

Eugene Butler

\* \* \*

## \*Congregation Standing

Thanks to **Angela Carnes** and **Mary Rickenbacker**, choir moms for the Young Musicians.

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# Announcements

## Youth News

The Youth Parent's meeting is scheduled for 5:00 pm tonight. Youth are on their regular Sunday night schedule with recreation at 5:00 pm in the gym, Youth Choir at 5:30, dinner at 6:15 and programming at 6:30.

## Women of the Church

**Women on Mission Group I** will meet at 10:30 am on Tuesday, February 16, at Ruth Jackson's. Barbara Ledford will be sharing information on the planned opening of Moore Place Homeless Shelter.

**Women on Mission Group II** will meet at 11:00 am, Tuesday, February 16, in the church lounge with Monette Gossett discussing the Haiti situation.

**Uptown Ladies' Meeting** - Thursday, February 18, 11:00 am, in the church lounge.

**Prayer Retreat**, Sunday, February 21, 11:45 am - 3:00 pm, in Broach Hall - "Interior Renovation: Designing Your Prayer Life" with guest speaker Rev. Kathy Naish, Pastor of Spiritual Formation at Viewmont Baptist Church in Hickory. Today is the last day to make your lunch reservation (\$3) for the Retreat! Please sign up with a note on an "I Wish" card.

## Ash Wednesday, February 17

### **Family Night:**

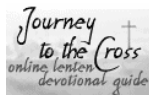
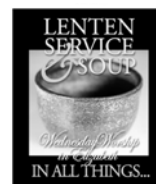
5:30 - Children's Choirs

5:45 - Dinner

6:45 - Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

Family Night menu for this week: Pancake Supper! Reminder: Please make your Family Night dinner reservation (or cancellation) by 2:00 pm on Mondays.

**Lenten Service & Soup** - 12:00 noon at Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1609 East 5th Street. Speaker: Rev. John Cleghorn; lunch provided by Nothing But Noodles (\$5 - proceeds to Friendship Trays and Community Culinary School of Charlotte.)



The devotional series at [d365.org](http://d365.org) becomes *Journey to the Cross* through the season of Lent and begins on Wednesday. Spread the word to your friends and family about this great, free devotional series.

## February Food Collection for Loaves and Fishes

A barrel has been provided in the gym foyer for these items being collected for Loaves and Fishes: 100% juice, canned fruit, peanut butter, soups, canned meat, pork and beans. Sponsored by your Hunger Committee.

## Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC

General Assembly - March 19-20 - First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC. For registration information: [www.cbfn.org](http://www.cbfn.org) or call Peggy in the church office.

# St. John's Baptist Church

300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28204

704/333-5428 (office); 704/333-2041 (fax)

www.stjohnsbaptistchurch.org

## This Week's Events

### Sunday, February 14

9:00 ..... Holy Grounds  
9:15 ..... Sunday School  
10:30 ..... Worship  
12:00 ..... Interim Steering Committee  
5:00 ..... Youth Activities  
5:00 ..... Youth Parents' Meeting

### Monday, February 15

12:00 ..... Book Study Group  
6:00 ..... Interim Steering Committee  
6:00 ..... Joy Class Meeting

### Tuesday, February 16

10:30 ..... Women on Mission Group II @  
..... Ruth Jackson's  
11:00 ..... Women on Mission Group I

### Wednesday, February 17

11:00 ..... Women's Bible Study  
5:30 ..... Children's Choirs  
5:45 ..... Family Night Dinner  
6:45 ..... Ash Wednesday Service

### Thursday, February 18

11:00 ..... Uptown Ladies' Meeting  
7:30 ..... Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, February 19

9:30 ..... Craft Class  
6:00 ..... Room in the Inn

## Recent Illnesses

Sardis Oaks: Bob Benton

At home:

Margaret Almond

Henry Bostic

Elsie Benton (at Kevin & Lia's)

## The St. John's Pulpit - February 21

Proclaimer: Layne Smith

"What on Earth Are You Doing?"

Luke 4:1-13

## Becoming a Member

Towards the end of the worship service this morning, we will sing a *Hymn of Discipleship*. During the singing of this hymn, we invite those who wish to join SJBC to come to the front and speak to the Pastor. We receive members in the following three ways:

- Profession of faith in Jesus Christ (followed by baptism at a later time)
  - Transfer of membership from another church
  - Statement of previous church membership
- We take church membership seriously at SJBC.

When you join St. John's, you enter into a covenant with the other members. Copies of the church covenant (which includes expectations of members) are available through the church office. We believe that every member has gifts for ministry in Christ's Church making it important to find the right church family through which to use those gifts. If you have questions, one of the ministers is available to visit with you regarding membership during the week. Call the church office (704-333-5428) or fill out an *I Wish* card found in the backs of the pews and place it in the offering plate.

## Church Staff

*Intentional Interim Pastor* ..... Layne Smith  
*Minister of Youth and Young Singles* ..... Lee Gray  
*Minister of Music* ..... Warren Howell  
*Minister of Children and Family Life* ..... Martha Kearse  
*Organist* ..... Maureen Howell  
*Business Manager* ..... Carolyn Richards  
*Support Staff* ..... Peggy Harrison, Charlene Fry  
*Building Superintendent* ..... Steve Taylor  
*Custodial Staff* ..... Floarea Secere, Willie Nash