

St. John's Baptist Church

March 7, 2010

Third Sunday in Lent

Terrible things happen, and you are not always to blame.
But don't let that stop you from doing what you are doing.
That torn place your fear has opened up inside of you is a holy place.
Look around while you are there.
Pay attention to what you feel.
It may hurt you to stay there and it may hurt you to see,
but it is not the kind of hurt that leads to death.
It is the kind that leads to life.

— *Barbara Brown Taylor*

COME, WORSHIP THE LORD

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Andante in A (from Sonata No. 3)
Maureen Howell, organ

Felix Mendelssohn

Elijah Rock
Campbell University Choir

Trad. Spiritual,
Moses Hogan, arr.

WORDS OF GREETING

Warren Howell

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!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lift Thine Eyes
Campbell University Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE 622

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

OPEN YOUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

PSALM 63:1-3

Martha Kearse

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND DISCIPLES' 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.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 63:4-5, 7-8

Leader: I will bless you, O God, as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

People: **My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.**

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!



HEAR GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE

Isaiah 55:1-9

David Allen

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

*HYMN

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
(SEE BULLETIN P. 7)

RESTORATION

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Lee Gray

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

SERMON

“Why? or What Now?”

Layne Smith

RESPOND TO GOD’S FAITHFULNESS

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP 86

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

ANTHEM

Set Me as a Seal
Campbell University Choir

Eleanor Daley

*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! Amen.**

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYER AND PASTORAL BLESSING

*AFTER THE BLESSING, PLEASE REMAIN SEATED
FOR THE CHOIR'S BENEDICTION*

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal
Campbell University Choir

Trad. Hymn
arranged by Alice Parker

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune in F

Alice Jordan

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**Congregation Standing*

The flowers this morning are presented to the glory of God and in memory of Bill Kimball by Fredda, Jimmy, and Sam Kimball.

We welcome the **Campbell University Choir** to St. John's today as a part of their winter/spring 2010 tour. As the principal vocal ensemble of the university, they possess a rich heritage spanning more than 55 years, having performed for audiences in North Carolina, Maryland, New York, Connecticut, the Midwest and England, Wales and Italy. Phillip Morrow is the Director of Choral Activities at Campbell and is conductor of the University Choir.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 14!

Remember to set your clocks *forward* this Saturday night!

Calling All Baptist Men

Baptist Men's Day is next Sunday, March 14, and will again feature a men's chorus. All men are encouraged to join in - the one rehearsal will be at 8:15 am that morning with coffee and breakfast foods to follow!

Also, mark your calendar for Saturday, April 17, for the Baptist Men's Hands-On Workday at Hope Chapel - more information coming soon!

Easter Outfits for A Child's Place

A rack has been provided in the gym foyer for new or gently used outfits and new socks and underwear for boys and girls ages 5-10. (Drive will end March 22.)

COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY

1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, Weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
2. Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;
3. Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y - la - den, Lost and ru - ined by the fall;
4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, Nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream;

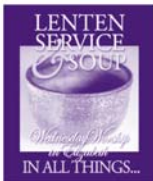
Je - sus read - y stands to save you, Full of pit - y, love, and pow'r.
True be - lief and true re - pen - tance, Ev - 'ry grace that brings you nigh.
If you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, You will nev - er come at all.
All the fit - ness He re - quir - eth Is to feel your need of Him.

I will a - rise and go to Je - sus, He will em - brace me in His arms;

In the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

WORDS: Joseph Hart, 1712-1768; Refrain, Anonymous
MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835

RESTORATION
8.7.8.7. with Refrain



Elizabeth Communities of Faith Lenten Series

Wednesdays, 12:00 noon, at Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church,
1609 East 5th Street. March 10 speaker: Darryl Jefferson, Chaplain, Presby.
Healthcare Services; March 17 speaker: Layne Smith

(Lunch provided by area restaurants - \$5 - with proceeds going to Friendship
Trays and Community Culinary School of Charlotte.)

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, March 7

9:00	Holy Grounds
9:15	Sunday School
10:30	Worship
5:00	Encouragers' Class Party
5:00	Youth Activities
5:00	Book Study Group

Monday, March 8

12:00	Book Study Group
7:00	Interim Steering Committee

Tuesday, March 9

Wednesday, March 10

11:00	Women's Bible Study
5:30	Children's Choirs
5:45	Family Night Dinner
6:45	Bible Study with Layne Smith
.....	House & Grounds Committee
.....	Amor Proximi Committee
.....	Administrative Deacons' Meeting
.....	Yoga Class, Writing Class, Canasta Class
.....	Guitar Class, Nothing but Needles Class
.....	Children's Mission Activities

Thursday, March 11

7:30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
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Friday, March 12

9:30	Craft Class
4:00	Children leave on Choir Retreat
6:00	Room in the Inn

Recent Illnesses

At home:

Ethel Harris

Lourine Brinkley (Wilora Lake Rehab)

Katherine Barr

The St. John's Pulpit - March 14

Proclaimer: Layne Smith

"Which Wasteful One Are You?"

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

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

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