

ST. JOHN'S AT WORSHIP

July 4, 2010

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

TEN in the Morning

*T*oday's service is a celebration of God's creative and redeeming love. From the moment of our rising until this hour, we are recipients of God's grace. Lest we forget, we are invited to be mindful of the many blessings of our lives, that we might value, cherish and share them with others who are less fortunate than we are. On this INDEPENDENCE DAY, we acknowledge our dependence upon God and upon each other. We invite you to share in the bounty of God's provision in a meal together, and send from our midst a team to be the presence of Christ to others. Come, let us worship!

PRELUDE

God of the Ages

Emma Lou Diemer

WORDS OF GREETING

Lee Gray

AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

All worshippers are encouraged 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: "OUR GRATEFUL SONGS..."

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 29:2; Habakkuk 2:20

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. He is our God. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE 725

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN

PSALM 16 (Verses 5-11)

Martha Kearse


- 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- 6 **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**
- 7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 8 **I keep the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Reflection: *Each numbered section sung twice* — Leader first, then People:

①  I keep the Lord al - ways be - fore me; I

 bless the Lord: Al - le - lu - ia!

②  Be - cause he is at my right _____ hand, I

 shall not be moved. _____

③  I keep the Lord al - ways be - fore me; I

 bless the Lord: Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYING: “THY KINGDOM COME...”

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

Leader: We can rejoice, knowing that the God who goes before us, also walks beside us. Give thanks, your sins are forgiven.

People: **I will rejoice and bless the Lord. Alleluia!**

ANTHEM

Rejoice, O Land
Chancel Choir

Healey Willan

Rejoice, O land, in God thy might; His will obey, Him serve aright; For thee the saints uplift their voice: Fear not, O land: in God rejoice. Glad shalt thou be, with blessing crowned; with joy and peace thou shalt abound; yea, love with thee shall make her home until thou see God’s kingdom come. He shall forgive thy sins untold; remember thou His love of old; walk in His way, His word adore, and keep His truth forevermore.

(Robert Bridges, 1899)

HEARING: “THEY WERE AMAZED...”

EPISTLE READING

Linda Finger

1 Peter 2:16-17

As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

EPISTLE READING

Matthew 22:15-22



Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?”

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor's.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

*HYMN 61

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

SERMON

“The Politics of Jesus ”

Layne Smith

RESPONDING: “PRESENT OUSELVES AS OFFERING...”

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP 464

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

*COMMISSIONING OF 2010 MISSION TEAM

Stephen Allred

Leader: The church has long consecrated believers for the task of sharing the love and grace of God through word and deed in places near and far. Are you willing to be set aside for the purpose of sharing the Gospel in word and deed?

Team: We present ourselves as living sacrifices to God.

Leader: The church has long utilized a variety of means to communicate the power of Life. Are you willing to commit your gifts and talents to the service of God?

Team: We present ourselves as instruments of love, hope, joy, and peace.

Leader: Congregations have long supported endeavors of outreach to build the Kingdom of God. Do you pledge your prayers to these who are willing to be sent?

Congregation: We do.

Leader: Do you pledge your love and resources?

Congregation: We do.

Leader: Having heard the encouragement of your church family, do you accept the role of missionaries and servants through St. John's Baptist Church?

Team: We are ambassadors for Christ.

Leader: Then we send you with our blessing to John's Island, South Carolina in fulfillment of Christ's Great Commission.

All: Our Lord, we are a servant church, and we seek to be obedient to Your command. Beginning in our own city, we take Your Gospel to the ends of the earth, knowing that You are with us always. Bless us and the offering of our resources that we might bless others. Amen.

OFFERTORY SOLO

My House (from *PETER PAN*)
Elizabeth Johnson, soprano

Leonard Bernstein

(Wendy, to Peter:) Build my house of wood, build my house of stone, build my house of brick and mortar; Make the ceiling strong, strong against the storm, shelter when the days grow shorter; but build my house of love, and paint my house with trusting, and warm it with the warmth of your heart; Make the floor of faith, make the walls of truth, put a roof of peace above; Only build my house of love.

*PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

DEPARTING: “MAY CHRIST SAVE YOU . . .”

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYER AND PASTORAL BLESSING

POSTLUDE FOR JULY 4TH, 2010

The Washington Post March

John Philip Sousa
1854-1932

Mission Trip Participants:

Youth: Jack Allen, Addy Allred, Will Godsey, Amy Hammond, Grace Hammond, Patton Hearn, Clara Howell, Mattie Kearse, Clara Kremer, Mary Lewis, Thomas Low, Austin Lucas, Jake Raynor, John Scott, Jamie Sherrill, Elizabeth Solitario, Nathan Southwell, Parker Thompson, Forest Wirz. (Nick Belvin, Jack Taylor and Connor Kearse helped on the in-town preparation but are not going on the trip.)

College students: Neal Allen, Drew Hammond, Stewart Kremer, Hamlin Wade.

Adults: Bill Claytor, Ryan Crowder, Brooks Fuller, Judy Godsey, Lee Gray, Bert Green, Chuck Jones, Kevin Lynch, Mans McLeod, Ken Raynor, Laura Sorrell, M.C. Sorrell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note:

The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, for the Independence Day holiday. Also, there will be no *Family News* published this week.

Habitat Mission Trip

High School youth and adults leave for John's Island, SC after lunch today. They will return on Saturday, July 10, about 3:00 pm.

Men's Softball Schedule

Friday, July 9 - 6:00 pm; Monday, July 12 - 6:00 pm. All games are at Providence Baptist Church.

Youth News

On Sunday, July 11, at 11:30 am, there will be a brief parents' meeting, in the Chapel to discuss Passport Camp travel details and to notarize release forms.

It's Farmer's Market Time!

Our St. John's "Farmers' Market" is scheduled for **Sunday, July 18**. Please bring your backyard produce, home-baked goodies, pickles and other canned goods, and plants to Lasater Hall that morning. The sale will be at 11:45 am after morning worship. Proceeds will go to local hunger projects - last year we collected \$600!

Deacon Nomination Process Begins

The Deacon Nominating Committee will begin meeting July 19 to form a slate of Deacons to be presented by early September, with a congregational vote scheduled for September 19.

Please take this opportunity to prayerfully consider names you would nominate and send them to James Laney at jamesmlaney@yahoo.com or leave a message at 704.643.4448. If possible, please contact your nominees to get their agreement and recommend which Deacon panel they would serve (Ministry, Pastoral or Administrative). Please submit your nominations prior to July 19 to ensure that they are included in the committee's deliberations.



An Evening of Entertainment and Inspiration—August 22, 7p.m.

The Chancel Choir is now preparing for this production of nostalgic favorites representative of our great land. Plan to join us for the program and stay for the ice cream social!

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, July 4

10:00 Worship
11:00 Lunch (Broach Hall)
12:00 Youth leave on Habitat Mission Trip
..... to John's Island, SC

Monday, July 5

Church office closed for Independence Day.

5:30 Interim Steering Team Meeting

Tuesday, July 6

9:00 Animal Adventures Camp
..... Hoopsters Camp
6:30 Women on Mission II

Wednesday, July 7

9:00 Animal Adventures Camp
..... Hoopsters Camp
6:30 Mission Resource Team

Thursday, July 8

9:00 Animal Adventures Camp
..... Hoopsters Camp
7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, July 9

9:00 Animal Adventures Camp
..... Hoopsters Camp
9:30 Craft Class

Saturday, July 10

..... Youth return from Habitat Trip

Recent Illnesses

Presbyterian: Lou Fuller

Sardis Oaks Rehab: Bertha Taylor

The St. John's Pulpit - July 11

Proclaimer: Layne Smith

"It Doesn't Have To Be This Way!"

Amos 5:21-24; Matthew 15:6-10

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

Copies of the church covenant are available through the church office. If you have questions, one of the ministers is available during the week to visit with you regarding membership. 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 Kears
Organist Maureen Howell
Business Manager Carolyn Richards
Support Staff Peggy Harrison, Charlene Fry
Building Superintendent Steve Taylor
Custodial Staff Floarea Secere, Willie Nash
Weekday School Director Lydia Olmsted