

# ST. JOHN'S WORSHIP

Sunday, January 17, 2021

St. John's Baptist Church | Charlotte, NC

Epiphany

## Welcome to Worship

Then Jesus said to the Jews who were following him, "If you continue to live by my teachings, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

-Gospel of John 8:31-32

## Greeting & Prayer of Submission

Rev. Allison Benfield

## Hymn

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory,  
On Thy people pour Thy power;  
Crown Thine ancient church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom,  
Grant us courage,  
For the facing of this hour.  
For the facing of this hour.

Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the search for Thy salvation  
Be our glory ever more.  
Grant us wisdom,  
Grant us courage,  
Serving Thee whom we adore  
Serving Thee whom we adore

## Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

2 Samuel 11:26-12:7-9a

Paula Foust, reader

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought

(continued)

it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight?

*This is the written word of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God.*

### **Song of Response**

*Give Us Vision to See Clearly When We're Wrong*  
NETTLETON

O Great God, give us the vision to see clearly when we're wrong.  
Let us not blame those around us, give us courage, make us strong.  
Remind us of your mercy, fill our hearts with love and care.  
Teach us how to mend our wrong ways, make amends when we have erred.

### **The Church at Prayer & the Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Nate Dove

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Video

"Say Grace" from InLighten Resource

## Song

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

by Paul Langston

Chancel Choir

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people, pour thy power; crown the ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us, scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to love and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

.for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be armored with all Christlike graces, pledged to set all captives free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor thee, that we fail not them nor thee!

## Message

*Courage in an Age of Anxiety*

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

## Hymn

*Community of Christ*

LEONI

Community of Christ,  
who makes the Cross your own,  
live out your creed and risk your life  
for God alone: the God who wears your face,  
to whom all worlds belong,  
whose children are of every race  
and every song.

When menace melts away,  
so shall God's will be done,  
the climate of the world be peace  
and Christ its Sun;  
our currency be love  
and kindness our law,  
our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

## Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

## Postlude

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

by John Hustad

J. Noel Lance