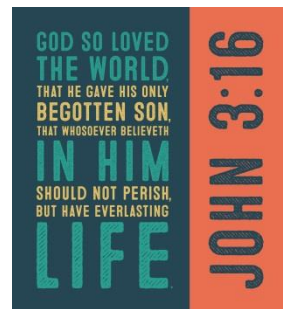




March 5, 2023 9:15AM

It's still winter ... but spring is near. It's Lent ... but we're pointed toward Easter.
Keep us hopeful, Lord.



Welcome

Song – *I Believe in Jesus*

I believe in Jesus, I believe He is the Son of God.
I believe He died and rose again, I believe He paid for us all.
And I believe He's here now, standing in our midst,
here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

I believe in You, Lord, I believe You are the Son of God.
I believe You died and rose again, I believe You paid for us all.
And I believe You're here now, standing in our midst,
here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.
And I believe You're here now standing in our midst,
here with the power to heal now and the grace to forgive.

Marc Nelson. © 1987 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (admin. Music Services). CCLI# 1374588

Sharing Peace

Children's Message

Prayer Time & Lord's Prayer

(To share your joys and concerns, please email them to prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org, where they will then be shared with our Prayer Chain.)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song – *Holy Spirit Rain Down*

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind can know what God has in store,
So open up Heaven, open it wide, over Your church and over our lives.

Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; O Comforter and Friend, how we need Your touch again;
Holy Spirit, rain down, rain down; let Your power fall, let Your voice be heard,
come and change our hearts as we stand on Your Word; Holy Spirit, rain down.

Rain down, rain down. Rain down, rain down. Rain.

Russell Fragar. © 1997 Russell Fragar/Hillsongs Publishing (adm. In the US & Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music). CCLI# 1374588

Gospel Reading – John 3: 1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to

him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Message – Go with God

Pastor Dan Baer

Holy Communion

Song – *That's Why We Praise Him*

He came to live, live a perfect life; He came to be the Living Word, our light.
He came to die so we'd be reconciled; He came to rise to show his pow'r and might.
That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing; that's why we offer Him our ev'rything.
That's why we bow down and worship this King,
'cause He gave His ev'rything, 'cause He gave His ev'rything.

He came to live, live again in us; He came to be our conquering King and friend.
He came to heal and show the lost ones His love; He came to go prepare a place for us.
That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing; that's why we offer Him our ev'rything.
That's why we bow down and worship this King,
'cause He gave His ev'rything, 'cause He gave His ev'rything.

Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.

That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing; that's why we offer Him our ev'rything.
That's why we bow down and worship this King, 'cause He gave His ev'rything,
'cause He gave His ev'rything, 'cause He gave His ev'rything.

Tommy Walker © 1999 Doulos Publishing/We Mobile Music. CCLI# 1374588

Benediction

Sharing Offerings

Out to Discipleship, and Into the World to Serve

Today's Greeters: William & Dawn Robertson
Today's Sound/PowerPoint Operator: Keith Walkowiak

Next Week's Greeters: Keith & Temple Walkowiak
Next Week's Sound Operator: Matoka Snuggs
Next Week's PowerPoint Operator: Tucker Thorpe

*We have a nursery available for infants through age 4. An usher will be glad to direct you.
We always welcome children of all ages to join us in worship, and Worship Activity Bags are available at the entrance
if your child would like one.*

What to know this week...

Calendar this week:

TODAY, 3/5 *Common Thread contemporary worship, 9:15AM in Carson Hall
Discipleship Hour, 10:15AM throughout campus
Sanctuary traditional worship, 11AM in the Sanctuary
St. James Youth, 4PM in Montague Hall
N.A., 7PM in Saints Hall*

Mon, 3/6 *GS Troop 4331, 6:30PM in Montague Hall
UMM Dinner & Meeting, 7PM in Carson Hall*

Tues, 3/7 *Library Committee, 9AM in the Library
Staff Meeting, 10AM in the Office
GS Troop 4491, 6:30PM in Montague Hall*

Wed, 3/8 *Choir Rehearsal, 6PM in the Sanctuary*

Thurs, 3/9 *New Hope Strummers, 6:15PM in Music Room
Common Thread Band Rehearsal, 7PM in Carson Hall*

Fri, 3/10 **Bowling Night, 6PM at Buffaloe Lanes, 5900 Oak Forest Dr., Raleigh*

Sat, 3/11 **Produce Assembly, 9AM in Carson Hall
GS Troop 1042, 10AM in Montague Hall*

Special Offering TODAY: *Our first special offering for 2023 is TODAY. This special offering will go to assisting relief efforts in the Ukraine. Please indicate "Ukraine Relief" on your offering envelope or on the memo line of your check on March 5.*

Bowling Night Signup Deadline is TODAY! *The Social Committee is pleased to bring back Bowling Night! We will gather at Buffaloe Lanes (5900 Oak Forest Dr., Raleigh 27616) on Friday, March 10 from 6:00-8:00 PM, which should allow us to bowl two games. The cost is \$15 per person and includes shoe rental. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SJBowlingNight> or call Keith Walkowiak to register. Please contact Keith today if you'd like to attend; he needs to register and pay for lanes in advance.*

Bible study reminder: *Remember that we are NOT meeting on Monday since Pastor Dan will be in an all-day meeting. We will begin our study of John on Monday, March 13 at 10:30. Thank you!*

Produce packing this Saturday: *We invite you to join us this Saturday at 9AM in Carson Hall for "fellowship with a purpose" and help us pack produce boxes for our community! The work is easy, quick, and fun. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/Produce-Packing>; dates through April are available! Call Helen McGee (919-880-7881) with any questions.*