

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

April 8, 2018 at 11 A.M.

*Welcome to All*

*All are invited to to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.*

✝ Please stand as you are able. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

## GATHERING

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ CALL *to* WORSHIP Bill Perry

Today is a New Day!

**We come with the past behind us, and the future open.**

**We come to celebrate the new life Christ brings.**

Christ is with us!

**Christ is with us indeed!**

✝ HYMN OF PRAISE UMH 393

*Spirit of the Living God*

✝ PRAYER OF INVOCATION UMH 839

**Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life.**

**Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, by the renewing of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✝ GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

## LISTENING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Pastor Lane

*Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.*

*Ushers will pass out folders during the Children's Moment. Please register your attendance. If you have any joys or concerns please fill out a prayer card found in the left pocket of the folder and place it in the offering plate.*

✝ SCRIPTURE

*Colossians 1:3-14*

<sup>3</sup> In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup> for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup> because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup> that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup> This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup> and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

*Based on Psalm 19:14*

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, thou who are my strength and my redeemer. Amen.**

SERMON

“Engage Through Your Prayers”

Pastor Julia

## RESPONDING

✝ HYMN *of* FAITH

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

UMH 496

PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

Pastor Lane

THE LORD'S 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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* GIFTS *to* GOD

✝ DOXOLOGY

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

UMH 95

## DEPARTING TO SERVE

INVITATION *to* CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*We joyfully welcome all those whose wish to become members of St. John's and invite you to come forward during the singing of the closing hymn.*

✝ HYMN *of* DISCIPLESHIP

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

UMH 526

✝ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✝ POSTLUDE

## Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. However, if you or your child would prefer, nursery care is available in the Administration Building next door; an usher can escort you. Children's bulletins and sermon sacks are available from an usher.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

### NEW SERMON SERIES

#### "Engage: Walking the Discipleship Pathway"

What does it look like to fully Engage in our faith, church, and community? Over the next several weeks, we will immerse ourselves in the five commitments that followers of Jesus make when they join the church. These are steps of faith our Confirmation Class is learning this spring, and are meaningful practices for each of us as Christians. When we Engage our faith through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, we are walking the pathway of discipleship. Today we will Engage through our prayers. Next Sunday we will Engage through our presence; our scripture reading will be Acts 2:42-47.

### 2018 SILENT AUCTION FOR MISSIONS

The Silent Auction will be on **Sunday, April 22** and will be open from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and again from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Bidding will end at 6 p.m. SHARP.) All money collected will help support mission projects of the church.

The Sojourner Sunday School class is organizing the auction, however, it takes the support of the whole church to make this a successful event. If every St. John's family would donate something to the auction, this project would be an outstanding event. Please think about what you might be able to donate. Some suggested items are specialty food items, dinners for 6-8, services you can provide, new items, and plants. In order to have everything categorized and set up in time for the auction, we must have your donations by **Monday April 16**. They may be brought to church on Sunday or to the church office during regular office hours.

### CRAWFISH BOIL

There will be a crawfish boil held on the afternoon of **Sunday, April 22**, during the Silent Auction. Ticket information will be forthcoming.

### UNITY IN COMMUNITY

Come enjoy worship and fellowship with the children and families of the Charlie Thomas Head Start Center, **Saturday, April 21** at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Unity in the Community, is a wonderful opportunity to connect with these families we support so enthusiastically during the Christmas season with the Holiday Super Store and throughout the year with educational programs and assistance offered by Opening Doors volunteers. The worship service will be lively and touching, with abundant music and joy. This is what St. John's is all about!! We hope you can come.

After the program, the ladies of UMW invite everyone to come to the FLC and join our friends in the community for a simple sandwich lunch. **HELP IS NEEDED in making the sandwiches - if you can help, please come to the FLC at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 21. If you are able we would appreciate donations of brownies, cookies, or fruit. Please contact Joyce Perry (763-6613) if you can help.**

### COOKIES FOR KAIROS

Kairos is an uplifting, spiritual retreat taken into prisons. Shay Chauvin will be participating in the next Kairos for women April 27-29. As with all Kairos weekends, home-baked cookies are very popular and Shay will need to bring 35 dozen! **Cookies are due back at church on Sunday, April 15.** Please store/freeze your cookies at home until then as we do not have space here.

### BAKE SALE FOR THE WESLEY AT LSU

Kathy King is coordinating a bake sale to be held during the Wesley Foundation's annual Alumni and Friends Crawfish Boil on **Saturday, April 21**. If you would like to support the Wesley Foundation at LSU by donating a home baked cake, pie, brownies, or cookies, please contact Kathy at 281-0314 or brcking10@gmail.com. She is willing to pick up any donation on either Thursday, April 19 or Friday, April 20.

### UMW MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

The Mary Martha Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 10** at 7 p.m. in the parlor. Joyce Perry will present our program. All women are invited to attend.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

### Sunday, April 8

8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*  
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class-Youth, *Parlor*  
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class-Adults, *Library*  
5:00 p.m. Youth, *FLC*  
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

### Monday, April 9

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
11:00 a.m. Good Grief, St. John's!, *Parlor*  
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *Parlor*  
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Tuesday, April 10

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*  
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
4:45 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*  
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*  
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, *FLC-A*  
7:00 p.m. Mary Martha UMW Circle, *Parlor*

### Wednesday, April 11

5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*  
5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*  
6:30 a.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

### Thursday, April 12

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, *Library*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

### Friday, April 13

OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*  
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*

### Saturday, April 14

8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, *Essen Piccadilly*  
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Joyce Perry, Mary Jo Brook, Tommie Reinhardt, Will Halliburton*  
Host: *Richard and Marilyn Damberg*

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
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 Remember to pray for **The Walk**.  
"...for we walk by faith, not by sight." - 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NRSV)  
#sjthewalk

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@stjohnsbr



**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*

# Engage



Walking the  
**Discipleship**  
Pathway

**APRIL 8, 2018**

*11 a.m. Worship Service*

*We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.*