

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

APRIL 8, 2018 at 8:30 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

✠ SONGS of PRAISE

*Spirit of the Living God*

UMH 393

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**  
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
(REPEAT)

*I Love You, Lord*

FWS 2068

**I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice**  
**to worship you, O my soul rejoice.**  
**Take joy, my King, in what you hear,**  
**may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.**  
(REPEAT)

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

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!**

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

FWS 2193

**Lord, listen to your children praying,**  
**Lord, send your Spirit in this place;**  
**Lord, listen to your children praying,**  
**send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

## 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*

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

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Lane

**God of mercy,**  
**we come celebrating our unity,**  
**but we confess the many ways**  
**that we are divided.**  
**Our nationality, ethnic origin, economic status,**  
**gender, age, and musical preferences**  
**all too often obscure the common calling**  
**we share in Christ’s name.**  
**We have failed to lift one another in prayer,**  
**and to ask that your Holy spirit fill our lives.**  
**May our common identity as your children**  
**and our communal witness to Christ**  
**bind us together in your name.**  
**Forgive our tendency toward separation and division,**  
**and remind us that we are your Easter people.**

*(a time for silent prayers and confession)*

WORDS of ASSURANCE *and* PARDON

Hear the good news:

in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
God has showered mercy and love upon the entire world.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
**Glory to God! Amen.**

✠ SHARING *the* LOVE *and* PEACE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* GIFTS to GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY

UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God,**  
**all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**  
**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**  
**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 15

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion,*  
*remembering God’s acts of salvation.*

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we  
praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**  
**Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The congregation is seated and the institution of the Lord’s Supper is recalled.*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we  
offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**  
**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:*

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**  
**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

UMH 895

SHARING *the* BREAD *and* CUP

- ♦ *All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.*
- ♦ *Communion will be served using the ancient means of “intinction.” When broken bread is placed in your hand you may dip it lightly into the cup and thereby receive both elements at the same time.*
- ♦ *Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it; when you come up to the altar, let the server know you would like the gluten-free elements.*
- ♦ *You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.*

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Risen Savior,

here at this table your promise of life is made tangible.

**We have rested in the depth of your love; we have tasted**  
**your nourishing, nurturing presence; we accept you**  
**into our bodies and into our lives. Together, at this**  
**table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace,**  
**we accept the life you offer. And we give you thanks.**  
**Amen.**

## 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

UMH 526

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

*After the service, all are invited to stay*  
*for refreshments in the Family Life Center.*

## 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: *David and Tina Henson, Mike and Sally Allen*  
Host: *Kathy King*

#### 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

8:30 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.*