

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

APRIL 21, 2019 at 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Welcome to All

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

† Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response. UMH indicates United Methodist Hymnal

WE GATHER to WORSHIP

BELL TOLL

The tolling of the bell invites you into a time of centering and stillness.

PRELUDE

Celebration! *Alleluia Ringers*

GREETING

Ushers will pass out folders during the Greeting. 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.

FLOWER PROCESSIONAL

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halleluja! Halleluja!

Many of the flowers for our Easter Cross are from the Celebration of Life service for Cade Carter, long-time St. John's Church member.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastors

Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.

† CALL to WORSHIP

Christ is Risen!
Christ is risen, indeed!
May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.
Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

† SONG of PRAISE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today UMH 302. vs. 1-4

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

† SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-12

Latrice Mallard

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Easter Song

Chancel Choir, Alleluia Ringers

MESSAGE

“Butterfly Frame of Mind”

Pastor Lane

WE RESPOND to GOD'S LOVE

† HYMN

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Deirdré

In the beauty of this space, in this sacred moment, in the fellowship we have with one another, we speak with God about our lives, about how we have followed and how we have faltered.

Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us make our confession:

We have failed.

And God loves us.

We have forgotten.

And God loves us.

We have hurt others.

And God loves us.

We have gloated.

And God loves us.

We have hoarded.

And God loves us.

We have turned away.

And God loves us.

Yes, God loves us.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Lord's Prayer

Carrie Poynot

WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

by Bishop Desmond Tutu

Dear Child of God,
in our world it is often hard to remember that God loves you just as you are. God loves you not because you are good. God loves you, period. God loves us not because we are loveable. No, we are loveable precisely because God loves us.

Thanks be to God for this great love.

Alleluia. Amen.

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

He Is Alive!

Praise Band

† DOXOLOGY

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!

UMH 94

† WELCOME to the TABLE

Wherever you are on the journey of life, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table.

We come as New Creations in Christ.

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 15

Our sung communion responses are from The Faith We Sing hymnal, page 2257a, b, and c.

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.

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)

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.*
- ♦ *Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it at the station in front of the pulpit.*
- ♦ *You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.*

During Communion we will sing together:

I Come With Joy, UMH 617
Let Us Break Bread Together, UMH 618
One Bread, One Body, UMH 620
Alleluia, Alleluia, UMH 162

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Risen Savior,

Thank you for this holy mystery of faith,
shared through broken bread and
your cup of new beginnings.

Together, at this table, you have offered us life.

Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer.

May we live as those who believe that
“In our end is our beginning.” Amen.

WE TAKE OUR WORSHIP INTO the WORLD

INVITATION to CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

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

† HYMN of DISCIPLESHIP

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

UMH 304

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed!

Go forth in the name of the risen Christ,
rejoicing in the new life open before us this Easter Day.

And may the blessing of God –
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all life –

be with us now and always.
Alleluia! Amen.

† POSTLUDE

After the 8:30 service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for refreshments.

Those who placed lilies in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of someone, may take them home following the 11:00 service.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make today's service so special.

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.

YOUTH HIKING TRIP & SENIOR RECOGNITION

The youth will be hiking Clark Creek (in the Tunica Hills) **Monday April 22**. They will meet at the church at 9 a.m. Please plan to pick up your youth at 2 p.m. **YOUTH:** bring a couple of bottles of water, some snacks (i.e., trail mix, bananas, etc.), and a towel. The temperature is going to be in the 80's so wear clothes that are breathable and you don't mind getting wet and dirty! **Youth Sunday** is coming up on May 5 where the youth lead our worship services. We will also recognize our graduating seniors that day.

Our youth group (6th through 12th grade) meets Sundays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

MONDAY CLOSURES

The church office will be closed Monday and will reopen at 9 a.m. Tuesday for our regular hours. The Shepherd's Market will be closed Monday and will be open Tuesday at 8 a.m. for regular pantry hours.

RESURRECTION STORIES & SONGS

On **Sunday, April 28**, we will share in a Service of Resurrection Stories and Songs at both 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. It will be in the style of "Lessons and Carols," which are popular around Advent and Christmas. We will read together the varied post-Easter resurrection stories of Jesus visiting his disciples and sing some of the most beloved Easter hymns of our faith. These stories in scripture will continue to inspire, as will the joyful music and the other aspects of our worship. (We will not share in Holy Communion this day, but it will be celebrated at both services Sunday, May 5, which is also Youth Sunday and Senior Recognition.)

GIFT CARDS FOR WILDWOOD TEACHERS

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10 and we are collecting gift cards to be given to the teachers at Wildwood Elementary. If you have a gift card, in any amount or from any merchant, that you haven't used or if you would be willing to purchase one (any amount) that you could donate, please bring it by the church office by Sunday May 5. The goal is for every teacher to receive a gift card.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - POWER UP!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School. This year VBS will take place **Monday - Friday, June 24-28**. Kids will get powered up and raise their game for life with Jesus. Connecting with all ages through a culturally relevant video game theme, kids learn that God loves them, wants a relationship with them, and gives them power to live for Jesus!

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET

Did you know that St. John's hosts The Shepherd's Market client-choice food pantry three days a week? And did you know it is managed entirely by volunteers? We are one of only two client-choice food pantries in the greater Baton Rouge area. We are able to serve everyone because of the food donations we receive from members of St. John's, other church groups, and elementary, middle, and high schools? The pantry is open on Mondays from 3 - 6 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 - 11 a.m. Stop by anytime and we will show you around. If you decide to volunteer- you will be glad you did and you get to wear a bright yellow apron!

HOLY WEEK THANKS!

Many thanks to all of our volunteers and our youth for helping to make our 2019 Easter Eggstravaganza such a success. The pancake breakfast was delicious, the crafts were a lot of fun, the Easter skit was inspiring, the Easter egg hunt was a big hit, and the Easter bunny was so friendly to children and adults alike.

We also want to thank everyone who helped make our Holy Week worship experiences so special and meaningful.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, April 21
8:00 a.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, April 22
OFFICE CLOSED
THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED
9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, Parlor
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, April 23
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, Library

Wednesday, April 24
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary

Thursday, April 25
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
10:00 a.m. Companions in Christ, Library
6:00 p.m. Church Council, Library
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

Friday, April 26
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library

Saturday, April 27
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

CHURCH STAFF

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

8:30 Ushers: David and Tina Henson, Phil and Jill Slicker
11:00 Ushers: Mary Jo Brook, Tommie Reinhardt, Kathleen Adams, Liz McDonald
8:30 and 11:00 Host: Kathy King

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



Easter Sunday

April 21, 2019

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.