

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

February 18, 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

INTROIT

✠ CALL *to* WORSHIP Jeff Beck

Come all who are lost and in pain. God calls to you.

**Lord, lift us from our fears and sorrows;
bring us close to you.**

Come all who have lost hope, who feel that there is nothing worth living for.

**Lord, clear away our blindness that we may see
the light of your love.**

Come, do not despair. God is calling your name.

**We want to be ready for this journey. Help us, Lord.
Make us ready to trust you. Amen.**

✠ HYMN of PRAISE UMH 405

Seek Ye First

✠ PRAYER OF INVOCATION Pastor Julia

The season of Lent is here again and, as with so many times before, we find that we are not really ready for this journey of discipleship. So many things claim our lives and prevent us from being ready to take the steps in faith. As we look at our barrier of readiness, help us to remember that Christ is with us, every step of the way. We are not alone. Christ will help lift our hearts and spirits and direct our paths. Enable us, loving Savior, to take this journey of faith to new life with you. 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 Marilyn Damberg

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 blue prayer card found in the left pocket of the folder and place it in the offering plate.

ANTHEM Chancel Choir

Come to Calv'ry's Holy Mountain

✠ SCRIPTURE Jeff Beck

Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰and just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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 Pastor Lane

"Wilderness"

RESPONDING

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

✠ HYMN of FAITH UMH 269

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

✠ PRAYERS of the PEOPLE Pastor Julia

We are in the wilderness.

As much as we have tried to map, domesticate, and routinize every inch of our planet and every moment of our lives, we know our maps do not tell us where we are with you, O God, and our schedules often serve to distract us from the reality that we ourselves and so many of our neighbors on this planet are in the wilderness, too. And so we pray:

Here, in this wilderness, prepare your way, O God.

With all persons kept in poverty or slavery,
all who are in fear from abusers, terrorists, and oppressors,
all who face addiction of any kind, and all who are targeted for unjust treatment because of who they are;

Here, in this wilderness, prepare your way, O God.

With leaders in religious, political, economic, and social life;
with our families, friends, and neighbors; and with all who work to sustain and protect our lives as military, civilian workers, and first responders;

Here, in this wilderness, prepare your way, O God.

With all who need your healing power, and with all who offer healing through their skill and presence; with all who have harmed us, and all whom we have harmed by our action or inaction;

Here, in this wilderness, prepare your way, O God.

Receive the prayers of your people, most merciful God.
In your compassion, forgive our sins, and free us for lives of joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Silence for personal prayers and confession)

In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen!

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

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* GIFTS to GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY UMH 95

**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.**

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 398, vs. 1, 3, 5

Jesus Calls Us

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by George Schneider in memory of the life of Bryan King.

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.

WORSHIP SERIES - "REHAB"

Do you ever feel stuck? Are you longing for a "do over"? Do you need a "new normal"? When we're really honest, all of us do... Join us during the season of Lent in a journey of restoration from death to new life! Next **Sunday, February 25**, our theme will be "Intervention" and our scripture reading will be Mark 8:31-38.

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

We will gather every Wednesday morning during Lent at 7 a.m. for a 30-minute morning service with Communion in the sanctuary.

On Wednesday evenings, we will hold "Heavenly Hash and Rehash" at which time we will rehash our Rehab Lent theme from Sunday. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. During dinner, around 6 p.m., we will read scripture, have table discussion, and share in Communion. All ages are welcome, and a nursery is available.

WELCOME NEW YOUTH COORDINATOR

Stop and say hello to our new Youth Coordinator, Jeff Beck; he will be at both worship services today. Jeff is a graduate of LSU in Art Education and holds teacher certifications (K-12) in Louisiana and Tennessee. He has extensive youth experience and a calling to youth ministry. Be sure to look for his bio and family picture in the Friday Newsletter.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Saturday, February 24, from 9 a.m. to noon, will be workshop #2. We need sewers and non-sewers to help. Days for Girls needs the following donations: (1) cash to purchase fabric, (2) new girls cotton panties (briefs only) sizes 10, 12, or 14 in dark to medium colors, solids or flowers, no character or animal prints (3) new colored washcloths, (4) Ziploc brand Gallon sized Freezer bags, (NO slide closures) (5) "hotel" soap. You can bring them to the office during the week or to the FLC on Saturday.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN TODAY

Confirmation classes start **THIS AFTERNOON** at 3:30 p.m. for orientation. Anyone can participate in Confirmation and can confirm more than once in a lifetime. Sessions will continue on Sundays at 4 p.m. Confirmation Sunday will be May 20. If you have a child in 6th grade or higher and are interested in them participating, please contact Deirdre Halliburton at deirdrehalliburton@stjohnsbr.org.

GRACE & ADDICTION: BREAK EVERY CHAIN

TODAY, First United Methodist Church, in cooperation with Dr. Terry Ellis and Chrysalis Interventions, is hosting "Grace & Addiction: Break Every Chain." For a detailed schedule go to the FUMC website: <https://firstmethodist.org>. This event is free and open to the public.

YOUTH GUMBO SALE

If you have a ticket, don't forget to pick up your chicken and andouille gumbo after either worship service. This hasn't been verified, but there might be some extra for sale, \$15 a quart. This gumbo sale is to help our senior high youth going on their summer Appalachia Service Project (ASP) mission trip.

MISSION TO ST. MARKS' IN NEW ORLEANS

St. John's UMC will travel to the New Orleans French Quarter to carry out its mission of "feeding people" and to participate with St. Mark's UMC in its ministry to the homeless and hungry, April 6 - April 8. We are asking volunteers to register by mid-March.. For more information please email Rev. Larry Norman at lduckn@aol.com. This mission is open to all ages.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, February 18

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Orientation, *Library*
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, *FLC-E*
5:00 p.m. Youth Group - Welcome, Jeff, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, February 19

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, February 20

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
5:00 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Choir Room*
6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*

Wednesday, February 21

7:00 a.m. Wednesday Lenten Service
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
5:30 p.m. Heavenly Hash and Rehash, *FLC*
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*

Thursday, February 22

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
5:00 p.m. Opening Doors, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, February 23

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

Saturday, February 24

9:00 a.m. Days for Girls #2, *FLC*
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Fred and Kathleen Adams, Scott Durham, Liz McDonald*

Host: *Mary Martha Allen*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

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St. John's United Methodist Church

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



Check in on Facebook:
facebook.com/stjohnsbr

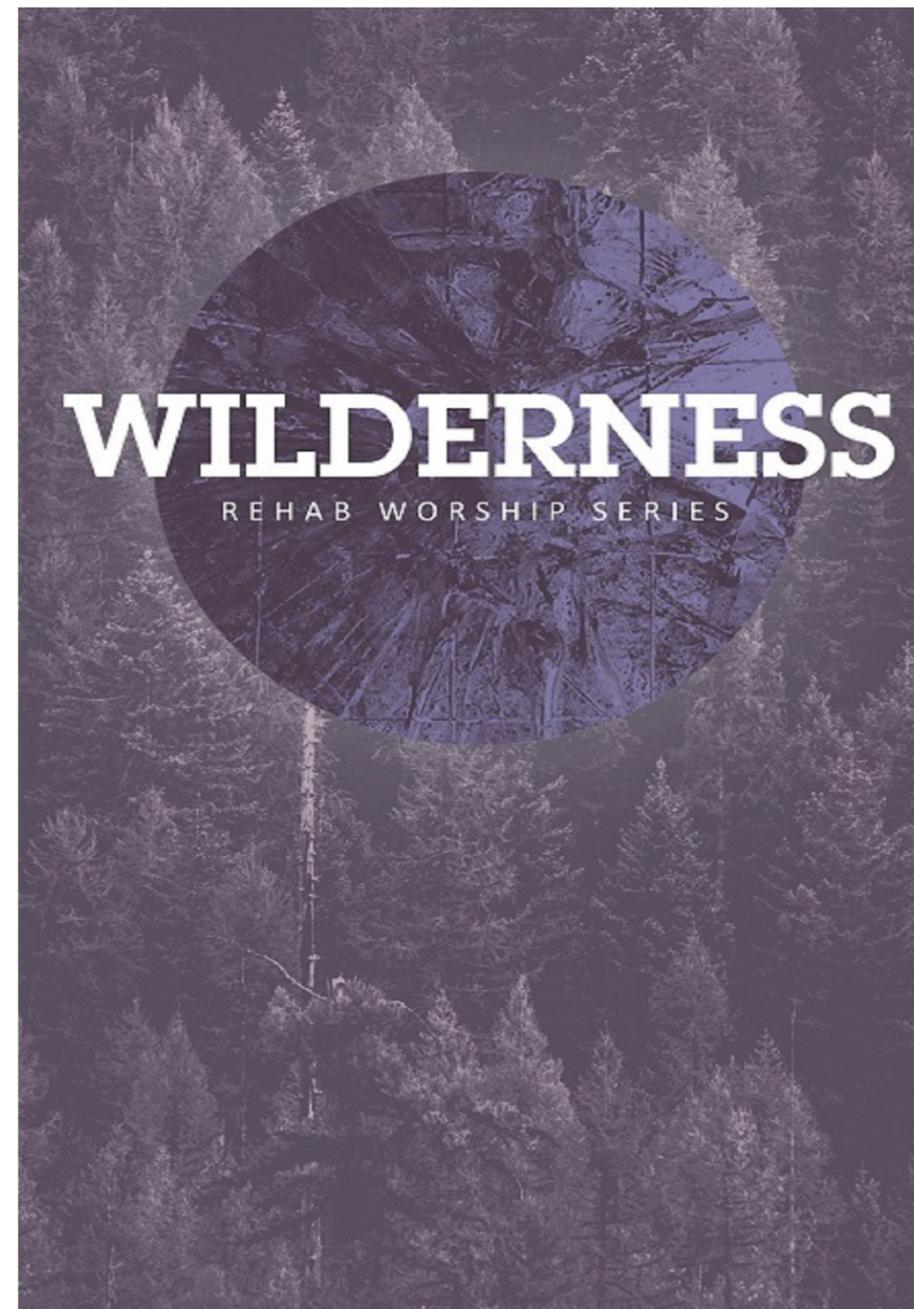


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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



FEBRUARY 18, 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.