

GALATIANS - THE GOSPEL OF FREEDOM
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017
8:30 A.M.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Again, I say Rejoice!* Alleluia Ringers

MINISTRY MOMENT: STEWARDSHIP John and Pam Toney

CALL TO WORSHIP Barbara Benton

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The Word became flesh and lived among us.

And we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father’s only son,

Full of grace and truth.

Come let us worship together!

SONGS OF PRAISE

Change My Heart, O God FWS 2152

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me,
 this is what I pray. Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful FWS 2195

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,
 lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Into My Heart FWS 2160

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus;
 come in today, come in to stay; come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

Out of my heart, out of my heart, shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus;
 shine out today, shine out alway; shine out of my heart, Lord Jesus.

OPENING PRAYER Barbara Benton

Holy God, we remember your gifts of grace and mercy.

You share with us your life and your love in Jesus, your Son.

And so we cry, Mercy:

MERCY!

And so we cry, Glory:

GLORY!

And so we cry, Peace:

PEACE!

Holy God, we beg for your Holy Spirit:

Enliven our congregation,

Awaken this body,

Pour us out for each other,

Ignite your church,

Nourish the life of the earth.

Make us united though diverse,

Make us whole though broken.

Make us forgiving while forgiven.

Come Holy Spirit!

Come Holy Spirit and lead us to walk in your ways,
 now and forever.

Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Deirdré Halliburton

SCRIPTURE *Galatians 6:1-10*

SERMON *Gaining Our Bearings* Pastor Jay

PRAYER, CONFESSION, AND PARDON

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you
 with our whole heart.**

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved

our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(silent confession)

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
 this proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are
 forgiven.

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

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY *It Is Well With My Soul* Alleluia Ringers
 Joel Willson, violin

DOXOLOGY UMH 94

HOLY COMMUNION

Call to the Table:

Let us stand well. Let us stand in awe. Let us be attentive, that we may
 offer this holy offering in peace.

Mercy and peace, our sacrifice of praise.

The Great Thanksgiving UMH 15
 Communion Responses FWS 2257

The Lord’s Prayer UMH 865

*Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Receiving:

**Jesus, once and for all you poured out your life for us. Again and
 again we thank you and receive your body and blood. Send us out
 to pour ourselves out with such joyous abandon that your love is
 always known, the Spirit’s power always felt and the Almighty’s
 will to save never in doubt. Amen.**

HYMN *Together We Serve* FWS 2175, v. 1-4

Together we serve, united by love, inviting God’s world to the glorious
 feast. We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
 extending your love to the last and the least.

We seek to become, a beacon of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light
 for the feet. We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor, the busy, the lonely,
 and all who need care. We offer a home to those who will come,
 our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work, remembering Jesus, in whom
 we grow strong. Together we serve in Spirit and truth,
 remembering love is the strength of our song.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers Jim Sandifer, Bill Putzig, Jim Matthew,
 Lynn Cooper

Host(s) Bobbi Marino

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 26

7:50 a.m. Early Bird Choir, Choir Room

5:00 p.m. Youth, 207 Admin Building

5:00 p.m. Winter Bible Study, Library

6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, FLC

Monday, February 27

OFFICE CLOSED

3:00 p.m. Men’s Covenant Group, Library

6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, February 28

OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday A.M. Service, FLC

4:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Parlor

5:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, FLC-A

6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday P.M. Service, FLC

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, FLC

7:17 p.m. 717 Group, George’s Southside

Thursday, March 2

8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library

8:30 a.m. The Shepherd’s Market, FLC

6:00 p.m. Trustees, Library

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

Friday, March 3

OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group, Parlor

9:30 a.m. Arts & Crafts, FLC-A

Saturday, March 4

10:00 a.m. Prayer Walk, St. John’s neighborhood

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

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The church office will be closed next week on **Monday, February 27**
 and **Tuesday, February 28** to celebrate Mardi Gras. We will reopen on
 Wednesday with regular office hours (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

The Shepherd’s Market will also be closed on Monday and Tuesday
 to celebrate Mardi Gras. It will be open on Thursday, March 2 at the
 regular time (8:30 - 11:30 a.m.)

THE LENTEN EXPERIENCE AT ST. JOHN’S

This Lenten season please join us as we focus our attention on our faith
 in Christ and Christ’s journey to the cross.

WEDNESDAYS: beginning **March 1, Ash Wednesday**, and continuing
 through April 12, we will offer two 30-minute worship experiences. Join
 us in the Family Life Center at **7 a.m.** and **6 p.m.** for communion and
 vespers services.

SUNDAYS: Every Sunday evening in Lent, our entire family of faith has
 an opportunity to come together in fellowship and spiritual formation.
 Beginning **Sunday, March 5**, at 5 p.m., in the Family Life Center, we
 will join together for reflection and a study titled *Fearless: The Courage
 to Question*. This study is available to all Sunday school classes as well.

In addition, the Youth Band will be practicing from 4-5 p.m. and from
 5-6 p.m., there will be directed children’s activities.

PRAYER REQUEST FORM

Date _____

Joy Concern

Please share with the prayer team
 Please share with Pastors only
 I desire a call
 I desire a visit

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

You may also email a prayer request
 to: prayers@stjohnsbr.org

“Do not be anxious about anything, but
 in everything, by prayer and
 petition, with thanksgiving, present
 your requests to God.”

Philippians 4:6

WELCOME

If you would like someone to follow up with you please fill out the information below and place in the offering plate.

- I am just visiting today.
- I am new to the area and am looking for a church home.
- I would like more information about the United Methodist Church and St. John's.
- I am interested in Baptism or Confirmation.
- I am interested in Children's Ministries.
- I am interested in Youth Ministries.
- I am interested in College/ Young Adult Ministries.
- I would like to receive email communications about church life.
- I would like a call from a pastor.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Children (Names & Ages): _____

PRAYER WALK

We will hold our first Wildwood Neighborhood Prayer Walk **Saturday March 4** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact Pastor Jay to join in (pastorjay@stjohnsbr.org or 772-3550).

WELCOME! WELCOME! WELCOME!

At the 11:00 service on Sunday, February 19, we welcomed into our church family Brandon and Rachel Ferrar and their daughter, Natalie, and Tim and Kim Poorbaugh, and we celebrated the baptism of Penelope Jane Cherry along with her parents Luke Cherry and Nicole Gardner.

PICK UP A YELLOW BAG

Grab a yellow bag on your way out of worship; next week is Grocery Bag Sunday! Items especially needed in The Shepherd's Market are pasta, condiments, breakfast items, and paper products.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. SUESS!

Do you like to read to children? Wildwood Elementary will be having a Read Across America Day to celebrate Dr. Suess' birthday on **Thursday, March 2**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is asking for volunteers to come read their favorite children's book to a Wildwood class. You can bring one of your own or you can get a book from the school library. Please contact Joy Robins, volunteer liaison for Wildwood at jrobins@ebrschools.org.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Ruth Circle UMW will meet **Tuesday, March 7** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Judy Barbay will present a program on the disciple, Andrew. The 2017 prayer and self-denial program will be presented and the collection will be donated to the maternal and child health programs. All women are invited to attend.

EGGSTRAVAGANZA IS COMING!

YES! The Eggstravaganza is coming (April 9) and for the Easter egg hunt we need plenty of plastic eggs and individually wrapped candies. There is a blue tub in the hallway of the Admin Building for you to put your donations. THANK YOU!

GREENSEASONS LAWN CARE

St. John's Trustees recently awarded GreenSeasons Lawn Care the contract to take care of the grounds and flower beds on our campus. GreenSeasons is offering a partner program to our congregation and will return 5%, quarterly, to St. John's of whatever amount members spend with GreenSeasons. If you are interested in having them take care of your lawns contact Heather Casselberry (733-5164 or heather@greenseasons.us) and let her know you are a member of St. John's.

ART FOR BULLETIN COVERS

Do you have any photos, paintings, or images that you have created that might be appropriate for use as a graphic for our Sunday bulletins? We would love to feature your work and highlight the talent that St. John's has! If so, please send it to Lynn (office@stjohnsbr.org) and we will try to incorporate these images in worship!

COOKIES FOR KAIROS #62 - ANGOLA

Larry Norman will be participating in the Kairos #62 team to Angola **March 9 - 12**. As a member of the team, Larry will need 120 dozen cookies!! Baking guides are available in the church office and online at the Kairos Angola web site <https://listenlistenlovelove.com/cookies>. Cookies aren't due to be brought to church until March 5 so please freeze any you make ahead of time. If you don't have freezer space, contact Lynn in the church office (766-4595 or office@stjohnsbr.org).

SERMON NOTES

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Jay Hogewood
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Remember to pray for **The Walk**.
"...for we walk by faith, not by sight."
- 2 Corinthians 5:7

#sjthewalk | www.stjohnsbr.org/the-walk



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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



THE GOSPEL OF FREEDOM

Sunday, February 26, 2017
8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Mission Statement

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.