

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

March 11, 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.

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## GATHERING

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

✠ CALL *to* WORSHIP Pat Cobb

In our richness, we have believed that we are the ones who have all the answers to life's problems.

**But when those who have little, offer all they have, we are put to shame.**

In our power, we believe that might is right.

**But when those who are powerless offer love and mercy, we are put to shame.**

Joy fills our lives when we center our lives on Jesus Christ.

**Hope fills our hearts when we focus on our Savior.**

Peace fills our souls when we seek to do God's work.

**Come, let us seek God's work in our recovery. Amen.**

✠ HYMN *of* PRAISE UMH 394

*Something Beautiful*

✠ PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**O God,  
we are here to worship,  
here to declare the beauty and love  
we have seen and known in Jesus.  
We stand in awe before your throne,  
and wait with joy for you  
to speak to us today.  
So speak, Lord.  
Your servants are listening. 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 Deirdré Halliburton

*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

*John 3:14-21*

Pat Cobb

<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

<sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*God So Loved the World*

Chancel Choir

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

“Recovery”

Pastor Julia

## RESPONDING

✠ HYMN *of* FAITH

*To God Be the Glory*

UMH 98

MINISTRY MOMENT-OPENING DOORS

Richard Damberg

PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

Pastor Lane

We are still in the wilderness. We are learning the way, and getting better at following. So now we're even more aware of how much more we have to learn, and how much farther we have to travel to keep up, and keep keeping up, with where Jesus leads.

And so we pray:

**Forgive us where we go astray, and keep us on the path of life.**

Because we know or know of people still kept in poverty or slavery, some in fear from abusers, terrorists, and oppressors, some facing addiction, and some targeted for unjust treatment because of who they are; and we now see how our own actions or inaction leave things as they are, or make them worse;

**Forgive us where we go astray, and keep us on the path of life.**

With those among us and those around us who are leaders in religious, political, economic, and social life; with our families, friends, and neighbors; and with all who sustain and protect our lives as military, civilian workers, and first responders;

**Forgive us where we go astray, and keep us on the path of life.**

With all who need your healing power, and all who offer healing through their skill and presence;

**Forgive us where we go astray, and keep us on the path of life.**

With all creatures with whom we share this planet, those who sustain our lives, and those who threaten us, those whose lives we sustain, and those whose lives we threaten;

**Forgive us where we go astray, and keep us on the path of life.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

**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

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 422

*Jesus, Thine All Victorious Love*

✠ 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.*

### WORSHIP SERIES - "REHAB"

Join us during the season of Lent in a journey of restoration from death to new life! Today we address the sense of progress (and lack of progress) that comes with beginning to make some recovery. Next Sunday we will read from Jeremiah 31:31-34.

### WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

We gather every Wednesday during Lent at 7 a.m. for a 30-minute morning service with Communion in the sanctuary. On Wednesday evenings, we hold "Heavenly Hash and Rehash" at which time we "rehash" our Rehab series theme from Sunday. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. During dinner, around 6 p.m., we share in a tableside devotion with scripture, reflection questions, and Communion. All ages are welcome, a nursery is available.

### YOUNG ADULT SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH

TODAY our Second Sunday Lunch will be at Zoës Kitchen in Perkins Rowe (on the corner down from Barnes & Noble). If you are a young adult we would love for you to join us for this Dutch treat lunch following the 11 a.m. service at 12:30 p.m. Friends and new faces are always welcome.

### MISSION TO ST. MARK'S IN NEW ORLEANS

St. John's UMC will travel to New Orleans to carry out its mission of "feeding people" and to help St. Mark's UMC in its ministry to the homeless and hungry, April 6 - April 8. For more information please email Rev. Larry Norman at lduckn@aol.com. This mission is open to all ages and abilities.

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The UMW Mary Martha Circle will meet on **Tuesday, March 13** at 7 p.m. in the parlor. All women are invited to join us in the program "Call to Prayer and Self Denial." The UMW General Meeting will be **Sunday, March 18** at 3 p.m. in the parlor.

### TRUSTEES' WORK DAY

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 17**. The Trustees are coordinating a church-wide work day from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. We will be handling some light yard work, repairs, and some cleaning in the sanctuary. Please make plans to come help make our campus beautiful for Easter.

### MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

The Church Council will meet **Thursday, March 16** in the FLC at 6 p.m. This is an open meeting and you are invited to attend.

The Congregational Care Team will be meeting on **Sunday, March 18** in the library at 12:15 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

### EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Our church-wide/community-wide EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA will take place on **Saturday March 31** from 9 - 11 a.m. Bring your family, tell you neighbors!

To make this an awesome event for the children, we need supplies for the Easter Egg Hunt. We appreciate any donation of plastic eggs and individually wrapped candy that will help us create a fun time for the children of St. John's and our community. There will be blue tubs in the narthex, the hallway of the Admin Building, and the FLC for you to put the eggs and candy.

### MEN'S UNITY BREAKFAST

Mark your calendar for the Men's Unity Breakfast that will be held here at St. John's in the FLC on Saturday, March 24 from 7:30 - 9 a.m. For more information, contact Jim Sandifer (jsandifer@bellsouth.net or 938-0866).

### (NOTE DATE CHANGES) - COOKIES FOR KAIROS

Shay Chauvin will be participating in the next Kairos for women April 27-29. Get your baking sheets out; as with all Kairos weekends, she will need 30 dozen home-baked cookies! Cookies will be due back at church on **Sunday, April 15**. Please store/freeze your cookies at home until April 8 as we do not have space here.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

### Sunday, March 11

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*  
12:30 p.m. Young Adult Second Sunday Lunch, *Zoës Kitchen (Perkins Rowe)*  
12:30 p.m. Christian Formation Team Meeting, *Library*  
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class - Adults, *Library*  
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class - Youth, *Parlor*  
5:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*  
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

### Monday, March 12

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
11:00 a.m. Good Grief, St. John's, *Parlor*  
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, *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, March 13

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*  
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Executive Committee, *FLC-A*  
7:00 p.m. Mary Martha UMW Circle, *Parlor*

### Wednesday, March 14

7:00 a.m. Wednesday Lenten Communion 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, March 15

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

### Friday, March 16

OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*

### Saturday, March 17

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

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Maureen Robertson, Carrie de la Fuente, Nico de la Fuente, Jane Rassi*  
Host: *Kathleen Adams*

### CHURCH STAFF

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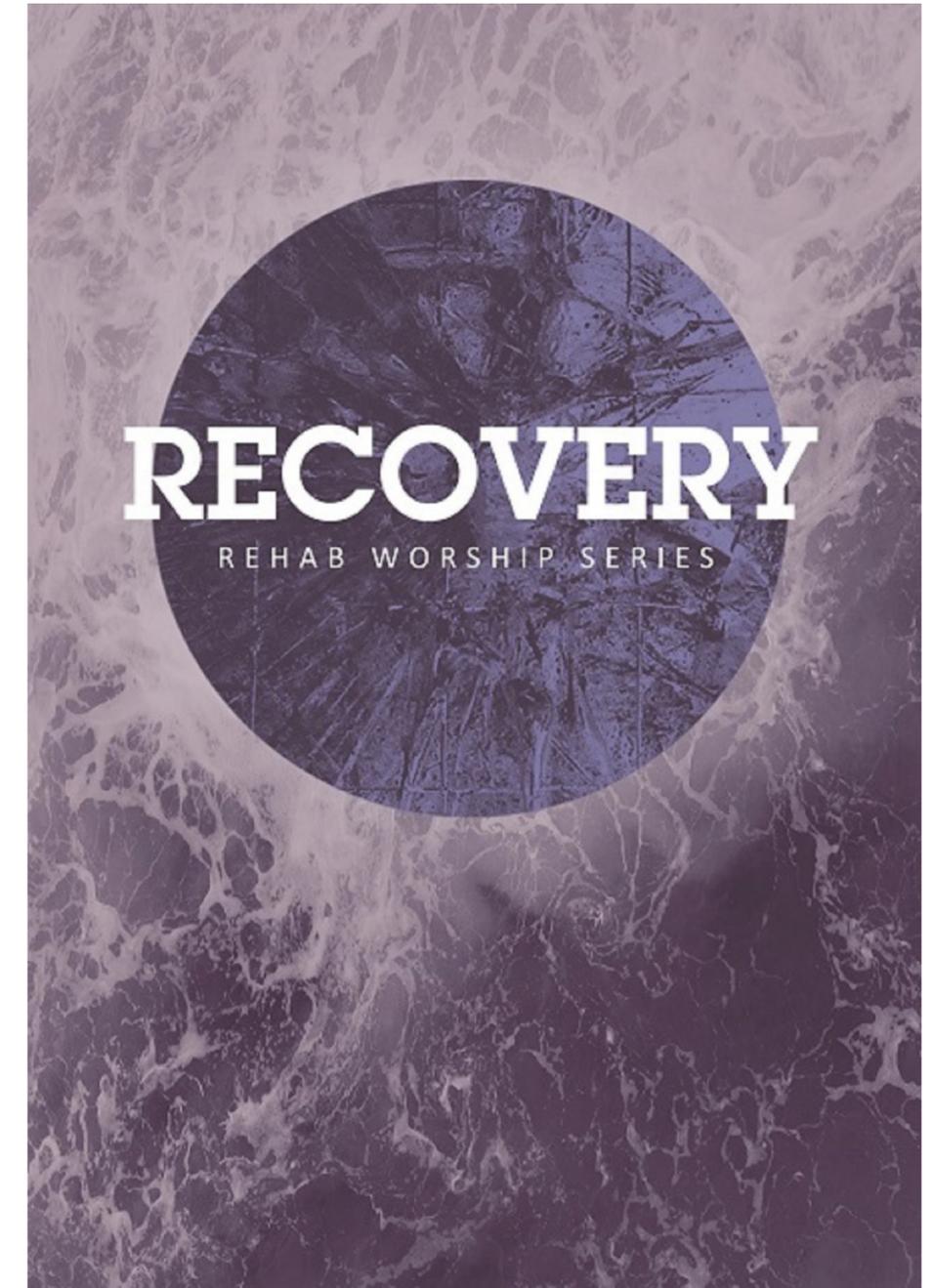
 Remember to pray for **The Walk**.  
"...for we walk by faith, not by sight." - 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NRSV)  
#sjthewalk

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

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



**MARCH 11, 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.*