

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2016
8:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

INTROIT *The Easter Song* Praise Team

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Christ the Lord is Risen Today UMH 302
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!

Easter people, Raise Your Voices UMH 304
Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring. Christ has brought us heaven’s choices; heavenly music, let it ring. Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

PRAYER

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death. You open to us the gate of everlasting life. You invite us to open now the gate for others by sharing of your goodness. Grant us wisdom and courage to celebrate your resurrection. Renew us by your Holy Spirit that we might witness your love and mercy. And raise us from the death of our sin to your life of righteousness, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
The Apostles’ Creed UMH 881

GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Deacon Sarah

SCRIPTURE *Acts 10:34-43* Phil & Margaret Sprunger

SERMON *More Than an Empty Tomb* Pastor Jay

HYMN *Christ Is Risen* UMH 307
vs 1 & 3

PRAYER, CONFESSION, AND PARDON

Most merciful and ever-living God, you know the thoughts of our hearts. We confess that we have sinned against you and done evil in your sight. We have transgressed your holy laws. We have disregarded your Word and Sacraments. Forgive us, O Lord, we humbly ask. Grant us your mercy.

Give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things, that being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance, and may walk in your holy ways. Through Jesus Christ our Lord in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession.)

Hear the good news: God sent his son into the world not to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him. And everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. 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 *The Festal Day Is Here* Chancel Choir, Alleluia Ringers

DOXOLOGY UMH 95

THE TABLE

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.

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III UMH 15

THE LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

***SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE 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.

SENT FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

HYMN *He Lives!* UMH 310
vs 1 & 3

BLESSING

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it; when you come up to the altar, let the pastor know you would like to receive the gluten-free elements.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN ...

this Easter Sunday to the Glory of God. Our Redeemer has conquered death! He is risen!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers Donnie and Susan Lambert, Darren and Chris Stubbs

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

**Today, Sunday, March 27
HAPPY EASTER!**

Monday, March 28

OFFICE CLOSED
9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor
3:00 p.m. Men’s Covenant Group, Library
4:00 p.m. Shepherd’s Market, Gym
5:00 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor
6:30 p.m. Financial Learning Experience, Library

Tuesday, March 29

8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, Gym
9:00 a.m. Shepherd’s Market, Gym
5:00 p.m. VITA Tax Service, Gym-A
5:00 p.m. Food Bank Board, Gym
6:30 p.m. Disciple IV, Library

Wednesday, March 30

5:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Gym-A
6:00 p.m. Men’s Group, George’s Southside
6:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Group, Parlor
6:30 p.m. Financial Learning Experience, Library
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary
7:17 p.m. 717 Group, George’s Southside
7:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 31

6:15 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group, Parlor
8:15 a.m. Food Washing Ceremony, Gym
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
9:00 a.m. Shepherd’s Market, Gym
5:00 p.m. VITA Tax Service, Gym-A
6:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Worship Service
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Gym

Friday, April 1

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, April 2

9:00 a.m. VITA Tax Service, Gym-A
12 noon AA Meeting, Gym-C

THE PASTORS’ CLASS

Want to connect with our church at a deeper level? Not currently participating in a Sunday school class? Have we got an opportunity for you! Join St. John’s pastors - Deacon Sarah and Pastor Jay - for a new Sunday school class, Beginning **TODAY**, at 10 a.m. in Pastor Jay’s office.

This class will function as a connecting point for newcomers and new members to learn more about Wesleyan theology and social justice issues. The class will rotate every 12 weeks to offer newcomers an opportunity to join in existing Sunday school classes or begin a new small group for fellowship and discipleship.

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): _____

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET

Pick up a yellow bag following the worship service and bring it back filled with groceries for Grocery Bag Sunday, **April 3**.

RUTH CIRCLE UMW

The Ruth Circle UMW will meet **Tuesday, April 5** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. A program about Easter music will be presented. All women are invited to attend.

717 - MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER

•What does that even mean?, •Well, do you consider yourself a young adult? •And would you want to enjoy some time with others who consider themselves the same? •And would you want to have a good time in conversation and Bible study over a Dutch-treat meal at George's Southside right by our church? Then this new group is definitely for you! Join us at 7:17 p.m. - every other Wednesday (next up, **Wednesday, March 30**). Contact Pastor Jay if you'd like to join us.

2016 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

It's been five years since our last pictorial directory and we felt it was time for another! Sessions are scheduled for April 7, 8, and 9 and April 14, 15, and 16. Appointments for sittings can be made online at <https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/stjohnsunitedmethodistchurch5/index.php?page=10> (copy and paste this address into your browser), on Sundays during coffee time at the sign-up table, or by calling the church office, 766-4594. There are still plenty of openings for sittings; come be a part of our 2016 Pictorial Directory!

Don't forget you receive one FREE copy of your portrait that goes in the pictorial directory. AND, if you bring a canned good for The Shepherd's Market you receive a discount coupon toward the purchase of additional copies of your portrait. If you have any questions, contact the church office or Tina Henson at henson.tina@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON PICTURE DAYS

Volunteers are needed to help at the check-in table during portrait sitting times: Thursdays and Fridays from 2:30 - 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you can help, please contact Tina Henson or Lynn in the church office.

STRONGER TOGETHER: ENCOURAGEMENT FOR MARRIAGE

Every marriage, whether new or old, needs a little TLC and encouragement every now and then. All married and engaged couples are invited to join us on **Saturday, April 16**, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., for a day of encouragement, learning, and fellowship focused on marriage. Our facilitator will be Steven Fox of Crossroads Professional Counseling. Cost is \$50 a couple by April 1 and \$65 a couple after April 1. Contact the church office to register. Contact Deirdre Halliburton (crayhall@cox.net) or Deacon Sarah for more information.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016 JUNE 13-17, 2016

Mark your calendars! **Cave Quest - Following Jesus the Light of the World** will take place June 13-17 from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Online registration is now open at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stjohnsbr for kids aged 4 years through those completing fifth grade.

SERMON NOTES

CHURCH STAFF

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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.

Christ is risen!



He is risen indeed!

8:30 Worship Service
March 27, 2016
Easter Sunday

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.