

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2016
11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

INTROIT *Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart* Alleluia Ringers

CALL TO WORSHIP
Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God.

**For our Lord is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
And relents from punishing.**

Let us approach the throne of grace with boldness so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

HYMN *To God Be the Glory* Alleluia Ringers

PRAYER
God - Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer - your glory is always to have mercy. Be gracious to all who have gone away from you and from your ways. Bring us to you. Move in us that we might have hearts eager to repent, to turn again to you. Urge us to embrace and hold tight the truth of your Word, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
Affirmation from 1 Timothy UMH 889

GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Pastor Jay

ANTHEM *What Wondrous Love Is This* Alleluia Ringers

SCRIPTURE *Luke 15:1-3, 11-32*

SERMON *The Way of the Cross:
The Gift of Mercy* Deacon Sarah

HYMN *Rock of Ages* UMH 361
vs 1-3

PRAYER, CONFESSION, AND PARDON
We have been baptized and share the Lord’s Supper, but know this — we are called to live the grace we have received. Let us confess the sin of our lives saying:

Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.

When we separate worship and world,
practicing religion but not loving our neighbor,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
When we are driven by desire for money, sex, and power,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
When we are blind to your grace and dead to your love,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.

When we love the wrong things,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
When we cling to our thoughts and ways refusing yours,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
Where our pattern has been to take, abuse, and hide,
restore us to your pattern of taking, blessing, breaking, and giving.
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.
When we are tested by temptation,
Lord have mercy and bring us back to your ways.

(A time of silence for prayer and letting go of sin.)

Hear the good news: God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. 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 *O For A Heart To Praise My God* Chancel Choir

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 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 *I Surrender All* UMH 354
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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Ushers	Natalie Cooper, Maddie Cooper, Hannah Green, Penny Kemler
Host(s)	Mary Martha Allen

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

TODAY, Sunday, March 6
10:00 a.m. St. John’s 101, Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. Worship Committee, Parlor
3:00 p.m. UMW General Meeting, Parlor
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Library
5:30 p.m. Lenten Study, Library

Monday, March 7
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 8
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
6:30 p.m. Disciple IV, Library
7:00 p.m. UMW Mary Martha Circle, Parlor

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES WEDNESDAYS, 7 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY
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Wednesday, March 9
5:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Gym-A
6:00 p.m. Men’s Group, George’s
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
7:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 10
6:15 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group, Parlor
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
9:00 a.m. Shepherd’s Market, Gym
5:00 p.m. VITA Tax Service, Gym-A
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, Gym

Friday, March 11
OFFICE CLOSED
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, Gym

Saturday, March 12
8:00 a.m. CHURCH WIDE WORK DAY
8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, Piccadilly
9:00 a.m. Days for Girls Project, Gym
9:00 a.m. VITA Tax Service, Gym-A
12 noon AA Meeting, Gym-C

ST. JOHN’S 101 TODAY, 10 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

UMW GENERAL MEETING TODAY, 3 P.M. IN THE PARLOR
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LENTEN STUDY TODAY, 5:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY

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): _____

**FOOD BANK DELIVERY
FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 8:30 A.M. IN THE GYM
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies will once again grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you would like to order a lily in honor of or in memory of someone, please fill out the form and return it to the church office by **Tuesday, March 15**. Cost is \$15 (Checks should be made out to St. John's with "Lilies" in the memo line.)

MARY MARTHA CIRCLE UMW

The UMW Mary Martha Circle will meet **Tuesday, March 8** at 7 p.m. in the parlor. Pat Cobb will speak on children of the Bible, Isaac and Ishmael. All women of the church are invited to attend.

CHURCH-WIDE WORK DAY

A church-wide work day is scheduled for **Saturday, March 12** from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Look for the sign-up board during coffee time and on the bulletin board in the Admin. Building hallway.

**PRIME TIMERS BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 8:30 A.M.
PICCADILLY ON ESSEN**

DAYS FOR GIRLS PROJECT

The UMW is holding the final work day on the Days for Girls Project on **Saturday, March 12**. We will meet in the gym from 9-12:00 noon. You do not have to know how to sew or be a member of UMW to help out. Everyone is invited. For more information contact Joyce Perry (763-6613).

EGGS FOR EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

This year's community-wide Easter Eggstravaganza will be **Sunday, March 20** at 3 p.m. We need help from St. John's congregation with donations of plastic Easter eggs (either empty or filled with wrapped candy) and bags of small individually wrapped candy. There are large blue tubs in the Admin. Building to put your donations. Thank you for your help.

2016 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Our most recent pictorial directory was published in 2011 in celebration of our 50th Anniversary. Since then, we have so many new faces at St. John's, we are planning another directory. 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). If you have any questions, contact the church office or Tina Henson (henson.tina@yahoo.com).

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 **Sunday, March 20**, 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.

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.



**11:00 Worship Service
March 6, 2016**

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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.