

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

MAY 5, 2019 at 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

† Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response. UMH indicates United Methodist Hymnal

## CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE and ACCEPTANCE

"I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other." John 13:34  
"Love is what God is, love is why Jesus came, and love is why he continues to come, year after year to person after person... May you experience this vast, expansive, infinite, indestructible love that has been yours all along. May you discover that this love is as wide as the sky and as small as the cracks in your heart no one else knows about, and may you know, deep in your bones, that love wins."  
~ Rob Bell

TOLLING of the BELL  
The tolling of the bell invites you into a time of centering and stillness.

PRELUDE

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Lane

† SONG of PRAISE God Is So Good FWS 2056

God is so good, God is so good,  
God is go good, God's so good to me.  
God cares for me, God cares for me,  
God cares for me, God's so good to me.  
God loves me so, God loves me so,  
God loves me so, God's so good to me.

† CALL to WORSHIP Betsy Adams

We are God's people, and we come together this morning to celebrate God's love for all people.

**This is the day that God has made,  
let us give thanks and celebrate God's gift of love.**

Let us remember the words of the Scripture that love is patient, love is kind, love does not envy, and it does not boast.

**As God's people dearly loved, we are called to clothe ourselves with kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.**

May the peace of Christ live in your hearts as we are called to be the body of Christ, sharing God's love with the world.

**May we be the body of Christ sharing faith, hope, and love.  
Let us also be reminded that love is the greatest of these and never ends.**

† HYMN of PRAISE Love Divine, All Loves Excelling UMH 384

SCRIPTURE READING David Idikwu

Colossians 3:12-17

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Amy Fine, Betsy Adams, Ana de la Fuente

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.

SENIOR RECOGNITION  
Ceci Caputo, Nico de la Fuente, Evan Light,  
Karlie Williams, Taylor Worthy

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Naysia Mallard

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC Lydia Rahkawi, David Idikwu

WORDS of WITNESS Nico de la Fuente

## WE RESPOND to GOD'S LOVE

† HYMN of FAITH UMH 408  
The Gift of Love

† CALL to PRAYER Amy Fine

† PRAYER of CONFESSION  
Lord, Your word says love is patient and kind.  
**But we confess that at times we have been impatient and unkind.**

Your word tells us that love does not envy, that it does not boast, and that it is not proud.  
**But we confess that sometimes we have been envious, and boastful, and proud.**

Your word says that love is not rude, and that it is not self-seeking.  
**But we confess that in many ways we have been inconsiderate of those around us, thinking only of ourselves.**

Your word tells us that love is not easily angered, and that it keeps no record of wrongs.  
**But we confess how quickly we fly off the handle, and how carefully we keep score when we have been wronged.**

Your word says that love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, that it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.  
**Help us, Lord, not to take pleasure in what is evil, but to always rejoice in the truth of Your love.  
Protect us with Your love, Lord, and help us to choose the way of trusting You, putting our hope in You, and persevering in Your ways, knowing that love never fails, and that You never fail. Amen.**

† WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON  
Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that 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.**

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD Ana de la Fuente

† DOXOLOGY UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

† CALL to the TABLE FWS 2224

Make Us One

**Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.  
Let our love flow so the world will know we are one in you.  
(REPEAT)**

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 15

Our sung communion responses are from The Faith We Sing hymnal, page 2257b, c, and d.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

The congregation is seated and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.  
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.  
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

SHARING the BREAD and CUP  
• All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.  
• Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction." When broken bread is placed in your hand you may dip it lightly into the cup.  
• Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it at the station in front of the pulpit.  
• You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.

During Communion we will sing together:

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING Faith Robertson

**Loving Savior,  
in your love, you have given us this holy meal  
to unite us with one another and with you.  
Remain with us as we seek to take your message  
of love and grace into the world. Amen.**

## WE TAKE OUR WORSHIP INTO the WORLD

INVITATION to CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP  
We joyfully welcome all those who 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 572

Pass It On

During the hymn, we invite you to bring forward  
The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

After the 8:30 service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for a reception honoring our ministry intern, Latrice Mallard.

The flowers on the altar are given by John and Pam Toney in celebration of the birthdays of Colby Landry, their son-in-law, and Bevelyn Yonts, Pam's mother.

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 saks 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.

### YOUTH SUNDAY

We hope you enjoy Youth Sunday as members of our youth group lead both of our services today. Youth graduating from high school will also be recognized during the services.

### GROCERY BAG SUNDAY

If you were unable to bring grocery items for The Shepherd's Market today, we accept donations all week. Just bring them to The Market during pantry hours or to the church office during regular hours.

### RECEPTION HONORING LATRICE MALLARD

After the 8:30 service, the SPRC will be hosting a reception in honor of Latrice Mallard on her last Sunday as our ministry intern. While we are very sad to see Latrice go, we are excited for her because she will soon be going to Orlando where, on May 11, she will graduate from Asbury Theological Seminary! Best wishes and many blessings to Latrice and her daughter, Naysia.

### WRITERS GROUP TODAY

The Writers Group will be meeting on **Sunday, May 5** at 3 p.m. in the parlor. Come for conversation and coffee and maybe some ideas on how to get started, how to continue, how to find helpful suggestions, or just come for the community. There is no need to sign-up, everyone is welcome.

### SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING MAY 12

Our special offering on Mother's Day, **Sunday May 12**, will be for Methodist Foster Care (MFC) a division of Louisiana United Methodist Children & Family Services. LUMCFS has replaced their annual offering in order to help support MFC. We hope you will be able to join in this first annual special offering to provide therapeutic foster care services and foster homes for Louisiana children in need of a safe, nurturing home. For more information go to [www.methodistfostercare.org](http://www.methodistfostercare.org). Please make your check out to St. Johns UMC with Foster Care in the memo line.

### PRIME TIMERS BREAKFAST

Meet us at the Piccadilly on Essen Lane for a Dutch-treat breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on **Saturday, May 11** and you will have a great time in addition to good food. There is a buffet as well as a short-order grill. Reservations not needed - just look for familiar faces and listen for laughter.

### BISHOP HARVEY REFLECTS ON JUDICIAL COUNCIL

In an article published on the Louisiana Conference website this past week, Bishop Harvey offers her reflections on the rulings the Judicial Council made on the constitutionality of the legislation adopted at the called General Conference in February. If you would like to read the article go to [www.la-umc.org](http://www.la-umc.org)

### SOUNDS OF COMMUNITY CONCERT

**TODAY** at 4 p.m., the Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge is presenting the 29th Annual Sounds of CommUNITY Concert titled "Let Our Prayers Rise Up In Song." It is being held at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 544 Government St. and features diverse faith traditions: Buddhist-Christian-Jewish-Muslim. A freewill offering will be taken. A reception follows the concert.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - POWER UP!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School. This year VBS will take place **Monday - Friday, June 24-28**, 9 a.m. - noon. Kids will get powered up and raise their game for life with Jesus. Connecting with all ages through a culturally relevant video game theme, kids learn that God loves them, wants a relationship with them, and gives them power to live for Jesus!



## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, May 5**  
8:00 a.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary  
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary  
9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary  
3:00 p.m. Writers Group, Parlor  
5:00 p.m. Senior Youth Celebration, FLC
- Monday, May 6**  
9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor  
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible Study, Parlor  
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library  
4:00 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E
- Tuesday, May 7**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC  
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC  
9:30 a.m. UMW Ruth Circle, Parlor  
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office  
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
- Wednesday, May 8**  
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary
- Thursday, May 9**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC  
6:00 p.m. Opening Doors Board Meeting, Library  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
- Friday, May 10**  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor  
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
- Saturday, May 11**  
8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, Essen Piccadilly  
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
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### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

St. John's Youth will be hosts and ushers with the assistance of:  
8:30 Ushers: Beth Forester, Carol Gordon, Mike and Sally Allen  
11:00 Ushers: Zach and Kristine Isenhower, Bill and Jane Metcalf  
8:30 Host: Bobbi Marino, 11:00 Host: Rhonda Tucker

**St. John's United Methodist Church**  
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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



May 5, 2019  
8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

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.