

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

May 12, 2019 at 8:30 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.

GATHERING with GOD

BELL TOLL

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

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

† SONGS of PRAISE

Christ Has Risen

FWS 2115, vs. 1

**Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor:
Christ is risen, God is here!**

Clap Your Hands

FWS 2028

**Clap your hands! Clap your hands!
Sing a new song in celebration!
Clap your hands! Clap your hands!
Sing a new song in celebration!
Clap your hands! Clap your hands!
God is great we praise our God with song!
God is great! We praise our God with song!**

† CALL to WORSHIP

Pastor Deirdré

Day by day, God leads us:
**to the deep, deep pools of peace,
to the green, lush lawns of grace.**
Day by day, Jesus calls us:
**to pour out ourselves in service,
to anoint the stranger with hope.**
Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:
**the community we could be,
the family we are called to become.**
Day by day, together, we strive:
**to welcome our neighbor,
and to serve all people with joy.**

† SONG of RESPONSE

We Are God's People

FWS 2220, vs. 1

**We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
born of the Spirit, established by the Word.
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,
and strong in Christ we stand;
O let us live transparently
and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.**

ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Natalie Cooper

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

Acts 9:36-43

Saroj Welch

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

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

Together We Serve

FWS 2175

† PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Deirdré

Holy God, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life:
Hear our prayer.

There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us
from one another and from You.

**We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow,
for fear of admitting our part in the separation,
for fear of being rejected when we reach out.
You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships,
to a wholeness with each other and with You.**

**Forgive our stubborn resistance to your
compassionate love.**

**Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations
through the power and love of Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

(A time for silent prayers of confession.)

† WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Based on Psalm 23

Even in the darkest valley,
though death's shadow may threaten us,
we need not fear, for the Lord is with us.
God will comfort and reconcile us.
Rise up! You are forgiven.

**God's love lifts us up and sets us free
to love and serve others.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

WORDS of WITNESS

Pastor Deirdré

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

Many Gifts, One Spirit

† 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! Alleluia!**

† CALL to the TABLE

Make Us One

FWS 2224

**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 18

*Our sung communion responses are from
The Faith We Sing Hymnal #2275*

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)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Eternal God,

**we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,**

**to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,**

Amen.

DEPARTING to SERVE

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 561, vs. 1 & 2, 5 & 6

Jesus, United By Thy Grace

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

After the service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for refreshments.

*The flowers on the altar are given by Beth Forester
in memory of her mother, Eva Forester, and in honor of all mothers everywhere.*

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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the summer, church attendance fluctuates, family vacations are on the calendar, summer sports are in swing, our teachers would like to take a break -- these are just a few of the things that affect our Summer Sunday School Program. In June and July our children's Sunday school will take place in three sections: 3 & 4 years will remain the same; K - 5th grades will become one class; and 6th through 12th grades will continue as one class.

We are still in need of teacher volunteers for K - 5th grades for those two months.

Each Sunday we will need 3 volunteers in their classes. This is an excellent way to "get your feet wet" by testing the waters as a Sunday school teacher, so to speak. You may sign up for one Sunday or multiple Sundays. Bring a friend to join you. The materials we use are very helpful in spelling out just how the lesson is taught. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex, every adult Sunday school class, and on the bulletin board in the Admin Building hallway.

SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY

Our special offering today is for Methodist Foster Care (MFC) a division of Louisiana United Methodist Children & Family Services. LUMCFS has replaced their annual Mother's Day offering with one that will specifically support MFC.

On any given day there about 4,700 Louisiana children in 2,000 foster homes. However, we are still short hundreds of certified homes. This offering today will help recruit, train, certify, and support therapeutic foster families to ensure children are placed in secure, loving homes.

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. Please make your check out to St. Johns UMC with Foster Care in the memo line.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

St. John's has an opportunity to become part of an initiative to prepare individuals for meaningful work and experience life in Christ through the Jobs for Life organization. There will be an informational meeting **TOMORROW EVENING, May 13** at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Jude Parish Hall, 9150 Highland Rd.

Jobs for Life is a global nonprofit organization established in 1996 that addresses the root causes of unemployment by uniting churches, businesses, community organizations, and a network of volunteers applying biblically-based training to bring positive transformation to the unemployed and underemployed.

The Christian Outreach Center in Baton Rouge has a trained team of volunteers that has been involved in Jobs for Life for a few years and now there are plans to train volunteers to make this a parish-wide effort. For information on the efforts in our community, please contact Sandra Kuykendall at 769-3409 or july2002@aol.com. For more information on the program go to their website www.jobsforlife.org.

FIRST QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS

First quarter giving statements for 2019 have gone out. If you did not receive one please let LeAnn Davis, our financial manager, know by emailing her at leanndavis@stjohnsbr.org or phoning the office at 225-766-4594. We hope you found the enclosed "2019 First Quarter Giving Report" informative in showing how your generosity is helping St. John's meet its vision of being a center for feeding people spiritually and physically within our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Movie Night, Friday June 7, 5 - 7 p.m. Fellowship, hamburgers on the grill, and a movie! Come see Pixar's "Inside Out," said to be creative, clever, heartfelt, and beautifully animated. Good fun for the whole family.

Louisiana Annual Conference, June 9 - 12. Pastor Lane, Pastor Deirdre, John Toney, and Bobbi Marino will represent St. John's at the Annual Conference in Shreveport. Pastor Deirdre will be commissioned during the Celebration of Ministry service on June 10.

VBS - Power Up, Raise Your Game - June 24 - 28, 9 a.m. - noon.

Registration for VBS has begun. Forms are available on our website (www.stjohnsbr.org), in the narthex, and in the hallway of the Admin Building. Children aged 4 years through those completing 5th grade are eligible to attend. Tell your friends and neighbors also.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, May 12**
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
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary
- Monday, May 13**
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
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E
- Tuesday, May 14**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Library
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, FLC-A
7:00 p.m. UMW Mary Martha Circle, Parlor
- Wednesday, May 15**
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 16**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
3:00 p.m. Everybody Reads Training, Library
5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Parsonage
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
7:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, Library
- Friday, May 17**
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
- Saturday, May 18**
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Jim and Theresa Sandifer, Dawn Staves, Sandra Kuykendall*

Host: *Sandra Kuykendall*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



May 12, 2019

8:30 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.