

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

May 19, 2019 at 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.

## GATHERING With GOD

BELL TOLL

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

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Meditation on Beautiful Savior

Alleluia Ringers

† CALL to WORSHIP

Morgan Dynes

Once again we gather,  
from different homes and circumstances,  
with different dreams and ideas, different values and tastes,  
different in age and color, different in gender and language,  
**yet, we are one family – Children of God every one;  
we join our hearts in worship,  
we join our voices in praise  
and we join our lives as the Body of Christ. Amen.**

† HYMN of PRAISE

Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us

UMH 331

† AFFIRMING our FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he arose from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. 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**

## ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ben Hartman

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.

ANTHEM

The River

Alleluia Ringers

SCRIPTURE

Acts 11:1-18

Morgan Dynes

<sup>1</sup>The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. <sup>2</sup>When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. <sup>3</sup>They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!"

<sup>4</sup>Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. <sup>5</sup>"I was in the city of Joppa praying when I had a visionary experience. In my vision, I saw something like a large linen sheet being lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came all the way down to me. <sup>6</sup>As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. <sup>7</sup>I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' <sup>8</sup>I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup>The voice from heaven spoke a second time, 'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' <sup>10</sup>This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them even though they were Gentiles. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered that man's house. <sup>13</sup>He reported to us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter.' <sup>14</sup>He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' <sup>15</sup>When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. <sup>16</sup>I remembered the Lord's words: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, then who am I? Could I stand in God's way?"

<sup>18</sup>Once the apostles and other believers heard this, they calmed down. They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled Gentiles to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life."

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

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

UMH 111, vs. 1, 3, 4

How Can We Name a Love

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

O God,  
who shaped us, and nurtures us, we, Your children, praise You;  
for the breath of life that moves within us,  
and within all living things.

**Praise be to our Life-Giver! Alleluia!**

O Lord,  
who shared our flesh, and made for us a way into  
God's Kingdom, we, your sisters and brothers, praise You;  
for Your life and words among us,  
and for giving Yourself to be broken so that we and our world  
could be healed.

**Praise be to our Life-Renewer! Alleluia!**

O Spirit of God,  
who re-unites us with our Creator, with each other and  
with ourselves, we, Your people, praise You; for the Living Water  
that quenches our thirst and for the divine image that You recreate  
in us and every person.

**Praise be to our Life-Energizer! Alleluia!**

We praise You for inviting us into Your family, and  
for igniting Your love in our hearts.

Even so, our hearts carry prayers of need and want. We lift our  
concerns before you now:

*The congregation is invited to share names and situations  
in need of prayer aloud at this time.*

We are grateful for Your presence in our lives.

**Love is Your nature, and love is Your gift.**

May we grow in Your love always,  
as together we pray the prayer Jesus taught us...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

WORDS of WITNESS

Richard Damberg

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

† 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!**

## 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

Forward Through the Ages

UMH 555, vs. 1 & 3

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

*The flowers on the altar are in honor of Deirdre Halliburton on her graduation  
from Asbury Theological Seminary, Saturday May 18, 2019.*

## 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.*

### WELCOME, MORGAN DYNES

We are pleased to announce that Morgan Dynes has been hired as our Summer Ministry Intern; Tuesday, May 14, was her first day. Morgan is excited about being back at St. John's and fulfilling the roles and pastoral duties she will undertake this summer.

Morgan spent the fall semester studying in London and is now about to enter her senior year at LSU. She is a member of Jefferson United Methodist Church and has been active in Happening and both the District and Conference Councils on Youth Ministries. Morgan is also currently in the Candidacy process for ministry.

### VOLUNTEER FOR VBS

Forms are available in the narthex for you to sign up to be a volunteer during Vacation Bible School, **Monday, June 24 - Friday, June 28, 9 a.m. - noon.** You might want to volunteer to help with decorating and set up, be a group leader (two adults per group), our photographer, kitchen helper (making snacks for the kids), or to bring snacks for the volunteer break room. Please contact Pastor Deirdre if you have any questions.

### 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 who have completed K - 5th grade will combine into 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. 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. For more information, contact Pastor Deirdre.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Family Movie Night, Friday June 7, 5 - 7 p.m.** Faith, Family, and Formation presents a night of 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](http://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.

### PILLOW CASES FOR GRACE CAMP

Each year folks from St. John's sew pillowcases for the youth who attend Grace Camp, a summer camp for youth who have an incarcerated family member. The pillowcases are very easy to construct and come in a kit with the needed materials and easy to follow instructions. Joyce Perry will have some kits TODAY (May 19) during coffee time. For more information contact Joyce at 763-6613 or [joyce.perry@cox.net](mailto:joyce.perry@cox.net).

### UPDATE ON FAMILIES IN TRANSITION (FIT)

Opening Doors' latest ministry, Families in Transition, has received a grant from the Huey & Angelina Wilson Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. This will allow the program to continue and grow, but we still need St. John's family to invest in this important work. The first family benefiting from FIT, our own Idikwus, are making great strides toward becoming financially independent thanks to the assistance FIT has provided.

The family secured a new place to live and more reliable transportation. Recently David received a work permit and is job hunting. We will soon be distributing information on his skills and the type of work he is seeking. If you would like to help with his search, or if you have any leads, please contact him ([idikwuode4real@gmail.com](mailto:idikwuode4real@gmail.com)) or Richard Damberg ([rdamberg@mac.com](mailto:rdamberg@mac.com)).

If you'd like to donate to the important work FIT is doing, you can do so via PayPal on the Opening Doors website, [www.openingdoorsbr.org](http://www.openingdoorsbr.org), or mark "FIT" in the memo line on any check made out to St. John's UMC.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, May 19**  
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  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, FLC  
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary
- Monday, May 20**  
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 21**  
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
- Wednesday, May 22**  
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 23**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC  
3:00 p.m. Everybody Reads Training, Library  
6:00 p.m. Church Council, Library  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
- Friday, May 24**  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor  
8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
- Saturday, May 25**  
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Kathleen Adams, Fran Anderson, Scott Durham, Liz McDonald*

Host: *Barbara Lively*

### CHURCH STAFF

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

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



May 19, 2019

11:00 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.*