

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

MAY 27, 2018 at 8:30 A.M.

Welcome to All

All are invited to 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 IN GOD’S PRESENCE

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SONGS of PRAISE

Jesus Be Praised FWS 2079

**Jesus, we worship you;
with our voices filled with praises,
Jesus, we worship you; songs of love we raise.
Jesus, Jesus be praised! Jesus, Jesus be praised!**
(REPEAT)

I Will Enter His Gates FWS 2270

**I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart,
I will enter his courts with praise.
I will say, “This is the day that the Lord has made.”
I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.
He has made me glad, he has made me glad.
I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.
He has made me glad, he has made me glad.
I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.**

✠ CALL to WORSHIP Beth Forester

Loving God,
we are limited in our understanding of you,
but we know that you care for us and for all creation.
Thank you for loving us
and remaining with us in our sorrows and joys.
Thank you for the life of Jesus
who shows us the way to life, love, peace and trust.
Thank you for your Spirit who leads us.
Warm our hearts and unite us,
**that we might open our lives to you,
that we may accept all your love and respond to it.**
We entrust ourselves to you this day and always.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

Taste and See FWS 2267

**Taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.**

LISTENING

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

Matthew 28:16-20

Beth Forester

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
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

“Therefore, Go...”

Pastor Julia

RESPONDING

✠ HYMN of FAITH

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593, vs. 1 & 3

✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION

Deirdré Halliburton

**We know much about earthly things, but so little
about heavenly things.
We stand in your presence, O God, but fail to see
the hem of your robe in our midst — much less your
presence, far above, upon the throne of heaven.
We do not often see your seraphim in flight
around your throne.
We do not often hear their voices
or feel the very foundations about us tremble
at their loud praise.
Open our lives to your mystery, power, and glory.
Open our lives to you, O Holy One. Amen.**

(a time for silent prayers and confession)

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE *and* PARDON

Today we will hear of heavenly things that can transform
our lives forever.
We will hear of God’s miraculous presence with us and
among us and for us.
In God’s temple, let all of us say, “Glory!”
“Glory!”

✠ SHARING *the* LOVE *and* PEACE of CHRIST

SHARING OUR THANKS

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!**

✠ CALL to the TABLE

Gather us in, Lord.
Gather us with bread that tells of our community.
Gather us with wine that tells of our salvation.
And by your Spirit make us one in purpose, mind, and heart.
Gather us in, Lord, for we are better together.

✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 15

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

UMH 895

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 and thereby receive both elements at the same time.*
- ♦ *Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it; when you come up to the altar, let the server know you would like the gluten-free elements.*
- ♦ *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 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

FWS 2175

Together We Serve

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

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

*The flowers on the altar are given by Fred and Kathleen Adams,
thanking God for all blessings provided and for 53 years of marriage.*

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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS registration is now open for ages 4 through those children who finished 5th grade this school year. Registration forms are available in the narthex or the church office; a printable version is online. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the church or put in the offering plate.

Forms for Volunteer Registration are also available online and in the narthex or the church office.



NEW KEY/KEY CODE POLICY NOW IN EFFECT

The Church Council recently approved a new Key Policy developed by the Board of Trustees that pertains to all people who have keys to any building in the church and to all future requests for keys.

If you have a key or keys to any church buildings or have a key pad code, you MUST stop by the office and sign the new Key/Key Code Agreement; these agreements must be renewed each year by January 31 by all key holders. If you have a key you no longer need, please return it to Lynn. Thank you for helping us to keep our church campus safe.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The UMW Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, June 5** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Joyce Perry will present a program about her religious experiences when she visited the Holy Land. All women are invited to attend.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Have you recently come to our church family? Have you been visiting for awhile? Is this your first visit? If so, you are invited to have coffee with Pastor Lane on **Sunday, June 3** at 10 a.m. in her office on the first floor of the Admin. Building to "Explore St. John's" - come and see, we hope you will want to keep coming back.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our summer session of Sunday School begins **Sunday, June 3**. We will be doing something different this summer by having one class for all (children in 1st grade through high school) called "Sounds of Summer Sunday School." We will meet in the Family Life Center during the regular Sunday school hour (9:45 - 10:45 a.m.).

If you would like to help in this exciting experience, please contact Deirdre Halliburton (deirdrehalliburton@stjohnsbr.org) or Shay Chauvin (us3chauvins@hughes.net). They will need at least 2 volunteers each Sunday to help with music, fun, and fellowship.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

St. John's has a Safe Sanctuary policy to ensure the protection of all children, youth, and vulnerable adults who are participating in our activities or who have been placed in our care. We require our staff and volunteers to participate in a Safe Sanctuary training prior to their interaction with these children, youth, or adults.

There will be a **mandatory** Safe Sanctuary training on **Sunday, June 3** at 4 p.m. for ALL VBS volunteers (including youth); ALL children and youth Sunday School teachers, ALL volunteers in our youth program (including those on the ASP Mission Team); and those in our Congregational Care Ministry who do visitation. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org).

GROCERY BAG SUNDAY

Next **Sunday, June 3** is Grocery Bag Sunday. Don't forget to pick up a yellow grocery bag after today's services and bring them back on June 3 with groceries and household items for The Shepherd's Market. While everything is appreciated, some items we are especially in need of are: canned milk, jiffy or muffin mix, side dishes, any kind of soup except tomato, and household products.

LOVE OFFERING FOR PASTOR JULIA

As everyone knows, Pastor Julia will be moving to the First UMC in Natchitoches. Her last Sunday with us will be June 17 and we want to offer our love and support with the gift of a love offering. If you would like to be a part of this gift, make checks out to St. John's UMC with Love Offering in the memo line. These may be put in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, May 27

8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
12:15 p.m. Congregational Care Team, *Parlor*
5:00 p.m. Youth Group, *Welch Residence*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, May 28

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, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, May 29

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*

Wednesday, May 30

5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

Thursday, May 31

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Youth Group, *Worthy Residence*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, June 1

OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*

Saturday, June 2

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Jill and Phil Slicker, Sandra Kuykendall, Carol Gordon*
Host: *Beth Forester*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
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Remember to pray for **The Walk**.
"...for we walk by faith, not
by sight." - 2 Corinthians 5:7
(NRSV) #sjthewalk



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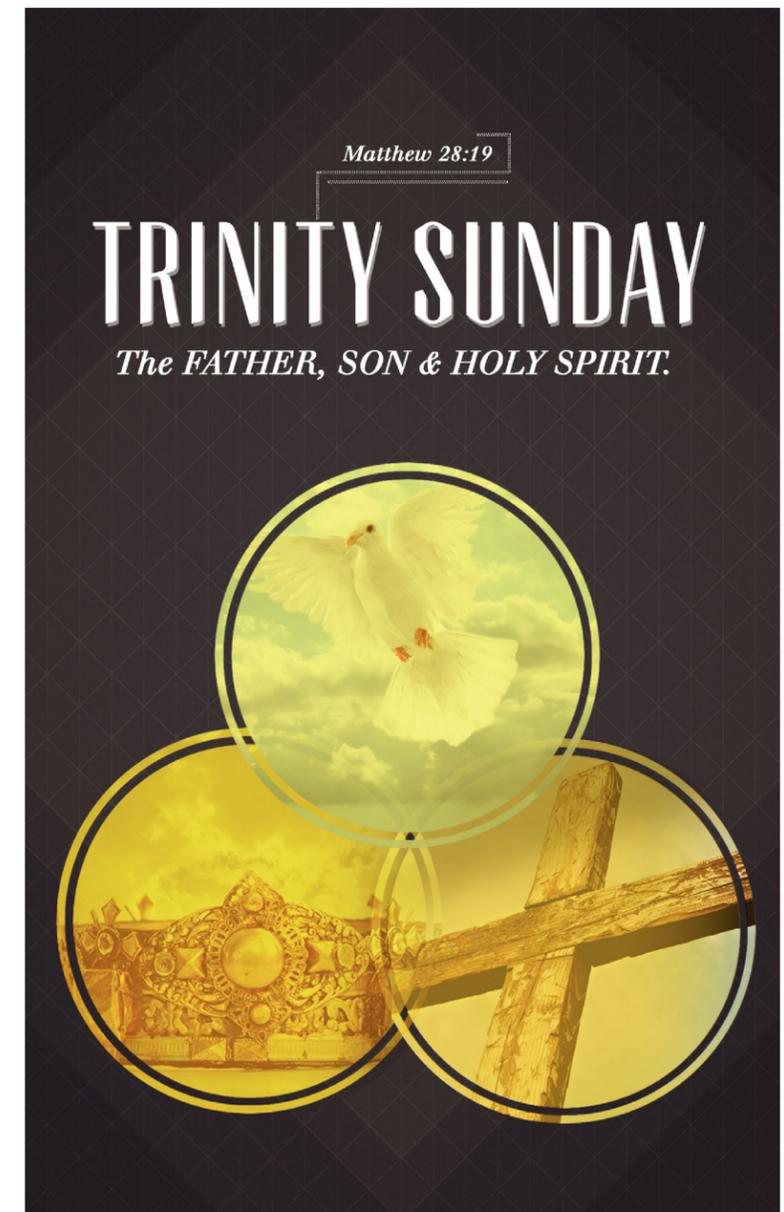
Give online: <http://bit.ly/sjumcgive>



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



May 27, 2018

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.