

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

OCTOBER 22, 2017 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 able. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

## GATHERING

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Alleluia Ringers  
*Alba*

† CALL to WORSHIP Pat Cobb  
Life and Breath...  
**a gift from God.**  
A passionate heart and humble mind...  
**possible with God.**  
Loving deeply, forgiving often...  
**enabled by God.**  
Glorifying God and sharing gifts.  
**our offering to God.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE UMH 66o  
*God Is Here*

† GATHERING PRAYER  
**Holy God of creation,**  
**We gather once again to celebrate our commitment to be Your church in this time and place.**  
**Help us to be partners with You in ministry.**  
**May our commitments to faithful and enable us to glorify Your name and fulfill Your vision for mission and witness in the world.**  
**Place your call upon our hearts this morning, and in the days to come, that we may be a people committed to the way of Christ, who is our Savior. Amen.**

† GLORIA PATRI UMH 7o  
**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.**

## LISTENING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Ben Hartman  
*Parents may accompany their children to the altar if desired.*

ANTHEM Alleluia Ringers  
*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

SCRIPTURE Pat Cobb  
*Matthew 6:19-21*

<sup>19</sup>“Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. <sup>20</sup>Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. <sup>21</sup>Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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 Defying Gravity Series: Pastor Lane  
“When We Get It Right”

## RESPONDING

† HYMN of FAITH UMH 413  
*A Charge to Keep I Have*

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS Debbie Nolan, *Stewardship Co-Chair*  
OFFERING GOD'S TITHES and GIFTS

† DOXOLOGY UMH 95  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**  
**praise him, all creatures here below;**  
**praise him above, ye heavenly host;**  
**praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE Pastor Julia

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 and ever. Amen.**

## DEDICATING OUR LIVES

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 COMMITMENT UMH 87  
*What Gift Can We Bring*

*This morning is Commitment Sunday, the day our congregation brings forward its financial pledges for the coming year. As we sing, you are invited to place your pledge card in the designated basket near the altar.*

† PRAYER of DEDICATION  
**God, we have received grace upon grace.**  
**It is grace to experience the joy of giving.**  
**And it is grace to participate in the ministries and missions of this community of faith.**  
**As we dedicate these financial commitments, we also commit our support of Your work through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.**  
**Truly, Your grace is amazing grace – for as we give, we are not less, but blessed. Amen.**

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

*Everyone is invited to join us in the Family Life Center immediately following this service for a potluck lunch.*

*The flowers on the altar are given by Richard and Marilyn Damberg in memory of Marilyn's mother, Olivia Williams.*

## CONNECT WITH US

Name

Email

Phone

### Service Opportunities

*I am interested in ...*  
*(check all that apply)*

- serving as a Reader during worship
- serving as a Communion server
- serving as an Usher during worship
- serving as Welcome Host before and after worship

### PRAYER REQUEST FORM

- Joy
- Concern

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- Please share with the prayer team
- Please share with pastors only
- I desire a call
- I desire a visit

You may also email a prayer request to:  
prayers@stjohnsbr.org

October 22, 2017  
11 a.m.  
Connections Card

### 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

#### DEFYING GRAVITY STEWARDSHIP SERIES

This morning we conclude our Stewardship Worship Series, "Defying Gravity," as we hear how generosity can be a launchpad for other people. There will be a time today during the service when we will offer our Commitment Cards for 2018 as an act of worship.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED to a potluck in the FLC after the 11:00 a.m. service;** bring a dish to share and enjoy this time of fellowship.

#### FALL FEST

Please join us on **Saturday, October 28** from 3-6 p.m. on the church grounds. Come and enjoy a gathering of family, friends and fun as we celebrate St. John's 2018 Fall Fest. Admission, games, food and fellowship are FREE. There will be games and entertainment for all ages. Invite your neighbors - all are welcome. We will also be collecting canned goods for The Shepherd's Market.

#### NEW WORSHIP SERIES STARTS NEXT SUNDAY

The prefix "re-" invites us "to go back to something again." In this worship series, "The Gift of Re-," we look back to the Gift of the Reformation, which celebrates its 500th anniversary this year, the Gift of Remembering on All Saints Day, the Gift of Reviving our Mission and Vision, and the Gift of Joy that comes when we Give Thanks and Rejoice in the Lord! These two small letters: "RE" bring great meaning to our language - and more importantly, to our lives. Join us October 29 to November 19 for this series.

#### ADVENT DEVOTIONAL - "WELCOME INN"

This year, we are once again publishing a book of daily devotions written by our church family for use during the Advent season. We encourage submissions from all ages! Our theme, *Welcome Inn*, focuses on preparing to welcome the Christ child yet again and remembering our Christmas traditions with the theme of "welcome." For details, please refer to the flier in the Narthex, our website, or weekly newsletter. For more information or to submit your devotion, contact mariwalker7@gmail.com. **Deadline: November 5 .**

#### DISTRICT-WIDE CHARGE CONFERENCE

**Bold Imagination** is the theme of the special day of "worshipful work" planned for United Methodist Churches in the Baton Rouge District on **Sunday, October 29** at 2:30 p.m. at Broadmoor UMC. Bishop Harvey will be preacher for the afternoon. All members of St. John's are invited to attend.

#### CENTENARY COLLEGE CHOIR CONCERT

The Centenary College Choir will be at St. John's in concert on **Thursday, November 2** at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Host homes (2 students per home) are needed for Thursday night. Please contact Pastor Julia at [pastorjulia@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastorjulia@stjohnsbr.org) or Julie LeBlanc at 1-225-252-2262 for more information or if you are willing to be a host home.

#### SING WITH THE CHOIR DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON!

If you are interested in singing with the Chancel Choir for our Lessons and Carols, which will be on Sunday, December 10 during both services, please join us on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:10 for rehearsal in the choir room. This is a wonderful time to try out the choir if you are considering being a part of our music ministries. If you just love the songs of the Christmas season, this cantata "A Festival of Lessons and Carols" by Hal Hopson, has many of our favorites celebrating the coming of our Savior. I hope you will join us!

### HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, October 22

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*  
12:00 p.m. Celebration Potluck, *FLC*  
5:00 p.m. Youth, *FLC*

#### Monday, October 23

9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
10:00 a.m. Let's Geaux Play, *Toddler Nursery*  
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*  
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies, *Parlor*  
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

#### Tuesday, October 24

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
5:30 p.m. Cancer Survivors, *Parlor*  
6:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study, *Library*

#### Wednesday, October 25

10:00 a.m. Self-taught Spanish Class, *Library*  
5:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*  
6:00 p.m. Heavenly Hash, *FLC*  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

#### Thursday, October 26

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*  
5:00 p.m. Opening Doors, *Library*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

#### Friday, October 27

OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*  
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*  
9:00 a.m. Arts & Crafts, *FLC-A*

#### Saturday, October 28

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*  
3:00 p.m. FALL FEST, *St. John's Grounds*

#### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: *Maureen Robertson, Jane Rassi, Carrie de la Fuente, Nico de la Fuente*  
Host: *Barbara Lively*

#### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
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St. John's United Methodist Church  
230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810



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.*



# DEFYING GRAVITY

*11 a.m. Worship Service*  
**OCTOBER 22, 2017**

*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.*

Welcome...

**Guests and members**, please let us know you are here by filling out this card and placing it in the offering plate. We want to match your face with your name. Thanks for helping us be a better church.

*(Please print)*

Attended...

11 a.m. Worship

I am a:

**First time guest**

*We are glad you're here! Pick up your Welcome Bag from a Host in the Narthex.*

**Returning guest**

**Regular attender**

*Interested in becoming a member of St. John's*

**St. John's member**

*Updated information below*

Name(s)

Address

City, State & ZIP

Phone

Home  Cell  Add to text messaging list

Email

Other Email

Other Cell

Children living at home (names, ages/grades):

*Please place in offering plate*

*(See reverse to connect with us.)*