

The **CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL**
July 7, 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

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.**

We Sing to You, O God

FWS 2001, vs. 1 & 4

**We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,
let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.
To you, O God, let songs be raised,
in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.
O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.
Your word is true, your way is just,
you are the God in whom we trust.**

† CALL to WORSHIP

David Henson

**Holy God, light of the world, come to our lives and reveal to us
your truth.**

Holy God, hope of the despairing, come to our lives and
grant us your peace.

Jesus Christ, bread of life, nourish us to true and eternal life.

Jesus Christ, gentle shepherd, come and lead us to springs
of living water.

**Living Savior, just and gentle judge, come and reveal us
to ourselves.**

Living Savior, healer of the wounded, come and make us whole. Show
us the way to new life.

**Holy God we come to worship you this day. May we offer
ourselves to you, in Spirit and in truth. Renew our spirits,
and strengthen us to be your people, through the indwelling
power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

† SONG of RESPONSE

Come and Fill Our Hearts

FWS 2157

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia !**

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

David Henson

2 KINGS 5:1-14

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Carrie Poynot

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

Romans 12:4-14, 17 & 18

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

“Loving God”

Pastor Deirdré

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

The Servant Song

FWS 2222

† PRAYER of CONFESSION

**God of pure, unbounded love, we are a people who long to be loving,
and a people who often fail.**

Forgive us when our actions hurt ourselves and others.

**Forgive us when we do not chose our words with care, and when they
hurt our families, friends and neighbors.**

**Help us to go the second mile in loving and giving of ourselves;
make us strong and wise in our loving.**

Teach us what it means to love our enemies.

**Hear us now as we pray to you for healing in our relationships;
with you, with our loved ones, with friends and associates,
with our neighbors and ourselves.**

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

† WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Jesus knows our every weakness, and loves us still.

Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

This Land Is Your Land

† 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!**

† 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

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us
in this sacrament, united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
in your eternal realm.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work
to your praise and glory, for the sake 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

Take My Life and Let It Be

UMH 399

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

† 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 Tommie Reinhardt
in memory of her husband, Morris Reinhardt.*

*The flowers in our sanctuary are from the Prevot family in honor of the marriage
of Mary Hannah Prevot to James Thornton Johnson.*

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.



The journey to a deeper faith life can be summed up in three words: Listen, Love, Leap! God is constantly speaking to people, but too often we struggle to hear and discern the message. Our summer series calls us to quiet our thoughts and hearts and listen to what God has to say. Our obedience to this simple discipline opens our hearts to LOVE God and neighbors in deeper and more holy ways. Join us as we continue to open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word, as we Love (Sundays in July) and Leap (Sundays in August).

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Opening Doors is sponsoring Dave Ramsey's 9-week course *Financial Peace University*. The class will begin on **Tuesday, August 20** in the library from 6:30 - 8 p.m. If you are interested in participating, you may register by going online to www.fpu.com/1091639. For more information contact Amy Richardson at amyrichardson318@yahoo.com.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MISSIONS

St. John's UMW is supporting 2 missions of the Baton Rouge District UMW. **Born With Angel Wings** accepts donations of formal gowns that will be transformed into little gowns to be given to those parents who have had a still-born baby or a baby who lived only a short time. If you have a garment to donate, contact Janet Hogstrom by email (jhogstrom@cox.net) or phone (832-236-0627 or 225-767-9423) and she will arrange a pick up. Financial donations should be mailed to Pat Lively, 944 E. Lakeview Dr., Baton Rouge 70810.

Reality House in Baton Rouge provides substance abuse programs for women with dependent children. Donations of diapers, towels, soap, deodorant, shampoo, and hair products are much appreciated by the women and may be brought to the Ruth Circle meeting on August 6 at 9:30 a.m. and to Mary Martha Circle on August 13 at 7 p.m. Financial contributions may also be made to UMW for this mission project.

SHORT SUMMER STUDY

Pastor Deirdre and Morgan Dynes, our Summer Ministry Intern, are leading a 4-week summer study looking at Depression through a Spiritual and Scriptural lens. Join us beginning Thursday, July 11; you will have the option of participating at 11 a.m. (after the Shepherd's Market) or 6 p.m. You may register online at www.stjohnsbr.org.

ESTATE PLANNING

The United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana is offering a FREE Estate Planning Course, "It's Different in Louisiana." There is no cost or obligation, no meetings to attend. You must register online at <https://umf.org/create-your-legacy> after which the five easy lessons will be mailed to you at weekly intervals.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

It won't be long before school bells are ringing and this means its time for Opening Doors to begin collecting school supplies for students in the Gardere area. Your donations will be much appreciated. There will be a blue tub in the Narthex and in the Admin Building to put the supplies. For a complete list of suggested supplies see our Friday Newsletter.

LOVE WELL - YOUTH 2019

Our youth will be leaving for Kansas City on Tuesday, July 9 to attend Youth 2019! Those going on this special trip are Betsy Adams, Tel Cahow, Ana de la Fuente, Grace Idikwu, Faith Robertson, Anthony Rowe, Taz Rowe, Eric Threadgill, and Taylor Worthy, along with Amy Fine and Donnie Lambert.

THANKS ST. JOHN'S

We would like to say thank you to St. John's for the prayers, blessings, and welcome. Christina Sasse and Danny Thomas.

PRAYER VIGIL IN SUPPORT OF DETAINED MIGRANT CHILDREN

The United Methodist Church has spoken very clearly on this matter of loving our neighbors, especially the marginal, the lost and the least. General Conference delegates from around the world call on us to advocate for the "elimination of indefinite detention [and the] incarceration of children." (Book of Resolutions 3281). And, as a church we also very clearly "oppose immigration policies that separate family members from each other or that include detention of families with children." (Social Principles ¶162.H). Please join us **Friday, July 12**, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's UMC for a prayer vigil in support of detained migrant children.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, July 7**
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. Writer's Group, *Parlor*
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*
- Monday, July 8**
9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*
- Tuesday, July 9**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board, *FLC-A*
- Wednesday, July 10**
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*
- Thursday, July 11**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
6:00 p.m. Opening Doors, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout, *FLC*
- Friday, July 12**
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*
- Saturday, July 13**
8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, *Essen Piccadilly*
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Donnie and Susan Lambert, Darren and Chris Stubbs
Host: Bobbi Marino

CHURCH STAFF

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(on renewal leave until September 3)

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



July 7, 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.