

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

March 29, 2020

Welcome to All

Thank you for joining us! Please register your attendance at:

<https://www.stjohnsbr.org/attendance>



**ST. JOHN'S**

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

## Gathering in Spirit

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Hymn of Praise

**In Our Homes, We Meet to Worship**

*Sung to the tune of Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

In our homes, we meet to worship,  
far away from sacred space.  
By the Spirit, Christ is with us,  
making this a holy place.  
In these days of social distance,  
we are called to meet apart.  
Still we pray for one another,  
hold each other in our heart.

If this time indeed is holy,  
we must keep it truly so.  
Even in our isolation,  
God's rich blessings overflow.  
We avoid the world's distractions,  
set our minds on things above:  
Patience, kindness, goodness, mercy,  
faith, joy, peace, abiding love.

*By R.G. Huff-03/17/2020*

*(Permission granted for use)*

Opening Prayer

Rev. Deirdre Halliburton

*Together:*

**Come, Holy Spirit,  
Comfort us, in this moment.  
Give us courage  
to be gentle with ourselves.  
Though we may be far apart,  
remind us that we are not alone.  
Draw us every closer to you,  
that even in times of great uncertainty  
we might be assured of your presence.  
Amen.**

Prayer and Meditation

Pastor Lane

**How Can I Keep From Singing?**

*Carrie Poynot, soloist*

## Proclaiming the Good News

Scripture Reading

John 15:1-17

Message

Pastor Deirdre

"I Am the Vine: Knowing God's Power"

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Pastor Deirdre

## Responding with Thanks

Offering Our Tithes & Gifts to God

*Where the Spirit of the Lord Is*

*Give thanks for God's abiding presence and grace in life.*

*Contribute to the mission of St. John's UMC giving online now:*

<http://bit.ly/stjohnsgive>

*Checks and other gifts may be dropped off at the church during our*

*Drive-By Offering today from 11a.m. to 12 p.m. or mailed to*

*230 Renee Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810*

Doxology

**Give Thanks**

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks  
because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.  
And now, let the weak say "I am strong,"  
let the poor say, "I am rich,  
because of what the Lord has done for us."  
Give thanks!

## Blessing and Sending Forth

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Closing Litany

When we feel isolated, alone or fearful, we can  
remember that Jesus said,

**"I am the True Vine; abide in me."**

When we feel powerless and our life seems to spin out of  
control, we can find strength as we remember that Jesus said,

**"I am the True Vine; abide in me."**

When we are tempted to try to go it alone, we can reach  
out to other believers, as we remember that Jesus said,

**"I am the True Vine; abide in me."**

When life becomes so busy that time with God seems  
impossible to find, we can regain our focus by  
remembering that Jesus said,

**"I am the True Vine; abide in me."**

When we stress about the quality of the fruit we are or  
are not producing, we can relax and trust the source of  
our life and growth, remembering that Jesus said,

**"I am the True Vine; abide in me." Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us.*

*Today's worship stewards: Carrie Poynot, Terry Byars,*

*Mari Walker, John Toney, and our pastors.*

*Our CCLI streaming license is 20233858*