

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

JANUARY 27, 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 In GOD'S NAME

GREETING *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME *Kathleen Adams, UMW President*

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

We are a community of people-
young, middle-aged, older; diverse in backgrounds, appearances, and gifts -- yet celebrating that diversity.

Our purpose is to know God-
to know You -- sense Your joy -- share Your sorrow -- Your dream for a world where justice knows no favorite, where all walk in dignity, sensitive to each other's need.

Our purpose is to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ-
to reach out and know the wholeness made possible for us by Jesus, even as he restored the broken and the bruised.

Our purpose is to develop a creative, supportive fellowship
to share the joys; bear the sorrows; bind the wounds of body and of spirit-to become a caring community.

Our purpose is to expand concepts of mission-
to confront our preconceived opinions, our prejudices; to extend our areas of concern; to accept responsible action --
through participation in the global ministries of the church,
not "over there" alone, but the neighbor in our midst; not "immediate aid" alone, but willingness to help change systems; not "for" but "with," yet acknowledging the uniqueness of every child of God.

✠ SONG of PRAISE

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations UMH 569, vs. 1 & 3

**We've a story to tell to the nations,
that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy,
a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.**

**REFRAIN: For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
and the dawning to noonday bright;
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,
the kingdom of love and light.**

**We've a message to give to the nations,
that the Lord who reigneth above
hath sent us his Son to save us,
and show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.**

REFRAIN

MISSION RECOGNITION PINS

Pat Lively, Joyce Perry

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

✠ GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

Judy Barbay

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pam Toney

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.

MESSAGE

*Tracy Branch
St. Mark UMC, Baton Rouge*

✠ HYMN of FAITH

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

FWS 2237

✠ INVITATION to the LORD'S TABLE

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE *and* PARDON

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

✠ SHARING the LOVE *and* PEACE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES *and* GIFTS to GOD

*Trio: Kristine Isenhower,
Molly Means, Carrie Poynot*

✠ DOXOLOGY

**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!**

UMH 94

✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

UMH 15

The pastor give thanks and remembers God's gift of salvation.

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 LORD'S SUPPER

- ♦ *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 at the station on the right.*
- ♦ *You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

by Betty Schroeder

**God of all peoples,
as we move into a new year, we humbly offer ourselves to you in the work of your kingdom.
Help us to remain always faithful – faithful in using our gifts and talents to meet the needs of this hurting world, faithful in seeking out the places of neglect and desperation in our own community and abroad, and faithful in bringing your light and love into the dark corners of human experience.
Walk with us, we pray.
Grant us courage as we step into the future,
wisdom to discern the path you would have us follow,
and grace to be your loving ambassadors to the world.
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

Lead On, O King Eternal

UMH 580

✠ BLESSING *and* SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by St. John's United Methodist Women and are dedicated to United Methodist Women, past, present, and future.

Don't forget to pick up a grocery bag on your way out and bring it back next week for Grocery Bag Sunday.

After the service, the UMW is hosting a reception in the Family Life Center. Everyone is invited.

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.

SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY "JUST MERCY"

How are we called to be channels of God's mercy in an all-too-often-unjust world? "Just Mercy," our February sermon series, will engage us in conversations that spark redemption. We will come face to face with some of the most pressing challenges of the day, learn to tell the truth about our fears and shortcomings, and respond in meaningful ways together. This 4-part series is anchored in scripture from the Revised Common Lectionary.

All are invited to read Bryan Stevenson's compelling book of stories, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. Our series is loosely based on principles from the book. Stevenson is a man of deep faith and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, out of Montgomery, AL. He works for the exoneration of wrongly convicted persons of color, minor children who have been sentenced as adults, and others who have been mistreated by the criminal justice system. The book is available from Amazon.

FAST TRACK BIBLE STUDY

Spring 2019 Fast Track Bible Study will begin on **Tuesday, February 5** at 6 p.m. in the library. If you want to know more about the Bible, want to study in a relaxed, small group atmosphere, want to study with others on their journey through the Bible join us for this 12-week study of **Luke and Acts**. Study books are \$20. There are registration forms in the narthex and the Admin/Education Building. The study will be led by Mike Allen. Scholarships are available.

HYMN FEST AND STATE OF THE CHURCH POTLUCK

On **Sunday, February 10** from 4 - 6 p.m. we will be having a **Hymn Fest** and **State of the Church Potluck**. We will begin in the Sanctuary with the Chancel Choir, Alleluia Ringers, and Praise Team providing special music, as well as accompanying the congregation in singing some of their favorite hymns. A love offering will be taken in support of the our church's music ministries (Write "Music" on the memo of your check, please). Please fill out the form in the bulletin to submit your favorite hymns -- those with the most votes will be sung.

A potluck will follow in the FLC with a State of the Church address by our church leadership. Bring a dish to share to the FLC.

UMW MEETING

The UMW Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, February 5 at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Claudia Fowler will present a program on "Women Investing in Shalom." All women are invited to attend.

UMW READING PROGRAM

The books in the 2019 UMW Reading Program are now available for checkout from the church library in a special marked area. If you have not started your reading program, now is a great time to begin. While this program is for UMW members to earn a certificate of completion for one of the four reading plans, the books are available for anyone to read.

YOUTH - SHARE SALE FUNDRAISER

St. John's UMY is putting on a fundraiser for their summer trip YOUTH 2019! During our Stock Share Sale, we will invite church members, family, and friends to purchases "shares" of \$10 stock. We will sell shares in the narthex before and after worship for both services February 10, 17, and 24. You can buy multiple shares of stock. Investors will be celebrated with stock certificates and a Shareholder's Thank You dinner! Please help support us in our growth and experience as Methodists and as Christians!

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, January 27

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. Praise Team, *Sanctuary*
8:30 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
9:30 a.m. UMW Reception, *FLC*
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, *Campus Wide*
11:00 a.m. Worship Service, *Sanctuary*
4:00 p.m. Christian Formation Meeting, *Library*
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, January 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*
4:00 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, January 29

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. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Parlor*
6:30 p.m. Wesley Challenge Study, *Library*

Wednesday, January 30

10:00 a.m. Spanish Refresher, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, *Choir Room*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*

Thursday, January 31

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

Friday, February 1

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, *Parlor*
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, *FLC*
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, *Library*

Saturday, February 2

8:00 a.m. Quilts of Valor, *FLC*
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Aileen Pine, Sherri Artecona, Seng Kinraw, Pat Lively

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

United Methodist



Women

January 27, 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.