

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

MARCH 3, 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

† SONGS of PRAISE

What a Mighty God We Serve FWS 2021, vs. 1-3

**What a mighty God we serve, what a mighty God we serve,
what a mighty God we serve! Let us sing and praise the Lord,
let us sing and praise the Lord, let us sing and praise the Lord,
let us sing and praise the Lord!**

**Let us show and praise God's name, let us show and praise
God's name, let us show and praise God's name,
let us show and praise God's name!**

Christ Is the World's Light UMH 188, vs. 1 & 4

**Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!**

**Give God the glory, God and none other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son, and Father;
give God the glory, God with us, my brother:
Glory to God on high!**

† CALL to WORSHIP

Latrice Mallard

Come, people of God,
let us hear the invitation of Christ to follow him
and so draw close to the living God.

**We are a people in process,
seeking to be made holy.**

We long for the mountaintop moments
of clarity, vision, revelation, transcendence.
But more often we find ourselves lost in the fog
or scrambling through rocky valleys.

**We are a people in process,
seeking to see more clearly.**

We find ourselves sleepy and confused at critical
moments, missing the thread, the plot, the point,
clinging to whatever we can grasp
as we try to glimpse God's glory.

**We are a people in process,
seeking to understand more fully.**

May our eyes and ears, our hearts and minds,
our hands and lives be open, O God,
**to see and hear you, to trust and believe you,
to serve you and let your glory shine through us. Amen.**

† SONG of RESPONSE

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus UMH 349

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of his glory and grace.**

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

† SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:28-36

Latrice Mallard

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ben Hartman

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

2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2

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

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

FWS 2103

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

† INVITATION to the LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Deirdre

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.**

(A time for silent prayers and confession.)

† 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

† 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 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 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.*
- ♦ *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

**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 2173

Shine, Jesus, Shine

*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.

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.

NEW LENT WORSHIP SERIES - "BE STILL"

Lent, the 40-day season before Easter, is about taking time to "Be Still," to pray, read the Bible, think, reflect, listen, and to be given hope and power to move in the direction that God intends. Join us each week, beginning March 10, for "Be Still," our Lent Worship Series, focused simply on slowing down so there can be lasting change. Pick up your daily devotion booklet today. There is a weekly small-group discussion guide in the back, too.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

On **Ash Wednesday, March 6** there will be worship opportunities both morning and evening which include imposition of ashes and holy communion. We will begin at 7 a.m. with a short worship service followed by Drive-thru Ashes in our driveway; at 6 p.m. we will hold a traditional Ash Wednesday worship service in the sanctuary.

LENTEN RETREAT

Enter the season of Lent with St. John's at our **March 8-9** on-campus Lenten Retreat: "Listening in Stillness, Serving in Joy," facilitated by Rev. Dr. William Thiele. Registration forms can be found in the narthex and the Admin Building or you may register online at <http://bit.ly/LentRetreat19>. Please register by **Monday, March 4**.

MISSION TO ST. MARK'S, NEW ORLEANS

St. John's annual three-day mission to St. Marks UMC in New Orleans will be **April 5-7**. The team will do repair and remodeling work at the North Rampart Community Center Friday and Saturday and prepare and serve a meal for homeless persons on Sunday. The mission fee of \$135 per person includes your lodging and meals and helps defray the costs of preparing the Sunday meal and materials for the construction projects. Registration forms are in the narthex, office, and the FLC.

NEW FAMILY MINISTRY

Join us as we discuss family devotions at our first **Faith, Family & Formation** gathering on **Sunday March 24** at 3 p.m. While our kids have fun with a spring-themed craft and playing together, let's talk about real ways to stay connected to God and each other as family. Pastor Deirdre will facilitate our discussion. RSVP with number of kids to pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

The UMW is announcing a series of spring work days for Days for Girls. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, March 16, 23, and 30** from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the Family Life Center. Remember you do not need to know how to sew in order to participate in this very worthwhile ministry. For more information about this international organization go to www.daysforgirls.org.

NEW WRITER'S GROUP FORMING

A new writer's group is being formed here at St. John's. If you are a writer of any genre -- poetry, fiction, drama, essay -- and would like to be a part of the group, please come to the first meeting. We will meet for coffee and conversation in the church parlor on **Sunday, March 10**, at 3 p.m. Feel free to bring a short piece of your writing to share at the meeting. For more information contact Pastor Deirdre.

YOUTH ENTERING CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN COMPETITION

The youth are entering a competition for a chance to win \$5,000 in a group raise fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen. The group to raise the most money in sales between March and April will win. We need 20 people to RSVP on our meal page (www.groupraise.com/events/88205) by March 9 or our event scheduled for **Tuesday, March 12** will be canceled.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, March 3

GROCERY BAG SUNDAY

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
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary

Monday, March 4

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET IS CLOSED

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

Tuesday, March 5

CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET IS CLOSED

2:00 p.m. Reading Connection, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Library

Wednesday, March 6

7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A
6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

Thursday, March 7

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

Friday, March 8

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
8:30 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
6:00 p.m. **Be Still - Lent Retreat, FLC**

Saturday, March 9

8:30 a.m. **Be Still - Lent Retreat, FLC**
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: *Kathy King*

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



March 3, 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.