

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

June 2, 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

Great Is the Lord

FWS 2022, vs. 1

REFRAIN

**Great is the Lord, he is holy and just;
by his power we trust in his love.**

**Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true;
by his mercy he proves he is love.**

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!

Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:

Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

Christ Beside Me

FWS 2166

**Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me - King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me - never to part.**

**Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me - shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising - light of my life.**

† CALL to WORSHIP

Come, let us rejoice in the freedom that is ours.

It was there in the beginning, from the Alpha of time.

The very heavens proclaim the glory of the One in whom freedom is found.

The foundation of freedom is the righteousness and justice of God.

Freedom knows no bounds; it reaches across all eternity to the Omega of time.

We come to share in this spirit.

The one who reveals freedom's fullness is coming soon.

Come, Christ Jesus, come.

† SONG of RESPONSE

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

FWS 2195

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!**

Look to God, do not be afraid.

**Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Deirdré

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

Acts 16:16-34

Morgan Dynes

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

“Freedom to Soar”

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

Blessed Are They

FWS 2155, vs. 1-4

† PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of grace and love, here is our prayer:

Have mercy on us for the wrong we have done.

Show us where our service is needed.

Help us set aside our prejudice and bias.

Fill us with a longing to know you better.

Forgive us our lukewarm responses.

Kindle in us passion for your work.

Set us free from sin and fear.

Send us out to be your people.

**This we pray in the name of Jesus, our liberator,
our guide, and our Savior. Amen.**

† WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Siblings in Christ, let us proclaim the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Liberated by love, we are set free to love and serve others.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

May God's peace be always with you,

and also with you.

WORDS of WITNESS

Kathy King

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone

Mary Hannah Prevot

† 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

† CALL to the TABLE

Make Us One

FWS 2224

Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.

Let our love flow so the world will know we are one in you.

† 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

**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 set free by 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 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

I'll Fly Away

FWS 2282

*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 Tom Burch
in memory of Martha Bourland Burch.*

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 in the Narthex.

Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

Thank you for being here.

RUTH CIRCLE UMW

The Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, June 4** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Pat Lively will present our program "Women As Pastors and Leaders in the Church: Triumphs and Struggles." All women are invited to attend.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Family Movie Night, Friday June 7, 5 - 7 p.m. Faith, Family, and Formation presents a night of fellowship, hamburgers on the grill, and a movie! Come see Pixar's "Inside Out," said to be creative, clever, heartfelt, and beautifully animated. Good fun for the whole family. Hamburgers and all the fixings will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Louisiana Annual Conference, June 9 - 12. Pastor Lane, Pastor Deirdre, John Toney, and Bobbi Marino will represent St. John's at the Annual Conference in Shreveport; Danielle Blackwood and Mari Walker are serving as district delegates and many of our retired clergy will be attending as well. We celebrate that Pastor Deirdre will be commissioned during the Celebration of Ministry service on Monday, June 10.

We will be celebrating Pastor Deirdre's commissioning as a provisional elder at a reception during coffee time on June 16; everyone is invited! We will also be starting our summer worship series Listen, Love, Leap that invites us to open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word.

VBS IS COMING SOON!

VBS - Power Up, Raise Your Game - June 24 - 28, 9 a.m. - noon. Registration for VBS has begun. Forms are available on our website (www.stjohnsbr.org), in the narthex, and in the hallway of the Admin Building. Children aged 4 years through those completing 5th grade are eligible to attend. Invite your friends and neighbors also.

Volunteers Needed. Forms are available in the narthex for you to sign up to be a volunteer during Vacation Bible School, **Monday, June 24 - Friday, June 28, 9 a.m. - noon.** You might want to volunteer to help with decorating and set up, be a group leader (two adults per group), our photographer, kitchen helper (making snacks for the kids) or to bring snacks for the volunteer break room, "Stop 'n Go." Please contact Pastor Deirdre if you have any questions.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

In June and July our children who have completed K - 5th grade will combine into one class. **We are still in need of teacher volunteers for those two months.** Each Sunday requires 3 volunteers. This is an excellent way to "get your feet wet" by testing the waters as a Sunday school teacher, so to speak. You may sign up for one Sunday or multiple Sundays. Bring a friend to join you! The materials we use are very helpful in spelling out just how the lesson is taught. For more information, contact Pastor Deirdre.

SUMMER ONLINE GIVING

Though you may have a different routine during the summer, the ministries of St. John's continue going strong. It's easy to forget about your financial commitments to the church when you are busy or away. One easy way to *not* forget is to *not* have to remember! Setting up recurring scheduled giving is the way to do this. You can set up a weekly, monthly, or make a one-time gift and not have to worry if you wrote that check. Online giving can be accessed through our website www.stjohnsbr.org and clicking on Give Now. We accept credit cards and debit cards.

PASTOR LANE'S RENEWAL LEAVE

Pastor Lane will be on renewal leave from June 17 to September 3. During this time she will be stepping back from the day to day operations of the church to rest, refocus, and re-energize. According to the *United Methodist Book of Discipline*, clergy who have been in full-time ministry for at least six years may take a spiritual renewal leave of up to 6 months to model Jesus' rhythm of ministry, where the Lord "withdrew from the crowds" to engage in a deliberate season of prayer and renewal. While she is away, Pastor Deirdre will assume clergy responsibilities, with the support of our Ministry Intern, Morgan Dynes, our capable staff, and occasional guest preachers. Please do all you can to help during this season through your prayers, attendance and support.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, June 2	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 4:00 p.m. Youth Group, FLC 7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary
Monday, June 3	9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor 3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC 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, June 4	8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC 9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle UMW, Parlor 4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
Wednesday, June 5	10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room 6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary
Thursday, June 6	8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
Friday, June 7	6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor 8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library 5:00 p.m. FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT, FLC
Saturday, June 8	8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, Essen Piccadilly 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: David and Tina Henson, Brian and Danielle Blackwood

Host: *Bobbi Marino*

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



June 2, 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.