

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

May 12, 2019 at 11 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

INTROIT

† CALL to WORSHIP

Joyce Perry

Day by day, God leads us:

**to the deep, deep pools of peace,
to the green, lush lawns of grace.**

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**to pour out ourselves in service,
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**the community we could be,
the family we are called to become.**

Day by day, together, we strive:

**to welcome our neighbor,
and to serve all people with joy.**

† HYMN of PRAISE

Christ Is Alive

UMH 318

† PSALTER

Psalms 23

UMH 754

SUNG RESPONSE

***The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life
and have it abundantly.***

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,
leads me beside still waters, restores my life,
leads me in right paths
for the sake of the Lord's name.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

SUNG RESPONSE

You prepare a table before me
In the presence of my enemies;

**You anoint my head with oil,
My cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.

SUNG RESPONSE

ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Natalie Cooper

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.

ANTHEM

He Who Began a Good Work In You

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:36-43

Joyce Perry

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas). Her life overflowed with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. ³⁷ About that time, though, she became so ill that she died. After they washed her body, they laid her in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two people to Peter. They urged, "Please come right away!" ³⁹ Peter went with them. Upon his arrival, he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the tunics and other clothing Dorcas made when she was alive.

⁴⁰ Peter sent everyone out of the room, then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. ⁴² The news spread throughout Joppa, and many put their faith in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed for some time in Joppa with a certain tanner named Simon.

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

Together We Serve

FWS 2175

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

After prayer petitions are shared, we will respond:

In your love,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen.**

WORDS of WITNESS

Pastor Deirdre

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!**

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

Blest Be the Ties That Bind

UMH 557

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

*The flowers on the altar are given by Beth Forester
in memory of her mother, Eva Forester, and in honor of all mothers everywhere.*

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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the summer, church attendance fluctuates, family vacations are on the calendar, summer sports are in swing, our teachers would like to take a break -- these are just a few of the things that affect our Summer Sunday School Program. In June and July our children's Sunday school will take place in three sections: 3 & 4 years will remain the same; K - 5th grades will become one class; and 6th through 12th grades will continue as one class.

We are still in need of teacher volunteers for K - 5th grades for those two months.

Each Sunday we will need 3 volunteers in their classes. 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. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex, every adult Sunday school class, and on the bulletin board in the Admin Building hallway.

SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY

Our special offering today is for Methodist Foster Care (MFC) a division of Louisiana United Methodist Children & Family Services. LUMCFS has replaced their annual Mother's Day offering with one that will specifically support MFC.

On any given day there about 4,700 Louisiana children in 2,000 foster homes. However, we are still short hundreds of certified homes. This offering today will help recruit, train, certify, and support therapeutic foster families to ensure children are placed in secure, loving homes.

We hope you will be able to join in this first annual special offering to provide therapeutic foster care services and foster homes for Louisiana children in need of a safe, nurturing home. For more information go to www.methodistfostercare.org. Please make your check out to St. Johns UMC with Foster Care in the memo line.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

St. John's has an opportunity to become part of an initiative to prepare individuals for meaningful work and experience life in Christ through the Jobs for Life organization. There will be an informational meeting **TOMORROW EVENING, May 13** at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Jude Parish Hall, 9150 Highland Rd.

Jobs for Life is a global nonprofit organization established in 1996 that addresses the root causes of unemployment by uniting churches, businesses, community organizations, and a network of volunteers applying biblically-based training to bring positive transformation to the unemployed and underemployed.

The Christian Outreach Center in Baton Rouge has a trained team of volunteers that has been involved in Jobs for Life for a few years and now there are plans to train volunteers to make this a parish-wide effort. For information on the efforts in our community, please contact Sandra Kuykendall at 769-3409 or july2002@aol.com. For more information on the program go to their website www.jobsforlife.org.

FIRST QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS

First quarter giving statements for 2019 have gone out. If you did not receive one please let LeAnn Davis, our financial manager, know by emailing her at leanndavis@stjohnsbr.org or phoning the office at 225-766-4594. We hope you found the enclosed "2019 First Quarter Giving Report" informative in showing how your generosity is helping St. John's meet its vision of being a center for feeding people spiritually and physically within our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Movie Night, Friday June 7, 5 - 7 p.m. 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.

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. Pastor Deirdre will be commissioned during the Celebration of Ministry service on June 10.

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. Tell your friends and neighbors also.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, May 12**
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, May 13**
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
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, May 14**
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. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Library
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, FLC-A
7:00 p.m. UMW Mary Martha Circle, Parlor
- Wednesday, May 15**
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, May 16**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
3:00 p.m. Everybody Reads Training, Library
5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Parsonage
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC
7:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, Library
- Friday, May 17**
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library
- Saturday, May 18**
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Ushers: Rhonda Tucker, Harriet Walters, Deidra Matthews, Kathleen Adams

Host: Tommie Reinhardt

CHURCH STAFF

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



May 12, 2019

11:00 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.