

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

May 26, 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

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place

UMH 334

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.  
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
when we shall leave this place.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

UMH 64, vs. 1 & 4

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!  
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.**

† CALL to WORSHIP

Bobbi Marino

Welcome to all who have come in search of something;  
**we have come to seek the living God.**  
Happy are those who find a way and follow that path;  
**we do not make this journey by ourselves.**  
Blessed are those who give their lives over to their Creator.  
**In faith, in trust, with hope, let us worship God  
who has given us this day.**  
God made this day so we can rest, reflect, and worship.  
God made this day so we can open our eyes to see beauty,  
pain, opportunity, and hope.  
**So let us gather this day with our eyes, hearts, and minds  
wide open, and let us worship God.**

† SONG of RESPONSE

Seek Ye First

UMH 405

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find;  
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## ENGAGING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Lane

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

John 14:15-29

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

“Following the Way”

Pastor Deirdré

## RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH 140

† PRAYER of CONFESSION

Lord God,  
we have found a home in You; we have found a family in You;  
we have found a place to belong; to know and be known,  
to love and be loved.

And we are so grateful for this awesome gift.  
But, too easily, we forget the benefits it brings;  
**we have forgotten our place, and doubted Your love;**  
remind us, and all who feel neglected by You,  
that we are engraved on Your hands.

**We have forgotten who we are, and have  
failed to care for ourselves;**  
remind us, and all who feel worthless,  
that You have called us by name.

**We have forgotten our connectedness,  
and have divided ourselves;**  
remind us, and all who would exclude, oppress and  
condemn others, that we are all made  
in Your image, and we are all one body.

*A time of silent prayer is allowed, in which the people are invited  
to become aware of and pray for those sitting on either side of them.*

For the sake of Jesus, who loved us to the death,  
and whose love conquered the grave,  
**Forgive us, hear our prayer,  
And teach us to be one again. 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 PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

May God's peace be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

WORDS of WITNESS

Mari Walker

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

In the Garden

Praise Team

† 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 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 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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

UMH 664

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

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

*After the service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for refreshments.  
The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Jim and Claudia Fowler  
and in recognition of the extraordinary mission work done by  
St. John's United Methodist Women (UMW).*

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.

### HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The church office will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day and will resume regular office hours on Tuesday. The Shepherd's Market will also be closed Monday and will reopen on Tuesday at 8 a.m.

### VOLUNTEER FOR VBS

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.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**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.

**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](http://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.

### PILLOW CASES FOR GRACE CAMP

Each year folks from St. John's sew pillowcases for the youth who attend Grace Camp, a summer camp for youth who have an incarcerated family member. The pillowcases are very easy to construct and come in a kit with the needed materials and easy to follow instructions. Joyce Perry will have some ready-to-sew kits during coffee time. For more information contact Joyce at 763-6613 or [joyce.perry@cox.net](mailto:joyce.perry@cox.net).

### PICK UP YELLOW GROCERY BAG

Don't forget to pick up a yellow grocery bag and bring it back next week for Grocery Bag Sunday. Some needed items are breakfast items, soup, juice, household and baby products.

### LECTIONARY LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Lectionary Ladies Bible Study is taking the summer off; they will resume meeting on **Monday, September 9** at 3 p.m. in the parlor. The ladies study the Bible by reading and discussing the weekly scripture. If you would be interested in joining the group there is no need to register, just come to the parlor on Mondays at 3 p.m.

### "GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO ALL" FROM LOVE IS LOVE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

After a month of conversations with other Sunday school classes, Love is Love Sunday School presented its revised "God's Doors Are Open to All" temporary, self-financed, welcoming art project proposal to the Church Council on Thursday. The council approved the proposal, and the project - six doors painted red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple, each with one of the words in the sentence "God's Doors Are Open to All!" painted in white, plus blank black and brown doors, for a total of eight doors - is on display in the Family Life Center this morning. This afternoon the doors will be moved to Highland Road near where the white house stood and will remain on display until June 16. Love is Love members are available to answer questions this morning.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

**Sunday, May 26**  
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, May 27**  
OFFICE CLOSED  
THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

**Tuesday, May 28**  
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, Parlor

**Wednesday, May 29**  
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 30**  
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC  
6:00 p.m. Opening Doors Board, Library  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

**Friday, May 31**  
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor  
8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library

**Saturday, June 1**  
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C  
5:30 p.m. Walk to Emmaus Gathering, FLC

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Donnie and Susan Lambert, Darren and Chris Stubbs*  
Host: *Kathy King*

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



May 26, 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.*