

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

July 21, 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

Holy Ground FWS 2272

**We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.**

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise FWS 2031

**We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving;
and we offer up to you the sacrifices of joy.**

✠ CALL to WORSHIP *Barbara Benton*

Holy God, light of the world, come to our lives and reveal to us your truth.

Holy God, hope of the despairing, come to our lives and grant us your peace.

Jesus Christ, bread of life, nourish us to true and eternal life.

Jesus Christ, gentle shepherd, come and lead us to springs of living water.

Living Savior, just and gentle judge, come and reveal us to ourselves.

Living Savior, healer of the wounded, came and make us whole. Show us the way to new life.

Holy God we come to worship you this day. May we offer ourselves to you, in Spirit and in truth. Renew our spirits, and strengthen us to be your people, through the indwelling power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

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.**

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 82

Barbara Benton

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Barbara Benton

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

Mark 12:28-36

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

"Loving Our Neighbor"

Pastor Deirdre

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

✠ HYMN of FAITH

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

FWS 2234

✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of pure, unbounded love, we are a people who long to be loving, and a people who often fail.

Forgive us when our actions hurt ourselves and others.

Forgive us when we do not chose our words with care, and when they hurt our families, friends and neighbors.

Help us to go the second mile in loving and giving of ourselves; make us strong and wise in our loving.

Teach us what it means to love our enemies.

Hear us now as we pray to you for healing in our relationships; with you, with our loved ones, with friends and associates, with our neighbors and ourselves.

Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Jesus knows our every weakness, and loves us still.
Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✠ SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

✠ 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

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

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us
in this sacrament, united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
in your eternal realm.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work
to your praise and glory, for the sake 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

Go Ye, Go Ye Into the World

FWS 2239

✠ 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 Carlos and Saroj Welch in celebration of their sixty-fourth wedding anniversary.

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.



The journey to a deeper faith life can be summed up in three words: Listen, Love, Leap! God is constantly speaking to people, but too often we struggle to hear and discern the message. Our summer series calls us to quiet our thoughts and hearts and listen to what God has to say. Our obedience to this simple discipline opens our hearts to LOVE God and neighbors in deeper and more holy ways. Join us as we continue to open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word, as we Love (Sundays in July) and Leap (Sundays in August). Our scripture reading for next Sunday is 1 Peter: 2:4-10.

SECOND QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS

The 2019 Second Quarter Giving Report and the second quarter giving statements will be handed out before and after both services today, July 21. Those who are not able to pick up their statement on Sunday; will receive theirs in the mail. If you have any questions about your statement, please contact LeAnn Davis at leannDavis@stjohnsbr.org or 766-4594.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS & PROMOTION SUNDAY

Sunday, August 4 is Promotion Sunday and Blessing of Backpacks at both worship services. All students are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed before starting school - this includes undergrad and graduate students. This is also Promotion Sunday for our children and youth who might be going into a new Sunday School class.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

It won't be long before school bells are ringing and this means its time for Opening Doors to begin collecting school supplies for students in the Gardere area. Your donations will be much appreciated. Deadline is **Monday August 12**.

Suggested supplies are loose leaf paper, pencils, pens (black or blue), Elmer's glue, glue sticks, 24-pack of crayons, colored pencils, spiral notebooks (3 subject or more), standard rulers, folders with clasps and pockets, scissors, boxes of Kleenex, rolls of paper towels, Clorox wipes, hand wipes, dry erase markers, kid scissors, construction paper, copy/computer paper. There are blue tubs in the Narthex and in the Admin Building to put your donations.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Opening Doors is sponsoring Dave Ramsey's 9-week course *Financial Peace University*. The class will begin on **Tuesday, August 20** in the library from 6:30 - 8 p.m. If you are interested in participating, you may register by going online to www.fpu.com/1091639. The cost of the course is \$59; checks should be made out to St. John's UMC, with FPU in the memo line. For more information contact Amy Richardson at amyrichardson318@yahoo.com or 225-773-7417. If you will not be participating in the course but would like to donate a scholarship that would allow someone to attend, put FPU scholarship in memo line of your check. Thank you so much.

SOLES 4 SOULS

The Soles 4 Souls mission project (collecting new and gently worn shoes in all sizes) is in full swing! There are blue tubs in the narthex and in the hallway of the Admin Building to place your donations. Please have all donated shoes at the church by **August 31**, when our shoe drive will end.

ESTATE PLANNING

The United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana is offering a FREE Estate Planning Course, "It's Different in Louisiana." There is no cost or obligation, no meetings to attend. You must register online at <https://umf.org/create-your-legacy> after which the five easy lessons will be mailed to you at weekly intervals.

FALL BIBLE STUDY

We will be offering a Disciple Fast Track Bible study this fall on "The Prophets." This 12-week study includes sessions on the Old Testament Major and Minor Prophets (except Daniel). The study will begin on **Tuesday, September 10** at 6 p.m., location to be decided. Look for a registration form in future communications.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, July 21**
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*
2:00 p.m. Communications Team, *Library*
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*
- Monday, July 22**
9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*
- Tuesday, July 23**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, *Pastor's Office*
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *Parlor*
5:30 a.m. RUMCR Meeting, *Library*
- Wednesday, July 24**
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, *Library*
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*
- Thursday, July 25**
8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
11:00 a.m. Bible Study on Depression, *Library*
6:00 p.m. Bible Study on Depression, *Library*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*
- Friday, July 26**
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, July 27**
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: *Phil and Jill Slicker, Carol Gordon, Sandra Kuykendall*
Host: *Beth Forester*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
(on renewal leave until September 3)

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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



July 21, 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.