

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

June 30, 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

Jesus Be Praised FWS 2079

**Jesus, we worship you; with our voices filled with praises,
Jesus, we worship you; songs of love we raise.
Jesus, Jesus be praised!
Jesus, Jesus be praised!**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah FWS 2026

**Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halleluja!
Halleluja!**

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

John Toney

Welcome this day to the house of our God.

We are greeted in peace and in love.

Welcome this day to the worship of our creator.

We worship in hope and with grace.

Welcome this day to our community of faith.

Where we are sisters and brothers in Christ.

Welcome this day to the presence of the one who calls us beloved.

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

Lead Me, Guide Me FWS 2214

**Lead me, guide me, along, the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Heather Durham

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

Matthew 7:7-14

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

“Persistent Listening”

Pastor Deirdré

RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

✠ HYMN of FAITH

UMH 277

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

✠ PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of Grace, in the days when your word was rarely heard and when visions were scarce, you broke into Samuel's life and called his name...

and he said “Here I am, speak, for your servant is listening.”

We confess that often, so many voices clamor for our attention that your word is again hard to hear.

Forgive us if you have called us to be prophetic witnesses or to use our gifts to serve you, and we have not heard, or have been unwilling to respond.

Lord Jesus Christ, you met Philip and Nathaniel on the road and said “Follow me” and they did...

We confess that we do not expect to meet you on the familiar roads we travel and so we fail to discern your presence or your call on our lives.

Holy Spirit, you empower us to recognize and to respond to the invitation of Jesus to follow him, even when that means traveling on unknown and unfamiliar paths...

Merciful God, take from us all that hinders our hearing your voice and fill us anew with the Holy Spirit that we may joyfully respond to Jesus' call on our lives.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

✠ WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

The good news is that even if we, at first, do not hear the divine word addressed to us, God calls again and again.

When our words and actions separate us from God, Jesus was prepared to pay the price to restore us to God.

Let us joyfully proclaim that we are beloved and forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Open our hearts and minds to hear the welcome and love you freely lavish on us.

Thanks be to God for this unbounded love. Amen.

✠ SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

May the Spirit's peace be always with you,
and also with you.

MINISTRY MOMENT - ANNUAL CONFERENCE

John Toney

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

Chancel Choir

Old Time Religion Medley

✠ 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 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

UMH 381, vs. 1 & 4

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

✠ 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 by Don, Carol, and Emma Gordon in memory of Don's
parents, Bryant & Ione Gordon, and Carol's parents, Porter & Carmen Marr.*

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. Join us as we open our hearts and minds to God's surprising Word, as we

Listen (Sundays in June), Love (Sundays in July) and Leap (Sundays in August).

THANK YOU

Thank you for the beautiful reception to celebrate my graduation and commissioning. I am so thankful for the love and support of my St. John's family. Pastor Deirdre.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CLOSURES

The church office will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5. We will reopen for regular office hours on Monday, July 8 at 9 a.m.. The Shepherd's Market will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and will reopen for regular pantry hours on Monday, July 8 at 3 p.m.

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 using the insert in today's bulletin or go online to www.fpu.com/1091639. If you have any questions, contact Amy Richardson at amyrichardson318@yahoo.com.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MISSIONS

St. John's UMW is supporting 2 missions of the Baton Rouge District UMW. **Born With Angel Wings** accepts donations of formal gowns that will be transformed into little gowns to be given to those parents who have had a still-born baby or a baby who lived only a short time. If you have a garment to donate, contact Janet Hogstrom by email (jhogstrom@cox.net) or phone (832-236-0627 or 225-767-9423) and she will arrange a pick up. Financial donations should be mailed to Pat Lively, 944 E. Lakeview Dr., Baton Rouge 70810.

Reality House in Baton Rouge provides substance abuse programs for women with dependent children. Donations of diapers, towels, soap, deodorant, shampoo, and hair products are much appreciated by the women and may be brought to Ruth Circle meetings on July 2 and August 6 at 9:30 a.m. and to Mary Martha Circle on August 13 at 7 p.m. Financial contributions may also be made to UMW for this mission project.

SHORT SUMMER STUDY

Pastor Deirdre and Morgan Dynes, our Summer Ministry Intern, are leading a 4-week summer study looking at Depression through a Spiritual and Scriptural lens. Many people experience depression or aspects of depression at some time in their lives. We feel lonely, discouraged, or sad and wonder if God has any place in our negative emotions. Join us beginning Thursday, July 11. You will have the option of participating at 11 a.m. (after the Shepherd's Market) or 5:30pm. Please email morgandynes@stjohnsbr.org with any questions.

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. Each lesson is written by a Louisiana tax and estate planning attorney to give you information specific to the unique laws our state has regarding community property and probate.

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. There will be a blue tub in the Narthex and in the Admin Building to put the supplies. For a complete list of suggested supplies see our Friday Newsletter.

SHEPHERD'S MARKET GROCERY BAGS

Don't forget to pick up a green or yellow grocery bag for Grocery Bag Sunday to help fill the shelves of The Shepherd's Market. Some suggested canned goods that are needed are: green beans, corn, peas, soups, and meats.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sunday, June 30**
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, July 1**
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 2**
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
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
6:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal, Choir Room
- Wednesday, July 3**
10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, Library
1:00 p.m. Holy Folders, Library
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, FLC-A
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, Sanctuary
- Thursday, July 4**
OFFICE CLOSED
THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED
- Friday, July 5**
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- Saturday, July 6**
12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Susan Johnston, Maureen Robertson, Randy Thayer, Chris Stubbs
Host: Kathy King

CHURCH STAFF

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

Lynn Cooper
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



June 30, 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.