

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

August 25, 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

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

*Guy Jofinson*

Sing a new song to the Lord!

**Let the whole earth sing to the Lord!**

Sing to the Lord; bless God's holy name.

**Each day proclaim the good news that God saves.**

Publish the glorious deeds among the nations.

**Tell everyone about the amazing things God does.**

For great is the Lord!

**Great is the Lord and worthy of our praise! Amen.**

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

UMH 139, vs. 1, 3, 5

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

## LISTENING to GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Darlene Dickson*

*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

Chancel Choir

*Go Ye Into All the World*

✠ SCRIPTURE

*Luke 13:10-17*

<sup>10</sup> Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.

<sup>11</sup> And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." <sup>13</sup> When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. <sup>14</sup> But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?"

<sup>16</sup> And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" <sup>17</sup> When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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

"The Leap of Faith"

*Rev. Marie Williams*

## RESPONDING to GOD'S GRACE

✠ HYMN of FAITH

*Lord of the Dance*

UMH 261, vs. 1, 3, 5

✠ PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Gracious Lord, we dream of a world free of poverty and oppression, and we yearn for a world free of vengeance and violence.

**Grant to us your peace that passes all understanding.**

When our hearts ache for the victims of war and oppression, help us to remember that you healed people simply by touching them.

**Give us faith in our ability to comfort and heal the bodies, minds and spirits of those that have been broken by violence.**

When the injustice of this world seems too much for us to handle, help us to remember that you fed five thousand people with only five loaves of bread and two fish

**Give us hope that what we have to offer will turn out to be enough, for the needs at hand.**

When fear of the power and opinions of others tempts us not to speak up for the least among us, help us to remember that you dared to turn over the tables of money changers.

**Give us the courage to risk following you without counting the cost.**

When we feel ourselves fill with anger at those who are violent and oppressive, help us remember that you prayed for those who killed you.

**Give us compassion for our enemies.**

When we tell ourselves that we have given all we can to bring peace to this world, help us to remember your sacrifice.

**Give us the miracle of losing a little more of ourselves in serving you and our neighbors.**

Walk with us, Lord, as we answer your call to be peacemakers. Increase our compassion, our generosity and our hospitality for the least of your children.

**Give us the courage, the patience, the serenity, the self-honesty and the gentleness of spirit that are needed in a world filled with turmoil and terror. Amen.**

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, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

✠ DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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 695

*O Lord, May Church and Home Combine*

✠ 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.*

*The flowers on the altar are in memory of Jere Johnston from Susan Johnston and children.*

## 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).

### 2019 SILENT AUCTION AND PULLED PORK LUNCH

The 2019 Silent Auction will be held **Sunday, September 15** in the Family Life Center. And it is time for everyone to start bringing their items to the church office during the week or to Room B in the FLC on Sundays. It takes the support of the whole church to make this a successful event; please think about what you might be able to donate. Check out the Friday Newsletter for more information or contact Beth Forester at 225-405-9324.

Tickets will go on sale **Sunday, September 1** for a pulled pork lunch that will be held in conjunction with the Silent Auction. Tickets are \$8 for a BBQ pulled pork sandwich, cole slaw, potato chips, brownie, and a drink. Make checks to St. John's with pork lunch in memo.

### HOLY LAND 2020

Join Bishop Harvey and other travelers from the Louisiana Conference on a trip to the Holy Land, January 21-30, 2020. Pastor Deirdré is leading our St. John's group going on this journey following in the footsteps of Jesus. Contact Pastor Deirdré (225-939-1425) for more information.

### MANNA BAGS

Our youth will be putting together manna bags and are asking for donations of the following: toothbrushes, small tubes of toothpaste, small waters, adult socks, trail mix or nuts, small boxes of raisins, band-aids, face cloths, napkin & plastic silverware, granola bars, fruit cups, little boxes of cereal, small packs of crackers or cookies, etc. There will be blue tubs in the narthex and the admin building for your donations.

### FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Our fall Blood Drive will take place **Sunday, September 15** from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please consider participating in this very worthy cause.

### FALL BIBLE STUDY

We will be offering two sessions of 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 **Monday, September 9**; you may choose to attend at 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. There are registration forms in the narthex or Admin Building.

### DINNER THEATER

**TODAY** at 3 p.m., there will be a meeting in the library for everyone taking part in our Dinner Theater and for anyone who has an interest in participating. We still need actors (roles range in age from youth to middle age), costumes, set constructors, backstage personnel. If you have an interest in helping with any part of the play, please come to the meeting; no acting experience is necessary. For additional information contact Pastor Deirdré (225-939-1425) or Guy Johnson (225-766-7931).

### DAYS FOR GIRLS IN SEPTEMBER

The UMW is sponsoring 3 more work days to make 100 additional kits for the Days for Girls project. These kits will contain reusable feminine hygiene products for girls in third world countries who are missing school because of a lack of these personal items. We will meet in the Family Life Center on consecutive Saturdays, **September 14, 21, and 28** from 9 a.m. - noon. Sewers and non-sewers are needed.

Donations needed: hotel or travel-size soap (most needed); new, girls cotton panties size 10, 12, or 14 in dark to medium colors, solids or flowers, no characters or animals; new colored washcloths, gallon freezer Ziploc bags (zipper only), or cash to purchase fabric. Contact Joyce Perry (978-2206) for more information.

### SOLES 4 SOULS

The Soles 4 Souls mission project (collecting new and gently worn shoes in all sizes) is winding down. 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**.

## HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

### Sunday, August 25

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*  
3:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Group, *Library*  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*  
7:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

### Monday, August 26

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*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Tuesday, August 27

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*  
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University, *Library*

### Wednesday, August 28

10:00 a.m. Spanish Class, *Library*  
4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, *FLC-A*  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, *Sanctuary*  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

### Thursday, August 29

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
6:00 p.m. Lay Leadership Committee, *Library*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

### Friday, August 30

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

### Saturday, August 31

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mary Jo Brook, Joyce Perry, Liz McDonald, Tommie Reinhardt  
Host: Tommie Reinhardt

### CHURCH STAFF

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

**Lynn Cooper**  
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Check in on Facebook:  
facebook.com/stjohnsbr

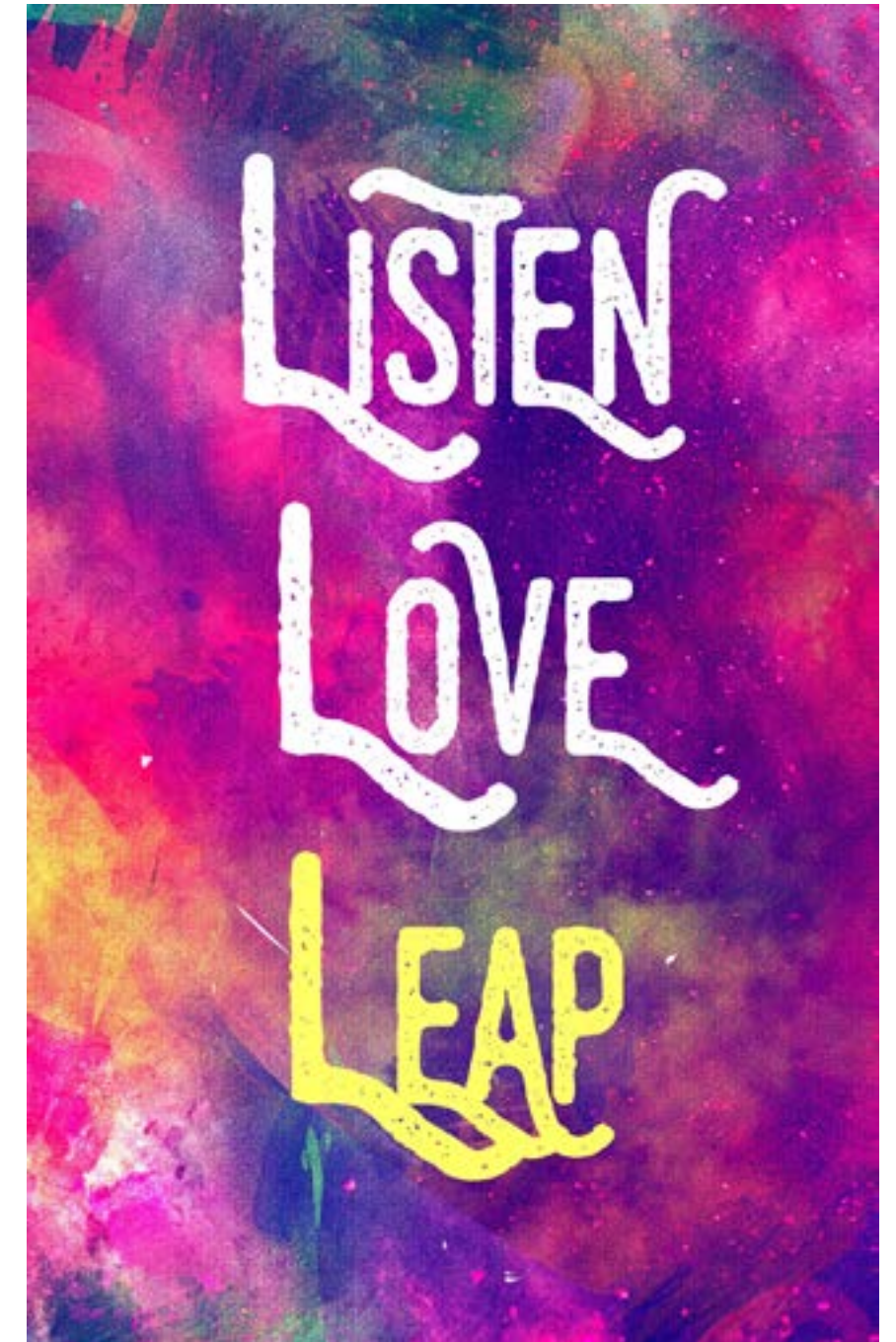
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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



August 25, 2019  
11 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.*