

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

November 3, 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.

We GATHER with GOD'S SAINTS

WORDS of WELCOME

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Guests, friends, members, welcome to worship! We are glad you are here. Please feel free to participate in ways that you feel led and comfortable or just observe, if you prefer. We welcome your presence among us.

PROCESSIONAL PRELUDE

Ana de la Fuente

INTROIT

† CALL to WORSHIP

We remember, O God ... **The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time.**

We remember, O God ... **The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.**

We remember, O God ... **The gentle strength of grandparents, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.**

We remember, O God ... **The unfailing love of Jesus, the glory of his resurrection, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.**

We remember in every time and place the saints of God who have shown us the Lord. **Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses ... let us worship God with joy! Amen.**

† HYMN of PRAISE

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

UMH 702

IN MEMORIAM

As the candles are lighted and a bell is tolled, family and friends are encouraged to stand where they are. After the bell is silent, all are seated.

Joan Abed, June 11, 2019

Dorothy Eileen Strole Bevis, March 24, 2019

Carole Jane Carpenter, March 30, 2019

Cade Edward Carter, Jr., April 12, 2019

Helen Hargis-Wiltz, January 8, 2019

Robert Allen May, September 30, 2019

Joseph Stephen Popadic, February 14, 2019

Margaret Anne Williams Steffen, October 9, 2019

PRAYER of REMEMBRANCE

We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God, and lift up many more names in our hearts.

O God, whose love embraces all your sons and daughters, bind us together into one beloved community. Make us conscious not only of those whom our eyes can see, but also of that great unseen community of those who have gone before us, our forefathers and mothers in the faith, men and women who have lived and died trusting your promise, our loved ones, whose memory

we honor this day, whose living presence is all around us, like the hovering of great wings. By the power of your Spirit, make us one with them and one with you, members of that communion which is beyond all space and time. And with all the company of heaven, we will glorify our Savior's name and sing your praise for all eternity! Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

UMH 186, v. 1

*Alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

We WITNESS GOD'S BLESSINGS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Natalie Cooper

† SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:20-31

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

Pastor Lane

"Blessings and Woes"

We RESPOND to GOD'S GRACE

† HYMN of FAITH

UMH 711, vs. 1, 2, 4, & 6

For All the Saints

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Deirdré

Loving Savior, you showed us holiness in action through the way you lived your life.

You gave away your power in the service of others and turned our understanding of blessedness on its head.

We confess the difficulties we experience in living as you lived and loving as you loved.

In our stubbornness, we turn away from you, when we should turn toward you.

We confess our capacity to be so consumed by our own agendas that our concern for others shrinks all too rapidly.

We are reluctance to love our enemies and to do good to those who dislike or even hate us.

Stir up your Spirit in us, Lord, that we may experience the happiness and blessing of being your disciples in more than name only.

We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with anyone but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts.

(A time of silence)

Strengthen us to be people who sing and live your song of love; who willingly serve our neighbors—even those we don't especially like; who seek justice and mercy for all and who truly repent of what is past and look with anticipation for what is yet to come.

WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Friends, Sisters, brothers,
Hear this good news!
Accept the grace of God. You are forgiven.
You are free to go and live in the light of love.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

† SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

*Shall We Gather at the River
Katherine Kemler, flute*

Chancel Choir

† DOXOLOGY

**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.**

UMH 95

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The pastors give thanks and remember God's gift of salvation.

Therefore, with all the company of heaven, we rejoice with unending praise!

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Truly holy are you, and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ. Through his life, death, and resurrection, he demonstrated the full extent of your love for humankind, a love that is stronger than death itself.

At the altar, the pastors will break the bread and pour the cup.

Therefore, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we gratefully offer to you our whole selves – heart, mind, soul and strength – as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastors invoke the present work of the Holy Spirit and conclude:

Renew our communion with all your saints so that, being surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, we may know your blessings and share them with all the world, united by your love.

**All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING the BREAD & 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 and thereby receive both elements at the same time.
- Gluten-free communion is offered to anyone who desires it at the station on the right.
- You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.

PRAYER after RECEIVING

We give you thanks, O God, that you have refreshed us through this healing time of worship and around your table of grace. We know that in our grief and in our celebration, you are with us in Spirit and we are not left alone. We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ as we go forth this day. Amen.

We DEPART 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

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

During the singing of the hymn, we invite you to bring forward The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.

† BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

† POSTLUDE

Welcome to St. John's!

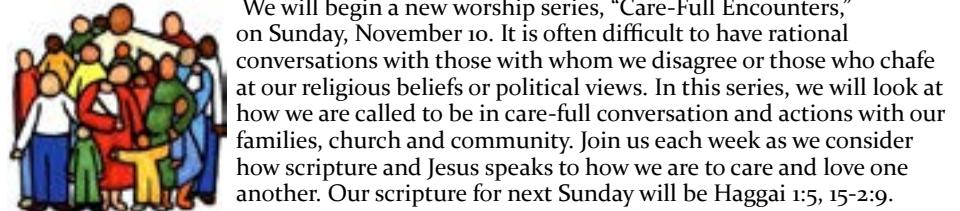
Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome.

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.

NEW WORSHIP SERIES - CARE-FULL ENCOUNTERS



We will begin a new worship series, "Care-Full Encounters," on Sunday, November 10. It is often difficult to have rational conversations with those with whom we disagree or those who chafe at our religious beliefs or political views. In this series, we will look at how we are called to be in care-full conversation and actions with our families, church and community. Join us each week as we consider how scripture and Jesus speaks to how we are to care and love one another. Our scripture for next Sunday will be Haggai 1:5, 15-2:9.

PLEDGES UPDATE

Thank you to all who have already submitted your pledge to the mission and ministries of St. John's for 2020. We encourage those who have not pledged yet to turn your card into the church as soon as possible. Commitment cards are available in the Narthex and the Admin Building and can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the office by mail.

Please join us in making God's vision for St. John's not only a possibility, but a reality.

UMW RUTH CIRCLE

The UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Tuesday, November 5** at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Norma Thomason will present the 2020 Pledge Program and World Thank Offering. All women are invited to attend.

YOUTH DINNER SCHEDULE

Would you be willing to serve the youth by providing youth dinners on Sunday nights? This is the time of year when we put our schedule together for 2020 and we would love for you to help. The rotation is typically 8-9 weeks depending on how many folks sign up.

This is a great ministry to share with a friend! Partner up with someone else to help share in the experience. Willing to serve but need a partner? Let Amy know and she will try to pair you up with someone else.

If you would like to volunteer contact Amy Fine at amyfine@stjohnsbr.org or 788-2543. You will need to prepare a meal for approximately 15 people. It should consist of an entree, a side, a dessert, and drinks. We have the paper products and plastic ware. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. so plan to arrive at 5 p.m. to prep. The youth will help you clean up.

MONDAY EXERCISE CLASS

Taking care of ourselves can be a challenging task, but God calls us to make the effort. One of many ways to do that is to join us for an exercise class (Yoga/Pilates) that is being held on **Mondays at 11:30 a.m.** in the Narthex. There is no registration, just come if you can. For \$5 per class you'll be able to enjoy spiritual and physical renewal in a supportive group setting. All fitness levels welcome! (Bring water and an exercise mat, if possible.)

JOIN OUR ADVENT CHOIR

The Chancel Choir and guest orchestra will present *The Glory of Christmas* by Lloyd Larson on **Sunday, December 15** at both services. In this cantata we experience the majesty, mystery, hope, and finally the GLORY of the season. If you have ever been interested in singing with the choir, please come join us! We will rehearse the cantata music at the beginning of our Wednesday night rehearsals, from 6:30-7:15, in the choir room. We have books and practice CD's available. Please email Carrie (carriepoynot@stjohnsbr.org) if you have any questions!

HOLY LAND TRIP

There is still time to sign up to go to the Holy Land January 21-30, 2020, with Bishop Harvey. Pastor Deirdré will be leading a contingent of St. John's folks on this once in a lifetime journey to see the Bible come to life. Contact Pastor Deirdré by email (pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org) or phone (225-235-5633) for more information.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, November 3

- 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*
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, November 4

- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 10:00 a.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*
- 11:30 a.m. Exercise Class, *Narthex*
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
- 3:00 p.m. Ladies Lectionary Study, *Parlor*
- 3:00 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 6:00 p.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

Tuesday, November 5

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, *FLC*
- 9:30 a.m. UMW Ruth Circle, *Parlor*
- 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*

Wednesday, November 6

- 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, November 7

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, November 8

- 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, November 9

- 8:30 a.m. Prime Timers Breakfast, *Piccadilly*
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*

CONNECT WITH ST. JOHN'S

TEXTING: St. John's sends out timely reminders about church events via text message. Email the office (office@stjohnsbr.org) requesting that you be signed up for the texting service.

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER: Our Friday Newsletter keeps you up to date about all the happenings around St. John's, including worship information, special events, and service opportunities.

INSIDE ST. JOHN'S EMAIL: This new email is in addition to our Friday e-newsletter, and geared towards our active members and friends. It includes prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries, celebrations, memorial and funeral announcements, and other St. John's family news.

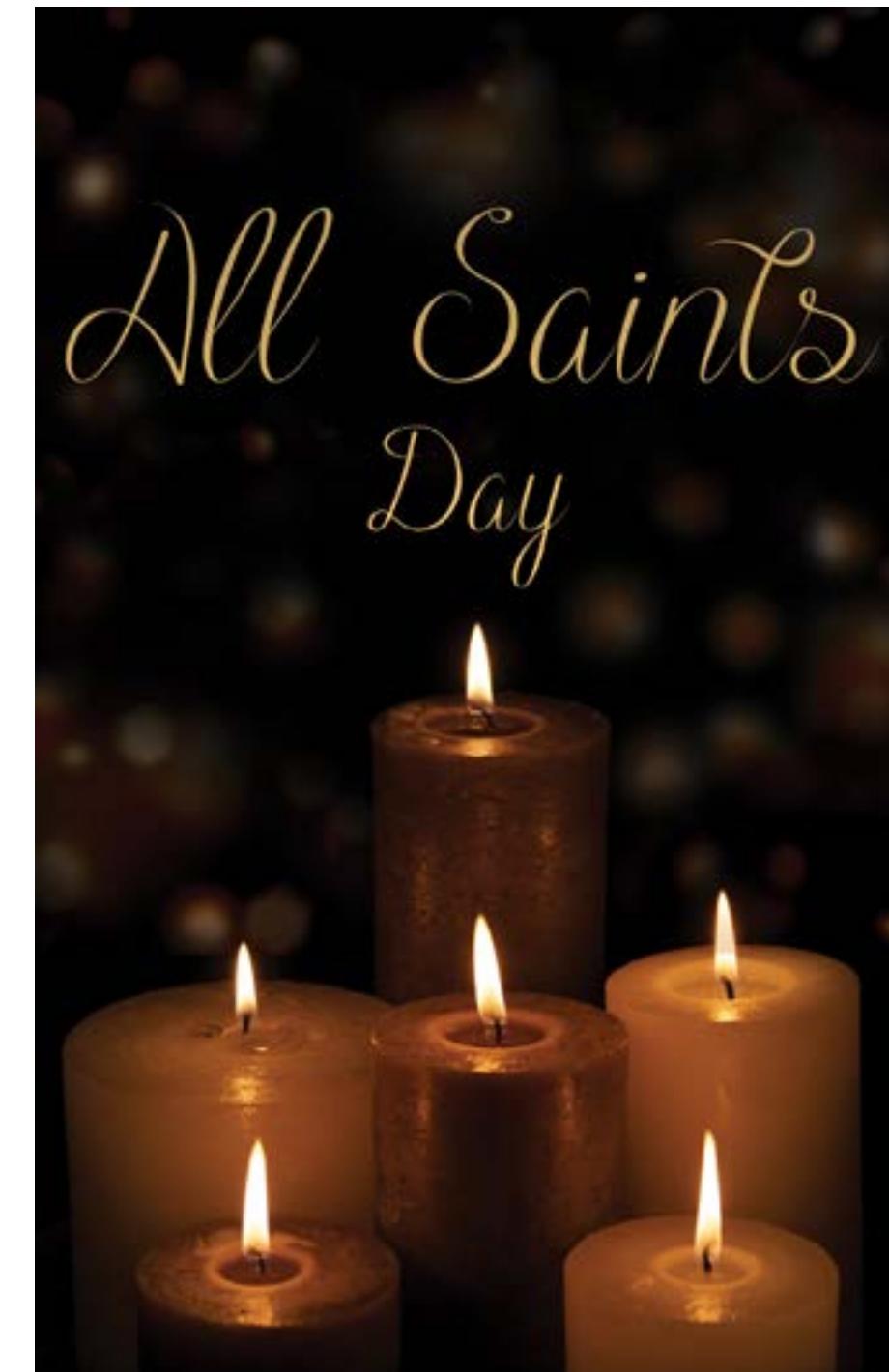
*This email will **not** be sent to you unless you request it.* If you would like to receive this new weekly email, fill out the form that can be found in the Narthex or the hallway of the Admin Building; you may also contact Lynn in the church office at 225-766-4594 or office@stjohnsbr.org.

 Like us and check-in on Facebook:
facebook.com/stjohnsbr

Give online: <http://bit.ly/stjohnsgive>



Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



November 3, 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.

St. John's United Methodist Church
230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810
www.stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594