

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

October 6, 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.

The GATHERING of CREATION

BELL TOLL

The tolling of the bell invites you into a time of centering and stillness.

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.

INTROIT

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

Psalm 24

Alejandra Brevé

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,
the world and its inhabitants too.

**Because God is the one who established it on the seas;
God set it firmly on the waters.**

Who can ascend the Lord's mountain?

Who can stand in his holy sanctuary?

**Only the one with clean hands and a pure heart;
the one who hasn't made false promises,
the one who hasn't sworn dishonestly.**

That kind of person receives blessings from the Lord
and righteousness from the God who saves.

**And that's how things are
with the generation that seeks him—
that seeks the face of Jacob's God.**

Mighty gates: lift up your heads!

Ancient doors: rise up high!

So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king?

The Lord—strong and powerful!

The Lord—powerful in battle!

Mighty gates: lift up your heads!

Ancient doors: rise up high!

So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king?

The Lord of heavenly forces—

he is the glorious king!

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

Morning Has Broken

UMH 145

WITNESSING the CREATOR

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.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 65:17-25

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

“Take Care: Creation Care”

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING to the GIFTS of CREATION

✠ HYMN of FAITH

This is My Father's World

UMH 144

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Deirdré

**Holy One, creator of all that is,
You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust.
Sometimes we are part of the just, and sometimes
we are part of the unjust.
You have given us incredible gifts of soil, water, and air
that sustain our entire lives.
When we are ungrateful, forgive us.
When we forget to take care of those resources, forgive us.
When we hoard these resources and keep them from others
who need them, forgive us.
Heal divisions within your church and the destruction of your world
by our hands.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us to refresh us and renew us,
so that we can use the gifts you have grown in us
to care for each other and your creation. Amen.**

WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

Based on Psalm 23

God leads us beside still waters and restores our souls.

God leads us on righteous paths.

**Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives,
and we dwell in the theater of God's creation forever.**

✠ SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

CARING CONVERSATION

with Rhonda Tucker

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

Chancel Choir

One World, One Communion

✠ 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

*Our Communion liturgy will be sung to the tune of For the Beauty of the Earth,
with words by Rev. Dr. Beth Quick.*

Gather, friends, from far and near
Gather, friends – you're welcome hweh.
Come to the table, join the meal
God invites us, every one.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

Lift your hearts up to the Lord!

God, we lift our hearts to you.

Give to God your thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks.

Sing together, voices raise to our God this song of praise.

God, you made us out of love,
each one different, yet like you.

We're one people, all the earth

Many nations, many-hued

Sing together, everyone! Tell the world what God has done!

Though we are one, we've built up walls,

Nurtured fears and pain and strife,

In our anger, turned away

From the gift of God-breathed life.

Holy God, we turn to you. We repent and start anew.

So you sent your holy child,

Come to share your reign on earth

Breaking all our barriers down

Teaching us our sacred worth

Jesus Christ, God's gift of grace! At the meal we take our place.

Jesus shared a meal with friends

Took and blessed and shared the bread

“This, my life, I give to you

Remember when you eat again”

We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Jesus took a cup of wine

Shared with friends fruit of the vine

“In this cup forgiveness find,

Gift of mercy, gift divine.

We remember, we give thanks, for the meal of love and grace.

Pour on us your Holy Breath.

Pour your Spirit on these gifts.

Make them into Christ for us.

Make us Christ for the whole world.

God of all, to you we raise this our song of grateful praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING the BREAD and CUP

During communion the congregation will sing together:

Taste and See (twice)

Let Us Break Bread Together

One Bread, One Body

FWS 2267

UMH 618, vs. 1 & 2

UMH 620, vs. 1 & 2

- ♦ *All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion. Ushers will direct you forward.*
- ♦ *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.*

DEPARTING to SERVE ALL of GOD'S CREATION

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

Let There Be Peace on Earth

UMH 431

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

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The floral offering on the altar is in praise of creation.

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.

2020 STEWARDSHIP THEME: TAKE CARE

Care is at the heart of who we are here at St. John's. We are passionately committed to the care and well-being of others. Throughout October, we will read scripture and hear messages about how we are called to "Take Care" of God's creation, our spiritual health, our church, and one another. We invite you to become a caretaker alongside others on Commitment Sunday, October 27, when you will be invited to make a pledge to the ministries of St. John's in 2020. We will celebrate with a Potluck Brunch at 9:30 a.m.

in lieu of Coffee Time and Sunday School that day.

Next Sunday's scripture and theme are Romans 11:33 - 12:2 - "Spiritual Self Care"

ST. JOHN'S IS GOING GREEN!

TODAY we will be using stoneware mugs and paper plates during coffee time. Goodbye Styrofoam! If you purchased a mug, there will be a table set up for you to pick up your mug during coffee time in the Family Life Center. There are Mug Return Bins in the FLC as well as outside Lynn's office in the Admin. Building. Please return your coffee time mug to one of those bins.

DINNER/DESSERT THEATER: "A CROWN FOR A KING"

Join us for two performances of the original play, "A Crown for a King," written by Guy Johnson. The play is great for all ages and features a multi-generational cast from St. John's.

Synopsis: When a sinister rebel tries to seize power in the kingdom, the true heir must flee for her life and at the same time learn what it means to be a just ruler. Fortunately, two tutors—a warrior maiden and a peace-loving scholar—are there to provide help through many dangers.

Friday, October 18: Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., and curtain will be at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance, with a limited number of available for \$15 at the door.

Saturday, October 19: Dessert will be served at 2 p.m., and curtain will be at 2:30 p.m. Tickets will be \$10 in advance, with a limited number available for \$12 at the door.

Tickets will be on sale beginning TODAY.

NEW "INSIDE" ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER COMING

In mid-October, we will launch a new mid-week email that will include prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries, celebrations, and other St. John's family news. It will be **in addition** to our Friday e-newsletter, and geared towards our active members and friends of St. John's. If you would like to receive this new weekly email, please contact the church office at 225-766-4594. The newsletter will not be sent to you unless you request it.

NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

St. John's will open its doors to the community, by acting as a polling place for the upcoming October 13th election. Two precincts will vote here on Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and again in November if there is a runoff.

CREATION CELEBRATION & PET BLESSING TODAY

Weather permitting, Our Creation Celebration and Pet Blessing is **THIS AFTERNOON** from 4 to 6 p.m. We'll meet near the bell tower to enjoy an outdoor worship experience and fellowship under our beautiful oak trees.

We'll have **snacks** (for people and pets) as well as **crafts and activities** for kids.

- **Bring your pets** of all types as well as a **pet photo** for the St. John's Pet Gallery, which will be on display throughout October.
- Children, those without pets or those who cannot bring their pet, are welcome to **bring a stuffed animal**.
- Bring your own **lawn chairs** if you can.

Animals need to be up to date on shots and on a leash or in a carrier.

If you're willing to help with set up, volunteers are arriving at 2:30 p.m.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, October 6

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*
1:30 p.m. Dinner/Dessert Theater Rehearsal, *FLC*
4:00 p.m. Creation Celebration & Pet Blessing
6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

Monday, October 7

9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
10:00 a.m. Fast Track Bible Study, *Library*
3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
3:00 p.m. Lectionary Ladies Bible 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, October 8

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*
6:00 p.m. Emmaus Board Meeting, *FLC-A*
6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University, *Library*
7:00 p.m. UMW Mary Martha Circle, *Parlor*

Wednesday, October 9

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, October 10

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
5:30 p.m. Good Grief! Support Group, *Parlor*
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

Friday, October 11

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

Saturday, October 12

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Joyce Perry, Mary Jo Brook, Tommie Reinhardt, Deidra Matthews
Host: Kathy King

CHURCH STAFF

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Check in on Facebook:
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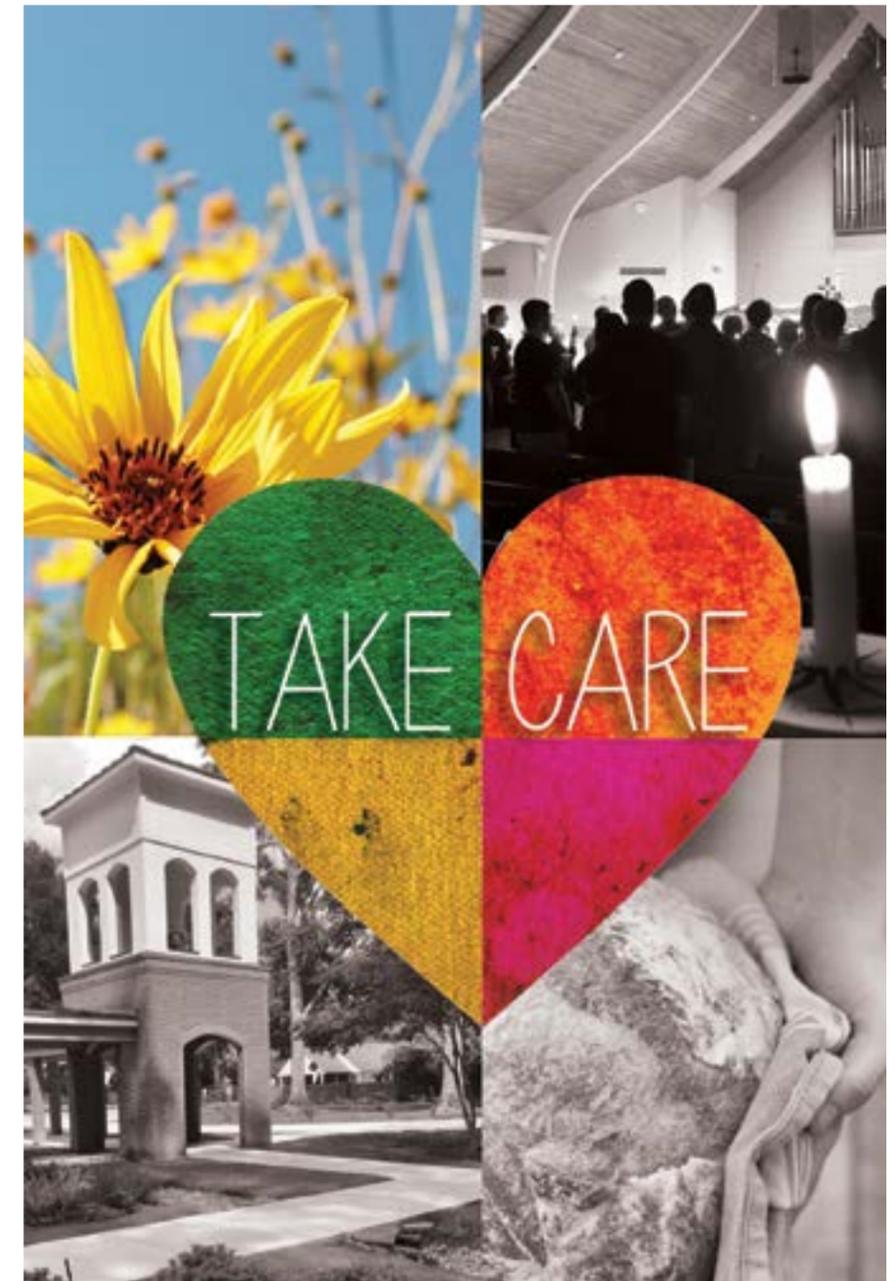
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



October 6, 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.