

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

October 20, 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

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

Zach Isenhower

Prepare yourselves to light the way for Jesus Christ.

Lord, set us on a pathway that leads to you.

We need everyone's light to illuminate our way forward.

When our light shines with others, we all shine more brightly.

It will take all of us – caring together – to fully light the way.

We are called to take care of Christ's light and share it with the world.

Illuminate the Divine Love among us!

We're ready to let Christ's light shine in and through us!

✠ HYMN of PRAISE

Blessed Assurance

UMH 369

✠ AFFIRMING our FAITH

The World Methodist Social Affirmation

UMH 886

We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people;

and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us,

who died and rose again;

and in the Holy Spirit,

present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom:

in the upholding of human dignity and community;

in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation;

in each act of self-giving on behalf of others;

in the abundance of God's gifts

entrusted to us that all may have enough;

in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

We confess our sin, individual and collective,

by silence or action:

through the violation of human dignity

based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith;

through the exploitation of people

because of greed and indifference;

through the misuse of power

in personal, communal, national, and international life;

through the search for security

by those military and economic forces

that threaten human existence;

through the abuse of technology

which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

We commit ourselves individually and as a community

to the way of Christ:

to take up the cross;

to seek abundant life for all humanity;

to struggle for peace with justice and freedom;

to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love,

praying that God's kingdom may come

on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

✠ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father

and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen. Amen.

We WITNESS GOD'S GRACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pam Toney

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

This is My Father's World

Chancel Choir

✠ SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:1-13

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: Caring Together”

Pastor Lane

We RESPOND to GOD'S GIFTS

✠ HYMN of FAITH

Many Gifts, Many Spirit

UMH 114

CARING CONVERSATION

with John Toney

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.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Holy One,

We give thanks for all the ways you light our path and keep us in the ways of hope.

God, we await your way of love.

We hope for those who have received or experienced troubling or joyful news in these days.

God, we await your way of love.

We pray for our own hearts that impatiently stretch ahead of us with expectations of ourselves, our community, and your holy work with us.

God, we await your way of love.

We pray for those who await release from prison or addiction or fear or those in need of a renewed sense of your presence.

God, we await your way of love.

We pray for all who await peace with justice in their relationships, in their homeland, in all the places of your creation.

God, we await your way of love.

We commit ourselves again to tending the light of Christ with our words and deeds of care and compassion, justice and love, as together we pray...

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.

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

We Are Called

FWS 2172

✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

✠ POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given by Beth Forester to the Glory of God and in memory of her parents, Eva and Chuck Forester.

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 UPDATE

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.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY: 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. You will find a 2020 Commitment Card in your bulletin. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge next Sunday. If you did not receive a Stewardship Brochure in the mail, there are copies in the Narthex and the Admin. Building hallway.



POTLUCK BRUNCH: We will celebrate Commitment Sunday with a Potluck Brunch at 9:30 a.m. in lieu of Coffee Time and Sunday School next Sunday. Bring a dish to share with everyone.

Next Sunday's scripture and theme are Matthew 14:13-21 - "Sharing Together"

NEW 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 will be 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!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

CHARGE CONFERENCE: The annual charge conference for St. John's UMC will be held **today** at Jefferson UMC (10328 Jefferson Hwy.) at 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHURCH COUNCIL: The Church Council will meet on **Thursday, October 24** at 6 p.m. in the Library. Rev. Dr. Gloria Fowler director of Congregational Development & Transformation for the LA Conference will be presenting information about the church transformation process.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION: The Christian Formation Team will be meeting on **Sunday, October 27** at 3 p.m. to discuss upcoming activities.

WAYS TO CONNECT WITH ST. JOHN'S

TEXTING: St. John's sends out timely reminders about church events via text message. If you would like to receive them please sign up by texting @stjohnsumc to 81010. You will be joining the "class list" for St. John's as a "parent." We cannot sign you up through the office. You must do this on your own cell phone.

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 Tuesday we will launch "Inside St. John's." This new email is **in addition to** our Friday e-newsletter, and geared towards our active members and friends. It will include prayer requests, birthdays, anniversaries, celebrations, memorial and funeral announcements, and other St. John's family news.

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

PARDON OUR MESS

The classroom side of the FLC has been a construction zone during the week as workers are replacing the insulation and ceiling tiles in all classrooms and the hallway. The work is almost done but we are asking you to be mindful of the floors as you walk to Sunday school. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.

HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, October 20

- 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. BR Cluster Charge Conference, Jefferson UMC
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Sanctuary

Monday, October 21

- 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. 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 22

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office
- 3:00 p.m. VIPS Everybody Reads Training, Library
- 4:30 p.m. Wellness Covenant Group, Library
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. FPU Support Group, Library

Wednesday, October 23

- 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 24

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting, Library
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

Friday, October 25

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library

Saturday, October 26

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

STEWARDS SERVING TODAY

Ushers: Zach and Kristine Isenhower, Bill and Jane Metcalf
Host: Rhonda Tucker

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
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Check in on Facebook:
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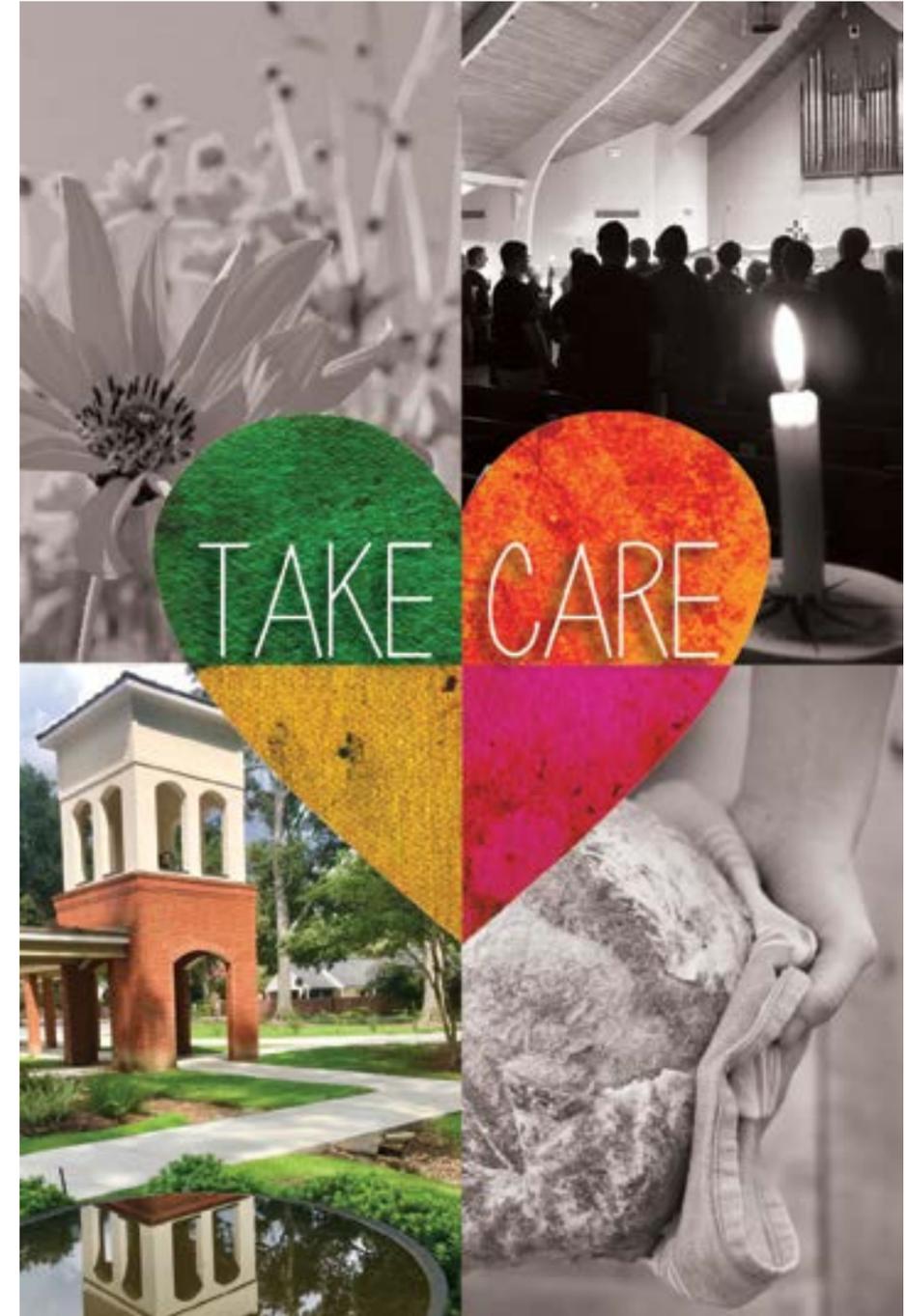
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



October 20, 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.