

The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

October 20, 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.

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.

✠ SONGS of PRAISE

Cry of My Heart

FWS 2165

Teach me your holy ways, O Lord,
so I can walk in your truth.
Teach me your holy ways, O Lord,
and make me wholly devoted to you.

REFRAIN: It is the cry of my heart to follow you.

It is the cry of my heart to be close to you.

It is the cry of my heart to follow
all of the days of my life.

Open my eyes so I can see
the wonderful things that you do.
Open my heart up more and more,
and make me wholly devoted to you.

REFRAIN

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine,
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine ...

✠ CALL to WORSHIP

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!

✠ SONG of RESPONSE

Where the Spirit of the Lord Is

FWS 2119

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace;
where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.

There is comfort in life's darkest hour; there is light and life,
there is help and power in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.

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.

✠ 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

Pastor Lane

“Take Care: Caring Together”

We RESPOND to GOD'S GIFTS

✠ HYMN of FAITH

UMH 114

Many Gifts, One Spirit

INVITATION to CONFESSION

Every week, as we worship together,
we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other,
and to God that we do not always live as we are called.

In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts,
let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace
and love.

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Holy and gracious God,
You are light and wonder and glory.

We admit there are times when we snuff out
your holy light in ourselves and others.

When we let negative thoughts and old stories overtake us,
show us the light of your love.

When we let criticism and doubt overtake our communities,
show us the light of your hope.

When we let impatience and aggravation overtake wisdom,
show us the light of your word.

When we let our fear of change or the unknown overtake our future,
show us the light of your grace.

When we worship ourselves and our own ideas,
show us the light of your powerful reign.

(A time for silent prayer and confession)

WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

God will not delay giving help to those who call upon the Lord.

In Christ Jesus, we have been renewed in the glory of the resurrection.

Believe the good news: our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

✠ SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

CARING CONVERSATIONS

with John Toney

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

One God and Father of Us All

✠ DOXOLOGY

**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**

UMH 94

REMEMBERING the LORD'S SUPPER

The pastors offer thanks to God, retell the story of the Last Supper,
and invoke the presence of the Holy Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING the BREAD and CUP

- 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.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Holy One,
we give thanks for all the ways you light our path and keep us
in the ways of hope.**

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

In Jesus name we pray. 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

After the service, all are invited to the Family Life Center for refreshments.

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: Beth Forester, Carol Gordon, Mike and Sally Allen

Host: Sandra Kuykendall

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
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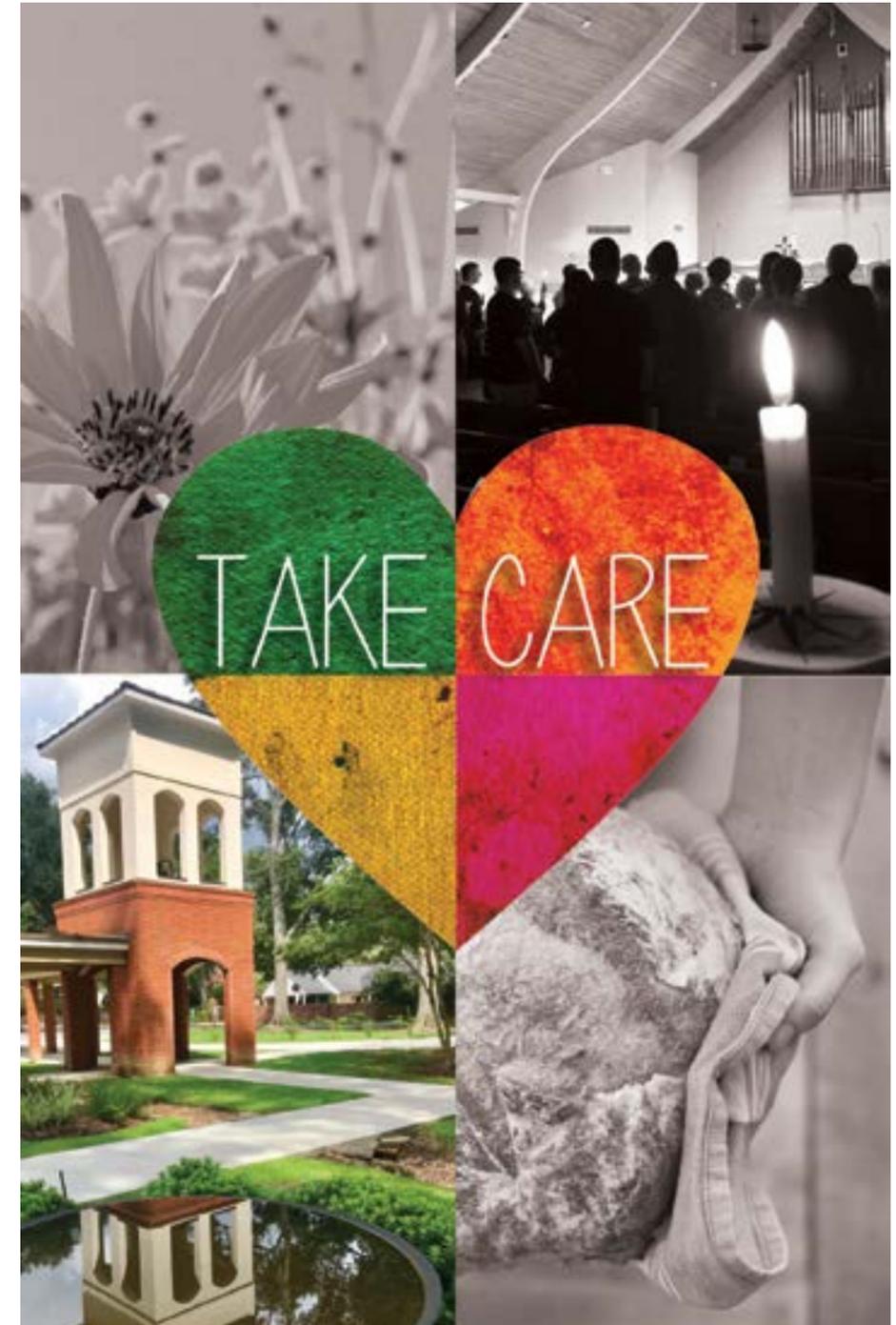
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ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.



October 20, 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.