

# The CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

November 17, 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 to PRAISE...

### 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

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

FWS 2171

**Make me a channel of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.**

**Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.**

**Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.**

**Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.**

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

*Give Me a Clean Heart*

FWS 2133

**Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee.**

**Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee.**

**For I'm not worthy of all those blessings.**

**Give me a clean heart, and I'll follow thee.**

### ✠ CALL to WORSHIP

*Barbara Benton*

Now this is what the Lord Almighty says:

“Give careful thought to your ways.”

**We will offer love and care in our thoughts, words, and actions.**

How shall we live in the love of God?

**We will treat one another with fairness and dignity.**

**We will listen without judgment and with hearts of compassion.**

How shall we witness God's forgiving love?

**We will reach out to others in grace, mercy and tenderness.**

Come, let us worship God, who does, and will always love us.

**Let our worship of God be reflected in our lives of hope  
and peace.**

### SONG of RESPONSE

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

UMH 420

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

## ...to HEAR GOD'S WORD...

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Pastor Deirdré*

*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 18:12-20

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

“Care-Full Relationships”

*Pastor Lane*

## ...to CONFESS and OFFER THANKS...

### ✠ HYMN of FAITH

*The Bells of St. Jude*

*by Betty Schroeder*

**Christ calls all people to walk in the light of His love,  
To clasp hands- as neighbors, to see each through God's eyes above.**

REFRAIN: **And the bells of St. Jude call all of God's people.**

**Their sweet melody rings through the trees.**

**The bells of St. Jude reach the ears of believers**

**And call us to prayer on our knees.**

**God loves all people - the black, white, the rich, poor, the lame.  
Each one a treasure, beloved and enfolded the same.**

REFRAIN

**Lines that divide us made invisible by the cross -  
Reconciling presence, which must not endure any loss.**

REFRAIN

**Kneeling in silence, impassioned by His holy flame,  
Sharing one table, together in His blessed name.**

REFRAIN (2x)

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

The Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways,”  
but there are chasms in our lives,  
deep valleys that separate us from one another and from God.

**We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow.**

**We have not given one another the benefit of the doubt.**

**You call us to be one in your Spirit, but we foster division in**

**Christ's body. You call us to a reconciled life, to healed**

**relationships, to wholeness with each other and with You,**

**yet we complain rather than work towards resolution.**

**As you forgive us, help us be forgiving to one another.**

**Show us the way of merciful living and how to engage life with**

**compassion, that we may extend to others the love and**

**mercy you have given to us.**

*(A time for silent prayer and confession)*

### WORDS of ASSURANCE and PARDON

*Based on Haggai 2:9*

“In this place I will grant peace,” declares the Lord Almighty.  
Through Christ, God restores us back to wholeness.

Be at peace and know that you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### ✠ SHARING the PEACE and LOVE of CHRIST

### OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS to GOD

*Thank You, Lord*

*Natalie Cooper*

### ✠ 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!**

## ...to CELEBRATE AROUND the TABLE...

### ✠ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Our sung communion responses are from  
The Faith We Sing Hymnal #2257*

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.**

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

**Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The congregation is seated and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer  
ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union  
with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and concludes:*

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

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

### 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

*Barbara Benton*

**We thank you, gracious God, for this holy mystery in which you have  
given yourself to us, and united us in the communion of your  
Holy Spirit.**

**May our unity in the Spirit carry us into the day and week ahead,  
so that we are able to offer care and compassion to all those  
we meet, as we give ourselves to others, through Jesus Christ,  
our Lord, Amen.**

## ...we SCATTER 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

*Shalom to You (2x)*

UMH 666

### ✠ BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

### ✠ POSTLUDE

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

## 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.*

### WORSHIP SERIES - CARE-FULL ENCOUNTERS

Our worship series, "Care-Full Encounters," looks at how we are called to be in care-full conversation and actions with our families, church and community. Our scripture for next Sunday will be Luke 23:33-43.

### GRATITUDE ORNAMENTS

Many thanks to those of you who bought leaves of gratitude for our Gratitude Tree. We raised over \$10,00 toward our debt reduction. The leaves have "fallen" off of the tree and can be picked up today in the Narthex for you to give as gifts or hang on your Christmas tree.

### HOLIDAY SUPER STORE

Monday, November 25 is the shopping day for the **Holiday Super Store** at the Target on Siegen; plan to meet at the entrance on the far right at 8 a.m. For those of you who have not been involved before, volunteers shop for children of the Charlie Thomas Head Start Center. There is no cost to you, the shopper, so come and have a good time. For questions, contact Marilyn Damberg (marilyndamberg@mac.com or 225-335-3321).

### ANGEL TREE

This year our Angel Tree will be up set on **Sunday, November 24** in the Narthex. Gifts will be bought for children who have an incarcerated family member who won't be home for Christmas. Gifts should be brought back on Sunday, December 1 and placed under the Chrismon Tree. Presents will be delivered on Saturday, December 7. Please email Beth Forester (bethforester@yahoo.com) or Betty Schroeder (drbschroeder@att.net) to volunteer to be on a delivery team.

### WE NEED YOUR FREEZER SPACE!

Duane Craig is once again baking bread for the Great Turkey Giveaway and we need to find freezer space for them. If you have space, Duane will have a buggy full of bread in the Narthex on Sunday. All we ask is that you bring all bread back on Friday, December 13.

### DECORATING FOR ADVENT

We will decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex for the Advent and Christmas season on **Saturday November 30** beginning at 9 a.m. The UMW will be decorating the Chrismon tree beginning at 9:30 a.m. Come join us for a morning of joyful service.

### ADVENT SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, December 1 "Almost Christmas," Advent worship series begins  
Sunday, December 8 Advent Fest, 4 - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, December 14 Ninth Great Turkey Giveaway, volunteers arrive at 7 a.m.  
Sunday, December 15 "The Glory of Christmas" Cantata, both services  
UMW Bake Sale, 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, December 19 Longest Night Service, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve 4 p.m. and **6 p.m.** (note time change)

### ALMOST CHRISTMAS

**Almost Christmas Advent Worship Series & Devotional Book.** In 1741, John Wesley preached his famous sermon "The Almost Christian," in which he encouraged people to follow Jesus wholeheartedly, striving to be altogether Christians. This Advent, we will consider how God is inviting us to move from an almost faith to an altogether one, as we prepare to welcome the Christ child in a fresh way this Christmas. Our series will bring together the traditional Advent themes of Peace, Hope, Joy, and Love and the best of our Wesleyan heritage.

Every household is invited to take home the daily devotional, *Almost Christmas: Devotions for the Season*. The book contains 31 daily readings for December, based on reflections from John Wesley's sermon, "The Almost Christian," and hymns by Charles Wesley. A love offering will help us offset the cost of the books. Suggested donation: \$5.

**Almost Christmas Devotional Study**, Mondays at 10 a.m., beginning December 2. Although Wesley's sermon "Almost Christian," was not intended to be an Advent or Christmas sermon, its timeless teachings will guide us in this 4-week study led by Guy Johnson.

This study is unique from the studies many of our Sunday School classes are doing based on Almost Christmas. If you would like to find a Sunday School class study for Advent, please contact Pastor Deirdre at [pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastordeirdre@stjohnsbr.org).

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### Sunday, November 17

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. Writers' Group, *Parlor*  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group, *FLC*  
6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, *Sanctuary*

### Monday, November 18

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 19

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*

### Wednesday, November 20

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 21

8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*  
3:00 p.m. VIPS Everybody Reads, *Library*  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee, *Library*  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, *FLC*

### Friday, November 22

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 23

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](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org).

 Like us and check-in on Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsbr](https://facebook.com/stjohnsbr)

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

### FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

*The flowers on the altar are given by Deirdre Halliburton in celebration of the birthday of Andreé Halliburton.*

### STEWARDS SERVING TODAY

Ushers: David and Tina Henson, Brian and Danielle Blackwood  
Host: Beth Forester

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Lane Cotton Winn**  
Lead Pastor  
[pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org)

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

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*

# Care-Full Encounters

Now this is what the Lord Almighty says:  
"Give careful thought to your ways."  
*Haggai 1:5, NIV*



November 17, 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.*