



Sunday October 10, 2021

**11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance (scan the QR code in the pew) so we know you're here and we can get to know you better.

STJOHNSBR.ORG | @STJOHNSBR

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## OUR MISSION

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.

## OUR VISION

Our church will be known as a center for feeding people spiritually and physically in our community.

## OUR CORE VALUES

We believe the following guiding principles make us a fruitful and spiritually intentional church:

- Fellowship: A sense of family, hospitality, and belonging to an open, accepting, and nurturing community.
- Caring: Loving response to needs of all people through empathy and compassion.
- Mission: giving of ourselves to meet and serve the needs of all others by faithful witness through our actions, servanthood and way of living.
- Spiritual Growth: Studying, understanding and growing in the word of God by Christ-centered prayer, worship and service through discipleship in action.

## OUR CONTACT INFO

230 Renee Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70810

office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594 | stjohsbr.org | @stjohnsbr

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY

St. John's was founded in 1961 by 60 charter members. Ground was broken for the present sanctuary in August 1962, and it was dedicated Easter Sunday 1963. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary throughout 2021. Give God the Glory!

## COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Do No Harm, our first Wesleyan rule continues to be our benchmark for all recommendations. In light of the Governor's statewide mask mandate, St. John's has returned to requiring all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear masks while in worship and in small group gatherings.

We look forward to the day when we can return to maskless gatherings, until then, let us pray for our world, country, state, parish, and each other.

Grace & Peace

*The Covid-19 Task Force*

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We fully welcome and love engaging children in worship! We include a special Children's Moment each Sunday.

- **The St. John's Prayground** is located in the front of the sanctuary. This is a place for children and their families to worship together, allowing children to more fully participate in the service. As a safety precaution, masks are required in the Prayground for everyone ages 2 and older. If you or your child needs a mask, some are available in the Prayground. More details about the Prayground may be found in the pew insert and on our website.
- A staffed **nursery** for infants through preschool is open every Sunday morning and is located next door in our Education/Administration building.
- **Changing tables** are located in the restrooms in the back of the sanctuary and our nursery.
- Children are welcome to receive **Holy Communion**, which is served weekly at 8:30 a.m. and on the first Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. Our communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free elements are also available.
- **Sunday School** is offered for children starting at age 3 through 12th grade from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

*Any questions? Ushers are glad to assist you.*

# GATHERING IN HOPE

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable. **Bold** indicates congregational response.*

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## Introit

## \*Call to Worship

Darlene Dickson

We are here to celebrate God's presence and affirm God's gifts of love, hope, joy and peace.

**Here we discover the meaning of life,  
know the power of love,  
and together celebrate new life in Christ.**

God is with us as a community of faith as we look to the future with hope.

**With neighbor and friend and with the stranger, also,  
we have come together to worship and give God praise.**

May we now celebrate new life in Jesus Christ.

**And sing the praise of a loving and compassionate Savior!  
Together, we give God the glory! Amen.**

## \*Hymn of Praise

*My Hope Is Built*

The United Methodist Hymnal 368, vs. 1, 2, 4

# GROWING TOGETHER

## Children's Moment

Sarah Prevot

## Prayer for Illumination

Darlene Dickson

**Open our hearts and minds to your word, O God.  
Help us to set aside all that distracts us from you.  
Give us courage to hear your challenge for the future. Amen.**

## Scripture

Jeremiah 29:10-14

Darlene Dickson

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"Receive Hope"

Pastor Lane

# RETURNING TO GOD

## \*Hymn of Faith

*Hymn of Promise*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 707

## Stewardship Witness

Gray Sexton

## Stewardship Prayer

**Provider and Sustainer God,  
thank You for Your many blessings upon Your Church,  
the family of St. John's, and the unique gifts that  
You have imparted upon me and each in Your creation.**

**I pray that I may be a devoted caretaker of these gifts.  
I humbly ask for Your guidance as I strive to serve  
humankind and radiate the loving light of Christ, so that  
others may come to know You and Your enduring love  
and mercy available to all.**

**Help me to live my days as a faithful steward of Your gifts  
and to serve others according to Your good  
and perfect purpose.**

**I trust in You as Your humble servant; set me as a blessing  
unto others as I look to a future with hope, in unity and  
wholeness with You.**

**In Jesus' name. Amen**

written by Natalie Cooper

## Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

*We appreciate your generosity.  
Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.  
You may give online at [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://stjohnsbr.org/give).*

## \*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.**

## Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Lane

# DEPARTING TO SERVE

**Call to Action**

**\*Hymn of Discipleship**

*O God Our Help In Ages Past*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 117, vs. 1, 2, 6

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Lane

**\*Postlude**

*To join a livestream of worship, share today's service or watch previous worship services, visit <http://facebook.com/stjohnsbr/live>.*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 60th Anniversary Video

It has been so uplifting to hear people reflect on what St. John's means to them in the video vignettes shared on 60th Anniversary Sundays this year. We are offering one more chance to be included on the videos **after worship today** in the Narthex. We would love to hear you respond to the question: What are your hopes for St. John's future and our next 60 years together? Videos will be shared in worship on October 31.

## 60th Anniversary Pictorial Directory

We have an additional date for photo sittings: **Thursday, October 14, 2 - 8:30 p.m.** You may go online to make your appointment (<http://bit.ly/stjohns60photo>) or call Rhonda Tucker (225-270-2193) and she will help get your appointment scheduled. (If she doesn't answer, please leave a message including your name and the time you prefer.) *Photos will be taken Tuesday-Thursday this week.*

## "A Future With Hope" Stewardship Campaign

We invite you to join us in building "A Future With Hope" at St. John's by making a pledge to our mission and ministries in 2022. Commitment Sunday will be **October 31**. We will share in **one combined worship service at 10 a.m.** as we celebrate our 60th Anniversary and make our financial commitments to God's work through St. John's for next year. We will enjoy a potluck outside (weather permitting) following the service.

## Writers' Group

The St. John's Writers' Group will meet on Zoom on **this afternoon** at 4 p.m. If you are interested in joining the group, email Mari Walker at [media@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:media@stjohnsbr.org).

## Mary Martha Circle UMW

The Mary Martha Circle UMW will meet on **Tuesday, October 12** at 6:30 a.m. in the parlor. All women are invited to attend.

## GriefShare Support Group begins October 21

Grief is lonely. When all you can see is your grief, it's easy to lose sight of God. Through GriefShare, a 13-week, video-driven program produced by top experts in grief and recovery fields, you will connect with others who are experiencing grief and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your journey through the grief. Sessions will be facilitated by Diane Roark, who has found great comfort through the GriefShare program. There is no charge to participate, but registration is required. You will find a link to register in our upcoming newsletters or you can contact the church office. GriefShare will meet in person on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. beginning October 21.

## Lagniappe Kitchen Renovation Fund

Our fundraising efforts for the kitchen renovation are underway and we have already raised \$77,298! Our goal is \$200,000, which will enable us to make much-needed upgrades to the church's kitchen and food pantry space. To give online go to [www.stjohnsbr.org/give](http://www.stjohnsbr.org/give) (under Fund, select Kitchen Renovation); to give by check write kitchen renovation in the memo line and place in the offering plate during worship, drop it in the black box outside of the doors to the Admin Building, or mail to St. John's UMC, 230 Renee Drive, Baton Rouge 70810. Thanks for helping fill the pot!



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

---

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*