



Sunday, March 13, 2022

**11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

Welcome to worship on the second Sunday of Lent. In today's scripture, Jesus returns to Jerusalem, which should have been the safest and most welcoming place to the son of God, but he is faced with suspicion, aggression, and eventually, crucifixion. Yet even in the least safe place, we see that Jesus longs to create safety for us, gathering us in like a mother hen under her wings.

*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.*

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# 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 | stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr

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



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

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*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*

## COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Do No Harm, our first Wesleyan rule continues to be our benchmark for all recommendations. Following guidance from the Louisiana Department of Health regarding indoor activities and the virulence of the Omicron variant, we recommend wearing a high quality mask during our worship services.

We look forward to the day when COVID will no longer be a part of our daily lives, 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 Playground** 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 Playground for everyone ages 2 and older. If you or your child need a mask, some are available in the Playground. More details about the Playground may be found 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.*

# JOURNEYING INWARD

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

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## Introit

### \*Call to Worship

Zach Isenhower

We are on a journey of faith, with Jesus as our leader and guide on this long and winding road.

**Order our steps, Lord, as we walk this Lenten journey,  
inward and outward.**

As the daylight hours grow longer, our journey takes on an urgency.

**We must prepare our hearts for Jerusalem.**

Do not fear! God goes before us - into Jerusalem, into the world.

**The Lord is our light and our salvation.**

Even though things around us and within us are troubling,  
God's love is constant.

**We can count on God to be here for us.**

Christ is with us and will shelter us on this journey.

**We place ourselves completely in Christ's care.**

### \*Hymn of Praise

*Just a Closer Walk With Thee*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2158, vs. 1 - 3

### \*Call to Confession

Pastor Lane

*In the season of Lent, as we prepare to receive the Easter gift of resurrection, we are invited on a journey. We are invited to walk a path of introspection and reflection, acknowledging both the shadows and light of our lives. Trusting in the grace of God, and before one another, let us admit the shadows and light, first in silent prayer.*

### \*Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lane

**Gracious God,**

**we lay before you now the times when, in seeking our own safety, we have made a place unsafe for others.**

**We confess to resisting your message of welcome and shelter when it threatens our status quo.**

**We ask you to gather us up again, and tenderly show us how wide your world is, wide enough for all your creatures to find a place called home. Amen.**

**\*Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

Pastor Lane

When God is with us, whom shall we fear?  
The God of salvation will never forsake you.  
God's patience knows no limits.  
Wait for the Lord. Be strong and take heart.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**  
**Glory to God. Amen.**

From Psalm 27

**\*Sharing Signs of Peace**

*Turn and offer signs of peace, reconciliation,  
and the love of Christ with those around you.*

## **REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY**

**Children's Moment**

Molly Means

**Prayer for Illumination**

Zach Isenhower

**Your word, O Lord, is a light in this journey of faith.**  
**Open our eyes that we may see your way.**  
**Open our ears, that we may hear your truth.**  
**Open our hearts that we may know your presence.**  
**In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Scripture**

Zach Isenhower

Luke 13:31-35

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Lane

"When Our Shelter Is Torn Away"

## **PATH TO HONESTY AND GRATITUDE**

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2050, vs. 1 - 3*

**Prayers of the People**

Pastor Lane

**The Lord's Prayer**

## Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Chancel Choir

*Faith of Our Fathers*  
Arr. by Marika L. Connole

*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.**

## JOURNEYING OUTWARD

### Call to Action

Pastor Lane

*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

*Walk With Me*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2242, vs. 2, 3, 4

### \*Benediction

Pastor Lane

When the journey is long and winding,  
**Guide us, Lord.**

When there are dangers along the way,  
**Guard us, Lord.**

When we are tempted to lose faith,  
**Give us strength, Lord.**

Let the Holy Spirit guide you on the journey ahead.  
**We go forth knowing that the Spirit of God goes with us.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### \*Postlude

# WORSHIP NOTES

## **Worship Stewards**

Ushers in today's service are Bill and Jane Metcalf.

## **Flowers on the Altar**

The flowers on the altar are given by Suzanne Sexton in honor of Gray's birthday.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Writers' Group**

St. John's Writers' Group will meet on Zoom **this afternoon at 4 p.m.** Contact Mari Walker at silvermari@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the group.

## **Good Grief, St. John's!**

The monthly gathering to help those struggling with grief, Good Grief, St. John's!, will meet in the parlor **Tuesday, March 15 at 5:30 p.m.** Come join us in this casual setting for refreshments and community where you will have the chance to talk or just sit and listen - it's your choice.

## **Announcing 2022 Summer Ministry Intern**

This full-time, salaried summer ministry internship is for young adults who have a passion for youth ministry and may be exploring a call to ministry. The internship will include a range of ministerial responsibilities half of which will be devoted to providing leadership and support to our Youth ministries. Additional ministry time will be spent exploring the various areas of church leadership. If you are interested or you know of someone who might be interested, send an inquiry cover letter, resume, and references to jobs@stjohnsbr.org by April 18.

## **UMW General Meeting**

**Sunday, March 20 at 3 p.m.** the Mary Martha Circle and the Ruth Circle will host the General Meeting of St. John's United Methodist Women in the Family Life Center. The program will be "Learning to Listen to God." All women are invited to attend.

## **Lent 2022 Worship Series**

The season of Lent, the 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter has long been called a journey. It is a journey we take with Jesus, even when the road he walks is rough. Our Lent worship series is titled, "The Long & Winding Road: Following Jesus When the Path is Rough." Our faith often faces struggles and challenges along the way. Through this worship series, we will look to the teachings of Jesus from the Revised Common Lectionary readings for Lent to find the grace and wisdom to continue the journey, even when the path is rough. To follow Jesus is to be a person of the long and winding road.

## **Lent 2022 Daily Devotional**

To accompany our shared and personal journey during Lent, the St. John's Writers' Group has produced a Daily Devotional for Lent. The readings began on Ash Wednesday and continue through Easter. On Sundays, there is a Reflection Guide for small group and personal use, which coincides with the readings and themes shared during our Sunday morning worship services. Take home a copy today or read it online at stjohnsbr.org/lent-2022. Thank you to all who contributed to the devotional.

## **Ukraine Offering**

We are taking a special offering through UMCOR, The United Methodist Committee on Relief for Ukrainians remaining in Ukraine and those fleeing for safety. Remember - 100% of your donation will go to this humanitarian effort. Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways: give from the St. John's website: stjohnsbr.org/give – select UMCOR/Ukraine from pull down list of funds, make a check to St. John's and include "UMCOR-Ukraine" on the memo line, or a cash donation, cash donations in envelopes should be marked with "UMCOR-Ukraine" as well.

## **Mission to St. Mark's UMC**

Rev. Larry Norman is planning our annual mission trip to St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans to provide a meal to the hungry and homeless in and around the French Quarter. Mark your calendar for the weekend after Easter (April 22 - April 24). St. Mark's has returned to serving meals so St. John's will be providing a meal for April 24. However, right now that is all we know. Please be looking for more information in our "Inside St. John's" and Friday Newsletter. You may contact Rev. Larry Norman for more information at lducknataol@gmail.com or 225-933-1881.