



Sunday August 15, 2021
11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION
All Are Welcome

I've been meaning to ask... *Where does it hurt?* This is today's guiding question in our worship series for curiosity, courage, & connection. We'll explore the value of making space for one another's pain and dig into our scripture passage from Mark, which reminds us that Jesus not only doesn't shy away from human suffering but always seems to be right in the thick of it.

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.

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

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

*Call to Worship

Kristine Isenhower

Here in this space,
we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

**There is no use for filters or walls.
This space is an authentic space.**

This space is a brave space.

**For when it comes to God, we are always invited
to bring our full selves into the room.**

So come into this space with your hurt and your joy,
your prayers and your dreams.

All of God's children are welcome here.

Let us worship our Holy God.

*Hymn of Praise

O Perfect Love

The United Methodist Hymnal 645

LISTENING

Children's Moment

Prayer for Illumination

Kristine Isenhower

Holy God,

Today we will read stories of those
who have known hurt—
people who have carried shame,
who have lived with grief and chronic illness,
who have felt alone and ignored,
who have seen the depths of suffering.

As we listen, we will be reminded of the hurt
we have carried during these fragile days—
memories and regrets co-mingling in our chests.

And as we listen, we will be reminded
that our neighbors, our siblings in faith,
also come to this space carrying burdens.

**So dust off our ears and stretch open the
canvases of our hearts so that in our pain,
we might lean into one another as we lean into you.**

Pull us close. We are listening. Amen.

***Scripture**

Mark 5:21-43

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Pastor Lane

“I’ve Been Meaning to Ask...Where Does It Hurt?”

SHARING

***Hymn of Faith**

Be Still My Soul

The United Methodist Hymnal 534, vs. 1, 2

***Affirming Our Faith**

Kristine Isenhower

On my best days,

**I believe that God is there—standing in the sun with me,
laughing a contagious laugh and cheering me on.**

On my hardest days,

**I believe that God is there—standing in the rain with me,
holding me up and sharing in my grief.**

No matter where I go—

**in joy or in loss,
in pain or in love,
in heartache or in gratitude—**

**I believe that God is there,
leaning in, noticing where it hurts,
and carrying me through it.**

**And so, I believe we are called
to care for each other
as God cares for us.**

**On your best days in the sun
and on your worst days in the rain,
I will do my best to be there for you too.**

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.*

***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.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

Call to Action

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**

More Like You
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2167

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

To join a livestream of worship, share today's service or watch previous worship services, visit stjohnsbr.org/live.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

60th Anniversary Pictorial Directory

St. John's is doing a new pictorial directory! We want everyone to get a new picture in the directory to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. Make your appointment now online at <http://bit.ly/stjohns60photo> or by calling Rhonda Tucker at 225-270-2193 or sign up today in the Narthex. Check out our *Inside St. John's* newsletter for more information.

Join St. John's Bell Choir

If you are wanting to join a close-knit, friendly, welcoming group then the Bell Choir is just what you are looking for. Join us on Sundays at 6 p.m. in our new practice room in the Admin Building (last door on the left). You don't have to have any prior musical knowledge. And you will be glad you came! For more information contact Gay Grimes 225-766-6434.

Now Seeking Coffee Time Treats

We are asking two people each Sunday to bring two dozen individually wrapped snacks for coffee time. Please sign up on the clipboard in the FLC during coffee time or contact Lynn in the church office.

Days for Girls

Volunteers will meet in the Family Life Center on Saturday August 21 from 9 a.m. to noon working on reusable feminine hygiene kits for this international ministry. We need many non-sewing workers to assemble the kits. All participants will be wearing a mask. Contact Joyce Perry at joyce.perry@cox.net or 225-763-6613 for details.

60th Anniversary Ornaments

We are taking pre-orders for handmade ceramic ornaments created by local artist Kai. Each ornament is \$15, and they will be ready for this Advent. The hard deadline to order is August 31. Visit stjohnsbr.org/order-ornaments to order or call the church office if you need assistance.

60th Anniversary Cookbooks

Pre-ordered cookbooks are available for pickup in the church office, and we have additional copies available for \$20 each. All proceeds from the cookbooks and ornaments will go toward the kitchen renovation. Give God the Glory!

Youth Meals

Please consider providing a meal for our Youth Group on Sundays - you don't have to have a child in the Youth Group to participate in this important ministry, it is an easy, simple way to get involved with St. John's and our youth, our future. They meet from 5 - 7 p.m. and really appreciate meals brought from home. To sign up to bring a meal see Haleigh in the Narthex or for more information email Haleigh at haleighschwartz@stjohnsbr.org. This request is open to all.



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.