The CELEBRATION *of the* GOSPEL

January 17, 2021 *at* **11 a.m.**

Welcome to All

If you are a guest, we welcome you to worship and ask that you consider filling out a contact form at www.stjohnsbr.org/guest so we can be in touch with you this week.

ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

***Glorifying** God. **Feeding** People. **Making** Disciples.*

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.

We Gather

Prelude

Words *of* **Welcome** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Call *to* **Worship** Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

O God,
you call to us today,
just as you called to the boy Samuel
so long ago.
Gathered here today,
we are many different ages, we come from different places, and we bring different experiences.
but we come praying for the maturity of faith
to hear your call and respond to your Word.
Open our ears and our hearts
as we worship, as we offer our praise, as we listen
and as we care for one another.
We ask that you would give us courage and integrity
to answer your call with the heart-felt words,
"Here I am!" Amen.

Hymn *of* **Praise**

God Is Here
God is here! As we your people meet
to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

We Listen

Children's Moment Pastors

Scripture Pastor Deirdré

1 Samuel 3:1-10

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer *for* **Illumination** *based on Psalm 19:14*

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, thou who are our strength and our redeemer. Amen.

Sermon Pastor Deirdré

"Always Near"

We Respond

Hymn *of* **Faith**

Near to the Heart of God
There is a place of quiet rest,
near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest,
near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

There is a place of comfort sweet,
near to the heart of God;
a place where we our Savior meet,
near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

There is place a place of full release,
near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace,
near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
sent from the heart of God,
hold us who wait before thee
near to the heart of God.

Pastoral Prayer *and* **The Lord's Prayer** Pastor Lane

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 here:
http://www.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

Invitation *to* **Christian Discipleship**

Hymn *of* **Discipleship**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor
wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak,
and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

Blessing *and* **Sending Forth** Pastor Deirdré

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us!

We thank all our worship stewards, musicians,
tech team, ushers, and hosts for assisting in today's service.

Permission to stream music covered by
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230 Renee Dr., Baton Rouge LA 70810 | 225-766-4596
office@stjohnsbr.org | www.stjohnsbr.org