

The Celebration of the Gospel

August 1, 2021 at 11 a.m.

All Are Welcome

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.

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

Call to Worship

Rev. Larry Norman

We are the church that lives into God's future today.

A church united across space and time.

A church of many races, languages and ethnicities.

A church that lives by the work of God

in Jesus Christ that was,

is now, and is still to come.

The one who is seated on the throne says to us:

"Look! I am making all things new!"

A new heaven and a new earth, where the home of God is among God's people.

We are called to partner with God to help transform our world into the new, more just world that God has imagined for us.

Remember God's future, for this is our story!

Let's join together as siblings in Christ,

as we share in worship and praise.

Hymn of Praise

UMH 145, vs. 1, 3

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning;

blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning

born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning,

God's recreation of the new day!

Journeying

Road Trip Notes - Glacier Bay National Park

Video

Children's Moment

Pastor Lane

Scripture

Pastor Lane

Revelation 21:1-5

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord God, at the beginning of time your Spirit moved over the waters. So now, send your Spirit to stir our hearts and inspire us to receive the re-creating power of your Word. Grant us wisdom and courage as we seek to learn from you. We pray through Christ, your incarnate Word. Amen.

Sermon

"God's Vision for Creation"

Pastor Lane

Communing

Hymn of Faith

UMH 707

Hymn of Promise

**In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

Prayer of Confession

O God,
who is always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people's worries,
against the cries of creation,
against the winds of change.

God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.

Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Open up our lives, and let your Spirit
blow through, that we may partner with you
in all that you do. Amen.

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Behold:
there is a new heaven,
a new earth
and a new city,
where the river of life flows,
where the tree of life bears fruit in every season.
This heaven,
this city,
this river,
this tree
are a vision of your life
reborn, restored, and renewed!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Amen!

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: 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.**

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.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation.

For your grace and for all your mercies toward us, we join
your people on earth and all the company of heaven
in proclaiming your praise:

**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.*

In remembrance of all your mighty acts on our behalf,
we bring our whole selves to you, 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:*

Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all honor and
glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

- ♦ All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.
- ♦ Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction" with only the server touching the elements, or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-packaged elements. A gluten-free option is also available.
- ♦ You are invited to stay at the chancel for prayer as long as you desire.
- ♦ If you are mobility challenged, please let the usher know and the pastor will bring communion elements to you.

Prayer After Receiving

Rev. Larry Norman

Gracious God,

**we thank you for inviting us
to share the hospitality of your table,
where a new way of living is possible
and your grace is poured out in abundance.**

**Call forth in us the same generosity
that we find in you.**

**In the power of your Spirit,
raise up in us a hunger for justice,
a commitment to kindness
and a passion for service,
that we may be a blessing in the world,
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Hitting the Road...

Call to Action

Hymn of Discipleship

UMH 383, vs. 1, 3, 4

This Is the Day of New Beginnings
**This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

**Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

**Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.**

Blessing and Sending Forth

Pastor Lane

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us!

*The flowers on the altar are given by Barbara Benton in
honor of Carol Gordon for her leadership in The Shepherd's
Market Intake Office.*

*The rosebud on the altar is in celebration of the birth of
Emmie Kait White on Sunday July 25. Emmie is the
daughter of Lauren and Ed White and sister of Lily.*

*Permission to stream music covered by
OneLicense A-732159 and CCLI 20233858.*