

The Celebration of the Gospel

July 25, 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

Natalie Cooper

Each time we gather for worship, we recall how God has journeyed with God's people for thousands of years.

We recall God's yearning for a creation that would live justly and love mercifully.

Today, we recall the wilderness story of God's people, as they journeyed for 40 years in search of the Promised Land.

We recall how God gave them manna from heaven and provided all that they needed.

The trials of the desert brought God's people closer to the Lord. Let us worship the Lord, our God, who makes a way for us in those wilderness times of life.

We come, bringing all that we are.

We are open to being the individuals God will make us. In this spirit of giving and openness, we worship the Lord, our God.

Hymn of Praise

UMH 136, vs. 1, 2, 5

The Lord's My Shepherd

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie in pastures green;
he leadeth me the quiet waters by.**

**My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.**

**Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.**

Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great Ruler.
**within its citadels God
has proven a sure defense.**

SUNG RESPONSE

Tell to every generation that the Lord will be our guide.

For lo, the kings assembled,
they marched together.

**As soon as they saw it, they were astounded,
they were in panic, they took to flight;**

trembling took hold of them there,
anguish as of a woman in travail,
**as when an east wind shatters
the ships of Tarshish.**

As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the Lord of hosts,
in the city of our God,
which God establishes for ever.

**We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,
in the midst of your temple.**

SUNG RESPONSE

Tell to every generation that the Lord will be our guide.

As your name, O God,
so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.

**Your right hand is filled with victory;
let Mount Zion be glad!**

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments!

**Walk about Zion, go round about it,
number its towers,**

consider well its ramparts,
go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation,
**"This is God, our God for ever and ever.
God will be our guide for ever."**

SUNG RESPONSE

Tell to every generation that the Lord will be our guide.

Road Trip Notes - Zion National Park

Video

Children's Moment

Psalter

UMH 782-783

Psalms 48

SUNG RESPONSE

Tell to every generation that the Lord will be our guide.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God;
**whose holy mountain, beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,**

Scripture

Deuteronomy 8:1-18

Pastor Lane

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

“Lessons from the Desert”

Pastor Lane

Communing

Hymn of Faith

UMH 733, vs. 1, 4

Marching to Zion

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

REFRAIN

*We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.*

Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high.

REFRAIN

Prayers of the People

Natalie Cooper

The Lord's Prayer

Ministry Moment

Handbell Choir

Gay Grimes

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.

Hitting the Road...

Call to Action

Hymn of Discipleship

UMH 724, vs. 1, 2, 4

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand
On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,
and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan's fair and happy land,
where my possessions lie.

REFRAIN

*I am bound for the promised land,
I am bound for the promised land;
oh, who will come and go with me?
I am bound for the promised land.*

O'er all those wide extended plains
shines one eternal day;
there God the Son forever reigns,
and scatters night away.

REFRAIN

When I shall reach that happy place,
I'll be forever blest,
for I shall see my Father's face,
and in his bosom rest.

REFRAIN

Blessing and Sending Forth

Pastor Lane

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us!

*The flowers on the altar are given by Don and Carol Gordon
in memory of their parents: Bryant & Ione Gordon and
Porter & Carmen Marr.*

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