

The Celebration of the Gospel

February 28, 2021 at 11 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent

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.

Again We Gather

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

Call to Worship

Rev. Larry Norman

Hymn

Open My Eyes That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

Listening God,

Take what is closed in us and open it.

Take what is distracted in us and settle it.

Take what is hurting in us and hold it.

Take any and all parts of us that create distance
from you.

For we are like Peter, O God.

We argue what we don't know. We fear what we
cannot see.

And we almost always speak sooner
than we listen.

So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us.

We long to hear you more clearly.

We long to know you more fully.

With hope we pray,

and with gratitude we confess.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Pastor Deirdré

Siblings in Christ,
we confess with gratitude because we know
that God already has heard and forgiven us.
No matter what we have done or left undone,
we are held in God's hand.
So rest in this good news:

God invites us in.

God meets us where we are.

God hears our prayers.

God forgives us.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Sharing *the Love and Peace of Christ*

Again We Proclaim

Children's Moment

Pastor Deirdré

Scripture

Mark 8:31-9:8

Pastor Lane

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Creator God,

We cannot hear the trees growing—seeds pushing up
through the dirt into the sun.

And we cannot hear a single drop of rain, missing
one in the many.

We cannot hear the weight of people's grief, a burden
that so often is silent.

And we cannot hear when hearts are changed,
but you can.

You hear it all.

So once again, we come to you with bowed heads
and hopeful hearts,

Asking that you would lend us your ears.

Help us to hear as you hear so that we can live
as you lived.

We are listening.

Amen.

Sermon

"Again & Again, We are Called to Listen"

Pastor Lane

Again We Respond

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor Lane

We believe in an inviting God,
who invites the poor and the sick,
the outcast and the lonely,
the immigrant and the refugee,
the awkward and the abrasive,
the young and the innocent.
We believe God invites the best and
the worst—in all of us, and is present with us now
through the Holy Spirit.
We believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that he
invites us to:
a life of faith,
a deeper truth,
a resilient joy,
a world that is just,
and a love that knows no bounds.
We believe this invitation exists for all people.
We believe this invitation exists for us.
Again and again,
Jesus invites us to listen,
to grow, and to take another step of faith.
And when we miss the call or ignore the invite,
we believe that God invites us again.
Thanks be to God for the Holy Spirit
that calls us still. 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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Larry

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.

Again We Are Sent Out

Call to Action

Hymn of Discipleship

Nothing Between

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
naught of this world's delusive dream;
I have renounced all sinful pleasure;
Jesus is mine, there's nothing between.

Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

Nothing between, like worldly pleasure;
habits of life, though harmless they seem,
must not my heart from him ever sever;
he is my all, there's nothing between.
Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

Nothing between, e'en many hard trials,
though the whole world against me convene;
watching with prayer and much self-denial,
I'll triumph at last, there's nothing between.
Nothing between my soul and my Savior,
so that his blessed face may be seen;
nothing preventing the least of his favor;
keep the way clear! let nothing between.

Benediction

Pastors

As you leave this space,
may your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm—
again and again and again,
until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved,
and Love itself, go with courage, go with heart,
go in peace.
Amen.

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.*

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*Most of our liturgy and prayers were written
by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art, LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

