

Finding **God** in the Flames



CAMPFIRE STORIES FROM SCRIPTURE

Sunday, June 5, 2022

11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2:1-4

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.

STJOHNSBR.ORG | @STJOHNSBR

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

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Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome. Our ushers are happy to assist you in anyway. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

Thank you for being here.

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 Playground** 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. More details about the Playground may be found 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 in 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.

ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Evan Gager
Summer Ministry Intern
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Dr. Steve Rushing
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Lynn Cooper
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Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

GATHERING AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Pat Cobb

Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence!

For God has done wondrous things for us.

Come, Holy Spirit! Fill us with the power of the rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

For Christ has called each of us and blessed us!

Come, Holy Spirit! Be with us today.

Help us to boldly proclaim that Christ is alive in us!

***Hymn of Praise**

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
The United Methodist Hymnal 334

FANNING THE FLAMES

Children's Moment

Natalie Cooper

Prayer for Illumination

Pat Cobb

God of wind and fire,

Embolden us this day to receive your power. Help us to proclaim the wondrous things that you have done and continue to do in our lives. Give us the strength and courage to share the Good News of your love and your presence. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture

Pat Cobb

Acts 2:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Pastor Lane

Our Campfire Story:
"Tongues of Fire"

FEEDING THE FIRE

*Hymn of Faith

O Spirit of the Living God
The United Methodist Hymnal 539, vs. 1, 4

Stewardship Witness

Mike Creed, Finance Committee Chair

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Chancel Choir

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness
by James K. Manley

*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.**

*The Great Thanksgiving

God's Spirit is approaching...

Through time, across continents, soaring over creation.

God's Spirit is speaking...

Whispering and comforting, roaring and challenging.

God's Spirit surrounds us...

Beyond touch, warmly embracing.

God's Spirit transforms us...

**Making our horizons wider,
our faith stronger,
our hopes possible.**

Here, now, God's Spirit is working.

Through bread and wine,
through our hands and our lips,
all things are made new.

Creator God,

like a bird you hovered over the chaos of the world's first day,
drawing life from crashing waves
and making a world of possibility.

You hovered still over parting waters,

liberating an enslaved people,
guiding them forward with cloud and fire,
nurturing your followers and sharing your love.

Like a still, small voice you made your presence felt

to prophets and healers,
to a people in exile, and young mothers-to-be.

In the life of Jesus your healing touch was felt
and all were made welcome.

Like flickering embers dancing into flame,

you revived those who looked for you,
inspiring their speech and startling onlookers.
Undeterred by death, you delivered creative power,
transforming determination and your eternal, supporting presence.

And she nurtures us still, around this table made for sharing,
offering bread and wine to celebrate,
to be ourselves,
to meet God and listen to the world around us.

**At the table of the world some have plenty, some have none.
At the table of our God, all are plentifully fed.**

We come to your table as individuals
who know what it is to be vulnerable,
with worries that grow big in the night,
and fears that diminish our confidence,
but we are welcomed by you
with all who are vulnerable and scorned,
whose value is dismissed,
who are made to feel less than they are.

May the gifts we recognize in each other
draw us closer into community.

**May we be changed by our neighbor,
and see you active in all we meet.**

May what we receive be shared with all,
food for bodies and nourishment for souls.

**May your sharing and our sharing
show what is good for your world.**

Creative God, revealed to us in many ways,
we celebrate your transforming love shared for all
as Jesus, on the night before he died,
shared bread and wine with those who understood him
and those who didn't,
with those who would deny and betray him,
with the deserving and the undeserving.

The story of the Last Supper is retold at the table.

Spirit of the living God,
move among us all,
for you transform us into the people you invite us to be,
for you transform the world into the place you dream it to be.

Make us one in love,
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.

**Blow among us, Spirit of God,
fill us with your courage and care.**

**Wind and Breath,
take us on a journey of love!**

Sharing in Holy Communion

Spirit of the Living God
The United Methodist Hymnal 393

Everyone is welcome to share in Holy Communion.

Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction" with only the pastor and servers touching the elements, or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-packaged elements. Our communion elements are bread and grape juice.

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 someone will bring communion elements to you.

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer after Receiving

Pat Cobb

Spirit of the Living God,

We thank you for feeding us with your spiritual food. Stir within us a desire to feed others spiritually and physically. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT

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

Spirit of God
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2117, vs. 1, 2

During the singing of the hymn, we invite you to bring forward The Shepherd's Market grocery bags.

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Postlude

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Bill and Jane Metcalf.

Flowers on the Altar

Flowers on the altar are in honor of our St. John's family and to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June Worship Series “Finding God in the Flames: Campfire Stories from Scripture”

Today we celebrate Pentecost and the start of summer by looking at some of the great fire stories from the Bible as we kick off our new worship series, “Finding God in the Flames: Campfire Stories from Scripture.” From the Holy Spirit descending onto the disciples through tongues of flame on Pentecost, to a burning bush, join us as we explore the life-giving light of God. Next Sunday, June 12, we will read the story of the burning bush from Exodus 3:1-15.

Summer Sunday School - “Spirited Praise”

Today we begin “Spirited Praise” our one room Sunday School for K-5th graders. For the months of June and July, kids will start with music led by Dr. Steve Rushing and then will enjoy a lesson and activities led by volunteers from our adult Sunday School classes. Parents: please drop off and pick up your children in the FLC (9:45 - 10:45 a.m.).

Summer Youth Schedule: Sundays, 3-4:30pm, Wednesdays, 4-6pm

Over the summer months, our youth intern, Evan Gager, will be doing a series on Jesus’ I Am statements in John’s Gospel during Youth Group on Sundays from 3pm - 4:30pm beginning today.

On Sundays this summer, the Youth will dive into Jesus’ “I Am” statements from John’s Gospel, with games, activities, and a weekly devotion led by Youth Intern, Evan Gager. Come learn more about who Jesus says He is, not just who we want Him to be.

They’ll also gather on Wednesdays for some fun and fellowship from 4pm-6pm, sometimes meeting at the church and sometimes out. This Wednesday (June 8) will be at the church and involves BREAD.

If you have any Youth-aged (6th-12th grade) children or grandchildren, we would love for you to encourage them to come!

Additionally, Evan needs volunteers to help him on Sundays.

Please reach out and volunteer to serve! His email is evangager@stjohnsbr.org.

The Shepherd’s Market Returns to Client-Choice Shopping

The Shepherd’s Market food pantry returned to client-choice shopping on Thursday. It was an exciting and joy-filled morning as we welcomed our neighbors inside for a hot breakfast, fellowship, and pantry shopping. We are asking for new and returning kitchen and pantry volunteers to help us resume our pre-covid schedule: Mondays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 - 10 a.m.

Shepherd’s Garden

The Shepherd’s Garden needs volunteers to help the garden grow. Volunteers meet on **Wednesdays at 8 a.m.** and work only for one hour. They plant, they water, they weed, and they harvest in order to bring fresh vegetables to The Shepherd’s Market food pantry. If you like to work outside, join them on any Wednesday - no need to sign up. For more information contact Renee Rodi at 225-978-1738. Come on out - the fresh air will do you good and you will be fed spiritually while helping to feed others physically.

Louisiana Annual Conference

For the first time in many years, the Louisiana Annual Conference will be held in Baton Rouge! St. John’s will be well represented with our delegates: Rev. Lane Cotton Winn and Pat Cobb. Additionally, Grace Idikwu was selected to serve as a Youth At-Large Delegate and Natalie Cooper will serve as a Baton Rouge District At-Large Delegate. Guests are welcome to all sessions and worship experiences. Read your St. John’s newsletters to find the schedule as well as more information about the conference. The worship services are always such a highlight! In fact, Pastor Deirdre’, our former Associate Pastor and longtime church member, will be Ordained during Annual Conference. The Celebration of Ministry (Ordination) Service will be held at First UMC, Baton Rouge on Thursday, June 16 at 7 p.m. (Pre-Service music begins at 6:30 pm) so be sure to arrive early.