



Wellspring of Life

CELEBRATING THE ABUNDANCE OF
GOD'S LIVING WATER

Sunday, October 30, 2022

11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

Today is Commitment Sunday, and we welcome you to worship! The Book of Revelation paints a portrait of a diverse gathering, singing God's praise, whom Christ will guide to the springs of the waters of life. Our faith promises us that there will come a time when we will no longer have to do the backbreaking work of well-digging to taste Christ's goodness. We give to the church as a way of creating a glimpse of that kind of world, where all have comfort, grace, and truth.

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

office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594 | stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr

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 18 months 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
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Lynn Cooper
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Dr. Steve Rushing
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Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez
Nursery Worker
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Come to the Wellspring of Life

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Introit

Alleluia Ringers

Canon
Johann Pachelbel

*Call to Worship (Inspired by Isaiah 12:2-6)

Molly Means

Surely God is my salvation;

**I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
God has become my salvation.**

With joy you will draw water from the Wellspring of Life.

And you will say on that day:

**Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that God's name is exalted.**

Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done glorious things;

**let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy!**

*Hymn of Praise

You Who Are Thirsty
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2132

*Affirming Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed
The United Methodist Hymnal 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he arose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. 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.**

Draw From the Well of Faith

Children's Message

Barbara Benton

Prayer for Illumination

Molly Means

Holy God,

**You breathed upon the waters of Creation
and poured forth your grace.**

Refresh us continually with your living water.

As the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed,

may we draw from the well of faith

and drink deeply of Christ's promises

of hope, grace, peace, healing, and encouragement -

all signs of the abundance of God. Amen.

Scripture

Revelation 7:9-17

Molly Means

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

"Revealing the Goodness of God"

Pastor Lane

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Drink Deeply of God's Promises

*Hymn of Faith

What Gift Can We Bring
The United Methodist Hymnal 87, vs. 1, 3, & 4

Stewardship Witness and Act of Commitment

*We join in God's life-giving work at St. John's as we bring
our 2023 pledges to the Well.*

Pledges can also be made online at <https://www.stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2023>

*A Charge to All Stewards

Pastor Lane

As people of faith, we are called to be God's stewards – those who sacrifice, serve, and dig the well together, to ensure that St. John's is a place where all find hope, grace, peace, healing, and encouragement.

Stewards give from all aspects of their lives. As we accept this call, we each become a living example of Christ's gospel, proclaiming faith through all that we do and all that we give.

As it is written in I Peter 4:10, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

On this Commitment Sunday, a time when we celebrate the commitments each of us makes as stewards of St. John's United Methodist Church's mission and ministries, I ask you now, do you promise to live into this life of stewardship together, by faithfully supporting the ministries of the church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

If so, please answer, "I do." **I do.**

*Litany of Commitment

Paul Ivey, Margaret Sprunger, John Toney

As people of faith, we seek the Wellspring of Life,
where Jesus Christ's Living Water flows in abundance.

The work of faith requires much of us, so we dig deep...

into our pockets and bank accounts,
into our schedules and energy reserves,
into our hearts and minds
into our trust in the God we love.

The life of faith offers much to us, so we draw often...

from the peace and joy of worship,
from the love and friendship of this congregation,
from the promises of Holy Scripture,
from the grace of our God, who loves us.

Jesus invites us to drink freely from the Wellspring of Life.

The Living Water given by Jesus never runs dry.

We gladly give back to Him our whole lives, our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

O God, we ask your blessing on this, your church,
as we seek to live out your mission and vision for St. John's.

**Bless also our pledges, our investment in your future, that
through us, your Wellspring of Life will continue to flow. Amen.**

***Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ**

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Chancel Choir

I Will Give Jubilant Thanks
music by Michael Barrett

*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 God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Pour Out Ourselves for Others

Call to Action

Pastor Lane

*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**

This Is a Day of New Beginnings
The United Methodist Hymnal 383, vs. 1, 2, & 4

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

Pastor Lane

***Postlude**

Alleluia Ringers

A Gaelic Blessing
by John Rutter

Worship Notes

Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Fred and Becky Shearer

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are in honor of Pastor Lane during Pastor Appreciation Month for her many contributions throughout the year, from St. John's Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC).

Announcements

COMMITMENT SUNDAY, STEWARDSHIP POTLUCK, & FAMILY FALL FEST!

Today is **Commitment Sunday!** We encourage you to consider what you will be able to pledge towards the mission and ministries of St. John's in 2023, as during the service we will be invited to turn in our pledge card. Pledges can also be made online at stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2023.

We hope you will join us following the 11am service, **at noon, as we gather for our Stewardship Potluck** followed by a rollicking game of church-wide BINGO, with awesome PRIZES to be won! There will also be a photo booth set up and a couple of games for ALL ages to play ... think you can "over and under" a little pumpkin? The newly-formed Food, Fun, and Fellowship team is excited to sponsor this Fall Fest for families and friends of all ages and stages! You won't want to miss it!

Costumes encouraged!

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

The Ruth Circle of UWF will meet **Tuesday, November 1 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Parlor. Norma Thomason will present the 2023 World Thank Offering and Pledge Program. All women are invited to attend.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

On **Sunday, November 6**, we will be observing All Saints' Day in worship. During the service, we will remember and give thanks for those who have passed away since the previous November 1, by reading their names and lighting a candle, giving thanks for their lives and good witness. If you have a loved one who has died in the past year that you would like us to name aloud in those services, please email Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org) with their name by November 1.

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET

Next Sunday is Grocery Bag Sunday. Last month, collectively, we donated **528 pounds** to the Shepherd's Market. Let's see if we can exceed that in November! NOTE: The Shepherd's Market will be closed Monday, October 31.

FRIENDSGIVING BRUNCH

All families with Children and Youth (infants through 12th grade) as well as volunteers in these ministries are invited to a Friendsgiving Brunch on **Saturday, November 19 from 10-11:30am** in the FLC. Bring a brunch dish to share for the potluck and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship with your church friends! Connor Dean, our new interim Director of Youth and Children's Ministries is looking forward to being with us for Friendsgiving and is planning some activities and games for all ages! We hope your family can join us. If you are willing to help with set up and/or clean up, please contact Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org).

HOLY CARBS WORSHIP SERIES

As we get closer to the holidays, we are reminded how central food is to our lives. During the three Sundays prior to Thanksgiving (**November 6, 13 and 20**), we will revisit some of the grandest food stories found in scripture with our "Holy Carb" worship series. With God, food isn't just important – it is Holy! Through this series, we will get to know more about who God is and how God wants to be in relationship with us. The series begins on November 6, All Saints Day, when we will gather around Christ's table to remember and honor those who came before us and together, we will be fed spiritually and physically from this time of Holy Communion.

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING MAKE-UP SESSION

If you missed the Safe Sanctuaries Training in July, we're having a make-up session on **Wednesday, November 9 from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.** Anyone, staff or volunteer, who works with children or youth is required to take the training. Please confirm your attendance with Lynn (225-766-4594 or office@stjohnsbr.org).