



Sunday, November 20, 2022

**8:30 & 11 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

"I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

- John 6:48-51

*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

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*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*  
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper  
*Administrative Assistant*  
office@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing  
*Choir Director*  
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Ben Balsler  
*Media Producer*  
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Cheryl Roubique  
*Nursery Coordinator*  
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Evan Gager  
*Fall Youth Intern*  
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LeAnn Davis  
*Manager of Finance & Facilities*  
leannDavis@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Terry Byars  
*Praise Team Director and Accompanist*  
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez  
*Nursery Worker*  
srodzm23@gmail.com

# GATHERING

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

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## \*We Sing a Song of Praise

*All Who Hunger*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2126, vs. 1 & 3

## \*We Prepare Our Hearts to Worship

8:30 - Rev. Larry Norman  
11:00 - Evan Gager

From God came the sustenance for people  
who wandered in wilderness places.

**That was the bread from heaven!**

From God comes Jesus Christ, the eternal bread  
that sustains our lives.

**Christ is the Bread of Life!**

Let us praise God for such wondrous gifts of life.

**Let us sing and raise our voices in gratitude  
for all that God does for us. Amen.**

## \*We Sing a Song of Response

*Taste and See*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2267

# GROWING

## Children's Message

Natalie Cooper

## We Pray for Insight

Pastor Lane

**Gracious God,**

**Let the heavenly food of the scripture we are about to hear  
nourish us today in the ways of eternal life, through Jesus  
Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen**

## \*We Celebrate the Witness of Holy Scripture

John 6:32-40, 48-51

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

“The Bread of Life”

# RESPONDING

## \*We Sing a Hymn of Faith

*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

The United Methodist Hymnal 629, vs. 1 & 5

## We Are Honest Before God

8:30 - Rev. Larry  
11:00 - Evan Gager

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

**Most merciful God, we humbly admit that we need your help.  
We confess that we have wandered from your way.  
We have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right.  
You alone can save us.**

**Have mercy on us:**

**Wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.  
Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit  
That we may live as followers of Christ.  
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

## We Receive Forgiveness and Grace

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether;  
The past is finished and gone,  
Everything has become fresh and new.  
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

## \*We Offer Signs of God's Peace and Grace

## We Offer Ourselves and Resources

*Come Share the Lord*  
Anthem by Jay Althouse

*We appreciate your generosity.  
Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.  
You may give online at [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://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!**

## \*The Great Thanksgiving

Holy God, for creating the world  
and breathing into us the breath of life,  
We offer you our thankful Praise.

You planted the first fields—  
and made us in your image  
to care for your creation.

You fed your people in the wilderness  
with manna from heaven,  
leading them to a land of milk and honey.

When human greed trampled the poor  
you spoke through the prophets,  
calling us to worship you with justice and peace.

Then, in the fullness of time,  
you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread,  
to lift up the oppressed and lowly  
and fill the hungry with good things.

### SUNG RESPONSE

*Thank You, Lord*

The United Methodist Hymnal 84

**Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord.  
I just want to thank you, Lord.**

**Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord.  
I just want to thank you, Lord.**

*The congregation is seated and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.*

Eternal God, as we gather around this table,

Set with bread and the fruit of the vine,

We remember that on the night Jesus was betrayed, He took bread,  
And when he had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to  
his disciples, saying:

“This is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

“This cup that is poured out  
is the new covenant in my blood.”

### SUNG RESPONSE

*Eat This Bread*

The United Methodist Hymnal 628

**Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
and one with all who share this meal,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be Christ's body in the world.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honor and glory are yours, almighty God,  
forever and ever. **Amen.**

### **We Sing Our Prayer Response**

*Be Present at Our Table Lord*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 621

**Be present at our table, Lord;  
be here and everywhere adored;  
thy creatures bless, and grant that we  
may feast in paradise with thee.**

### **We Pray The Lord's Prayer**

### **We Share In the Bread and Cup**

Chancel Choir Anthem (11:00)

*As We Break the Bread*  
by Jay Althouse

*Please feel free to sing along during communion.*

*Let Us Break Bread Together*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 618

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 375

*One Bread, One Body*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 620

*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 a person with limited mobility, please let the usher know and someone will bring communion to you.*

### **Communion Response**

8:30 - Rev. Larry  
11:00 - Evan Gager

### **Eternal God,**

**Thank you for this holy meal that nourishes our bodies and spirits. By feasting on this bread of life, we are reminded that you hear us, you respond to us, and you provide for us. May your unending grace be our foundation as we journey onwards with Christ. Amen.**

# DEPARTING TO SERVE

## 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.*

## \*We Sing a Hymn of Discipleship

*Now Thank We All Our God*

The United Methodist Hymnal 102, vs. 1 & 3

## \*We Receive a Blessing

## \*Postlude

# WORSHIP NOTES

## FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in gratitude for all of our volunteers who serve in ministries of St John's as well as Opening Doors.

## USHERS

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Paul Ivey and Sandra Kuykendall.

Ushers for the 11:00 service are Bill and Jane Metcalf.

## COFFEE TIME

After the 8:30 service, everyone is invited to the FLC for coffee and refreshments.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to the St. John's "well" for 2023. October 30 was Commitment Sunday, and it was an uplifting and exciting day of worship and fellowship. To date, we have received 85 pledges totaling \$411,804. If you have not had a chance to turn in a pledge for 2023, we hope you will do so soon. You can pledge online (<https://www.stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2023>) or turn in a pledge card at church, which are available in the office and the Narthex. Your 2022 pledge will NOT automatically renew for 2023 - you must turn in a new pledge card every year.

## HELP MAKE A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS BRIGHTER

Opening Doors is offering us a chance to help brighten Christmas for children from two of our neighborhood schools, Wildwood Elementary School and Gardere Community Christian School, through their new mission: **Neighborhood Friends**. You have an opportunity to choose a student or students and purchase gifts for them. You will receive instructions when you pick your student(s). Gifts are due back by Sunday, December 4. For more information, please contact Buffie Grayson or Beth Forester.

## SNACKS FOR COFFEE TIME

We need snacks for Coffee Time. Many thanks to those of you who have answered the calls that we sent out. If you have a new recipe you would like to try out, I think Coffee Time is the place to do it! If you have a favorite recipe you haven't made in a while, I think Coffee Time is the place to bring it. We will always welcome individually wrapped sweet or salty snacks. You may drop off any snacks in the kitchen. Again, thanks for your help.

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### 2022 HOLIDAY SUPERSTORE

Shopping for Opening Doors Holiday Superstore will be held **Monday, November 21** beginning at 8 a.m. at Target on Seigen Lane. Volunteers are needed to do Christmas shopping for children from The Charlie Thomas Head Start Center using money from Opening Doors! Contact Marilyn Damberg (225-335-3321 or [marilyndamberg@mac.com](mailto:marilyndamberg@mac.com)) for more information.

### DECORATING FOR ADVENT

We need volunteers to help make our Narthex and Sanctuary beautiful for Advent and Christmas. On **Tuesday, November 22 at 10 a.m.** (following The Shepherd's Market), the decorating will begin! Come be a part of making St. John's festive for the holiday season.

### THANKSGIVING CLOSURES

The Church office will be closed Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 26. We will reopen Monday, November 28 at 9 a.m.

The Shepherd's Market will be closed Thursday, November 24, and will reopen on Monday, November 28, at 3:30 p.m. for their regular shopping hours.

### SCENES OF THE SEASON

The Advent season is upon us, a time when we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child at Christmas. This special season full of familiar stories - from the family anecdotes that get told over and over again, to the holiday movie classics we watch year after year, to the well-known stories of scripture repeated each Advent. The four main characters in the Advent story, Mary, Joseph, Zechariah and Elizabeth, each had their own unique way of preparing for the first Christmas. This Advent, we will focus on the scenes in scripture that tell their story, revealing to us how we, too are invited into the narrative and become a part of the Christmas scene. Invite a friend to join us for worship as we experience the joy and excitement that Christ brings to us through the Scenes of the Season.

To accompany our Advent journey, we have created a daily calendar with simple reflections and activities as well as a weekly devotional booklet. The booklet includes weekly candle lightings if you are setting up an Advent wreath at home, as well as devotions written by St. John's member, Darlene Dickson, which connect our scenes from scripture with some of the Christmas movies we all love to watch this time of year. Copies are available at the church.

## COMING IN DECEMBER

### ELF NIGHT

Our United Women in Faith will be hosting Elf Night on **Friday, December 2, 6-8:30 p.m.** On this night the children (ages 2 years through 5th grade) of St. John's families can be dropped off in the FLC, at no charge, in order to provide parents with a night out to shop for Christmas! Please sign up today in the FLC during coffee time! If you are interested in helping, please contact Sherri Artecona (iama225secfan@yahoo.com or 985-320-3018).

### JOY FEST

Save the date of **Sunday, December 11** for our Advent celebration this year. We will gather for festive fellowship from 5 - 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. We will have fun for all ages with a potluck dinner, word games, Name that Tune, crafts for the kids, and caroling. And don't forget! Expected attire for the upcoming Joy Fest will be, of course, Ugly Christmas Sweaters! Get yours aired out and ready to go!

### GREAT TURKEY GIVEAWAY

The twelfth annual Great Turkey Giveaway will be held on **Saturday, December 17.** Volunteers of all ages and abilities are needed. Please plan to arrive by 7:30 a.m. For more information, contact Theresa Sandifer (225-337-1306 or tsandifer0829@gmail.com). If you prefer to make a monetary donation, \$20 will provide a turkey and everything for a Christmas dinner.

### FREEZER SPACE NEEDED

Duane Craig has begun baking 500+ loaves of homemade bread for the Turkey Giveaway. If you have room in your freezer, please consider taking some home and keep it until Friday, December 16 when they will be brought to the FLC where we will be taking count of loaves out and loaves in.

### SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Our annual service of Lessons & Carols will be **Sunday, December 18** at both services.

### UWF BAKE AND CRAFT SALE (CALL FOR DONATIONS)

The United Women of Faith are asking bakers and crafters to consider donating items to their Holiday Bake and Craft Sale on **Sunday, December 18 from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** All proceeds from the sale will benefit local missions. Contact Liz McDonald (318-542-9272) for more information.

### LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP

**Wednesday, December 21 at 6 p.m.** The Longest Night Worship Service is a quiet meditative service for those experiencing grief and loss of all kinds.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

**Saturday, December 24** we will hold our Candlelighting Service at 5 p.m.

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**Sunday, December 25** we will have one worship service at 10 a.m.

## COMING IN JANUARY 2023

### FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Want to get your finances in order during 2023? Register for Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. This nine-week course will begin **Tuesday, January 17, at 6 p.m.** in the Library. The cost is \$60; checks made out to St. John's UMC, with FPU in the memo line. Deadline to register is Thursday, December 15. You may register online (stjohnsbr.org/financial-peace-university-2023) or by filling out a form found in the Narthex.