

The Celebration of the Gospel

April 11, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter



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.

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.

Gathering

Prelude Terry Byars

Words of Welcome Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

"Dare to Dance" Invitation

Song of Praise FWS 2166

Christ Beside Me
Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me - King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me - never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me - shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising - light of my life.

Call to Worship Natalie Cooper

This is the call!
Shake off the dust that has been gathering underfoot.
We lift up our heads to meet the day.
Raise your hands in grateful praise.
We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.
If rain still lingers, open the umbrellas of determination
and set out anyway.
For we are called to dance again!

Song of Response FWS 2068

I Love You, Lord
I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
to worship you, O my soul rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what you hear,
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Prayer Natalie Cooper

Learning the Steps

Children's Moment Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Scripture Pastor Deirdré

John 20:19-31

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God,
through your only Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame
death and opened to us the light of eternity.
Open our minds and kindle a fire in our hearts
through the presence of your Holy Spirit,
that we may hear your words of comfort and
challenge this day, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sermon Pastor Deirdré
"Dancing Together"

Responding

Hymn of Faith UMH 344, vs. 1 & 2

Lord, You Have Come To the Lakeshore
Lord, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.
You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
you will find there my nets and labor.
O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,
you have accepted your sons sacrifice
for our salvation.
By your power you have raised him from the dead,
and have clothed him again with flesh
so that his disciples might recognize him.
We humbly confess that, while we know the story
and believe it, it often has made too little
difference in our lives, and at times we have been
silent when we should have spoken of it.

Forgive us, we pray, of these sins.
Enable us today to reflect more deeply
on your sacred story, that our obedience may
increase, that our service may be more joyful,
and that our testimony may be more courageous.
Hear us in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the
Christ. Amen.

Words of Assurance and Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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 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!

Invitation to the Table

The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving

Jesus is with us!

With us now and forever!

So lift up your hearts and voices!

We lift them up to God!

Let's join in thanks and praise!

How right it is to do this together!

And so we join with the glorious chorus of saints past and present, singing a never-ending hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy!

God of power and might,

everywhere we see your glory!

Blessed are those who come in your name.

Hosanna! Alleluia! Amen!

The congregation is seated. The pastors recall the story of the Last Supper and the institution of Holy Communion.

And so, my friends, we remember. And we believe:

Christ has died. Christ has risen.

Christ will come again!

Sharing Holy Communion

Pastors

If you live in the Baton Rouge area and would like someone to bring Communion to your home, please contact us in the church office.

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy

mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world, dancing with

your Spirit in unity and love, to give ourselves

for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Stepping Out

Call to Action

Hymn of Discipleship

Go Ye, Go Ye Into the World

**Go ye, go ye into the world
and make disciples of all the nations.**

**Go ye, go ye into the world,
and I will be with you there!**

**Go ye, go ye into the world
and take the gospel to all the people.**

**Go ye, go ye into the world,
and I will be with you there!**

**Go ye, go ye into the world
and tell the story to all believers.**

**Go ye, go ye into the world,
and I will be with you there!**

Benediction

Pastor Deirdré

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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