

# The Celebration of the Gospel

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

## All Are Welcome

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](http://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.*

## Gathering

### Prelude

### Words of Welcome

*Rev. Lane Cotton Winn*

### Songs of Praise

*We Will Glorify the King of Kings* FWS 2087, vs. 1, 2, 3

**We will glorify the King of kings,  
we will glorify the Lamb;  
we will glorify the Lord of lords,  
who is the great I AM.**

**Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty,  
we will bow before his throne;  
we will worship him in righteousness,  
we will worship him alone.**

**He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth,  
he is Lord of all who live;  
he is Lord above the universe,  
all praise to him we give.**

*My Life Is In You, Lord* FWS 2032

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;  
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;  
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

**I will praise you with all of my life,  
I will praise you with all of my strength;  
with all of my life, with all of my strength.  
All of my hope is in you.**

**My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;  
my hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.**

### Call to Worship

*Rev. Marie Williams*

In the beginning  
before time, before people,  
before the world began:  
**God was.**

Here and now, among us, beside us,  
enlisting the people of earth  
for the purposes of heaven:  
**God is.**

In the future,  
when we have turned to dust  
and all we know has found its fulfillment:  
**God will be.**

Not denying the world but delighting in it,  
not understanding the world, but redeeming it,  
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit:  
**God was, God is, God will be.**

Let us go up to a high mountaintop to worship our God,  
who was, and is, and will forevermore  
be worthy of praise.

**We gather to give God the glory!**

## Journeying

### Road Trip Notes - Grand Teton

*Video*

### Children's Moment

*ShiRae Transou*

### Scriptures

Matthew 14:20-23, Mark 6:46,  
Luke 6:12-13, John 6:14-15

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Prayer for Illumination

**Lord God, at the beginning of time your Spirit  
moved over the waters. So now, send your Spirit  
to stir our hearts and inspire us to receive the  
re-creating power of your Word. Grant us wisdom  
and courage as we seek to learn from you. We pray  
through Christ, your incarnate Word. Amen.**

### Sermon

"Closeness to God"

*Pastor Lane*

## Communing

### Hymn of Faith

UMH 103, vs. 1, 3, 4

*Immortal, Invisible*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render: O help us to see'  
tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.**

## Prayer of Confession

For our unwillingness to feel the suffering of others,  
and our readiness to live comfortably with injustice.

**Forgive us, O God.**

For our self-righteousness that denies guilt,  
and our self-interest that strangles compassion.

**Forgive us, O God.**

For our abuse of this planet and our exploitation  
of its resources.

**Forgive us, O God.**

For our failings in community and our reticence  
to become involved.

**Forgive us, O God.**

For our inability to see you in those mountaintop  
moments you create for us.

**Forgive us, O God.**

For the times we were too eager to be better than others,  
when we were too rushed to care,  
when we were too tired to bother,  
when we were too preoccupied to listen,  
when we were too quick to act out of motives  
other than love.

**Forgive us, O God.**

May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit  
enable us to grow in love. **Amen.**

## Words of Assurance and Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.  
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**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: [www.stjohnsbr.org/give](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!**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Our sung communion responses are from  
The Faith We Sing Hymnal #2257*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And so, with your people on earth and all the company  
of heaven we praise your name and join their unending  
hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

**Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

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

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus  
Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a  
holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for  
us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

*The pastor invokes the present work  
of the Holy Spirit and concludes:*

All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Hosanna in the highest. (3x)**

## The Lord's Prayer

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

- ♦ *All are welcome to partake in Holy Communion.*
- ♦ *Communion will be served using the ancient means of "intinction" with only the server touching the elements, or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-packaged elements.*
- ♦ *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 the pastor will bring communion elements to you.*

### Prayer After Receiving

*Rev. Marie Williams*

**Gracious God,**

**we thank you for inviting us  
to share the hospitality of your table,  
where you come close and meet us here.  
Call forth in us the same generosity  
that we find in you.**

**In the power of your Spirit,  
raise up in us a hunger for justice,  
a commitment to kindness  
and a passion for service,  
that we may be a blessing in the world,  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## On the Road Again...

### Call to Action

### Hymn of Discipleship

FWS 2042, vs. 1, 3

*How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely  
How lovely, Lord, how lovely  
is your abiding place;  
my soul is longing, fainting,  
to feast upon your grace.  
The sparrow finds a shelter,  
a place to build her nest;  
and so your temple calls us  
within its walls to rest.*

**A sun and shield forever are you,  
O god most high;  
you shower us with blessings  
no good will you deny.  
The saints, your grace receiving,  
from strength to strength shall go,  
and from their life shall rivers  
of blessings overflow.**

### Benediction

### Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us!*

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