



Sunday, November 14, 2021

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Colossians 3:15

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

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

60TH ANNIVERSARY

St. John's was founded in 1961 by 60 charter members. Ground was broken for the present sanctuary in August 1962, and it was dedicated Easter Sunday 1963. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary throughout 2021. Give God the Glory!

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Do No Harm, our first Wesleyan rule continues to be our benchmark for all recommendations. In light of the Governor's recent COVID update, St. John's has returned to not requiring masks while in worship and in small group gatherings. If you feel better wearing a mask, by all means do what you are most comfortable with.

We look forward to the day when COVID will no longer be a part of our daily lives, until then, let us pray for our world, country, state, parish, and each other.

Grace & Peace
The Covid -19 Task Force

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 Prayground** 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. As a safety precaution, masks are required in the Prayground for everyone ages 2 and older until December 12. After that date, masks will become optional. If you or your child needs a mask, some are available in the Prayground. More details about the Prayground 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 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.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (2x)

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2031

Give Thanks

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2036

*Call to Worship

John McWilliams

Come, let us celebrate the wondrous gifts that God has given us.

**Throughout all our lives, God has blessed us
with love and hope.**

Praise be to God who provides for us.

**May our hearts be truly grateful, and may we show our
gratitude by the ways in which we live and care for others.**

Hallelujah!

Amen.

GLEANNING

Scripture

Colossians 3:12-15

John McWilliams

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment

Shawn Walker

Scripture

Philippians 4:4-9

John McWilliams

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Based on Psalm 19:14

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in thy sight, thou who art our strength and our
redeemer. Amen.**

Sermon

"From Thanksgiving to Thanks-Living"

Pastor Lane

RESPONDING

*Hymn of Faith

Now Thank We All Our God
The United Methodist Hymnal 102, vs. 1, 3

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lane

We fill our lives with the fear of scarcity, assuming
there is not enough money, time, patience or love.
We turn away when a stranger asks for nourishment,
claiming there isn't enough even for ourselves.

**Forgive us when we doubt your abundance and ignore
the possibilities in what we have been given.**

We often sit with arms crossed and fists clenched,
crying out that you have turned away
and left us empty handed.

**Forgive us when we reject your abundance and neglect
the possibilities in what we have been given.**

We easily give thanks for the good things in life,
turning away from those which lead us to deeper
community or second-guessing blessings as
too good to be true.

**Open our eyes to the wonders that surround us.
Help us surrender to the loving embrace that enfolds us.**

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Pastor Lane

Siblings in Christ, take comfort!
We, and the whole world with us, are always embraced
in Christ's love.
In Christ, there is always enough.
In Christ, forgiveness is always given.

We give thanks for God's forgiveness and grace. Amen.

Stewardship Witness

Gray Sexton

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 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!**

The Great Thanksgiving

Our sung communion responses are from The Faith We Sing Songbook 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 in Holy Communion

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.

Prayer After Receiving

John McWilliams

Gracious God,

We thank you for this holy mystery of faith celebrated at your table. May we continue to be nourished in our hearts, and with grateful thanks, from this day forward, may we live a life of openness to you, full of thanksgiving, love, and generosity. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE

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

The Lord's My Shepherd
The United Methodist Hymnal 136, vs. 1, 2, 5

*Benediction

Pastor Lane

*Postlude

WORSHIP NOTES

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are given by J.R. Madden and Daphne Grady in recognition of the 246th birthday of the Marine Corps and in honor of all veterans who have sacrificed for the rest of us.

Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Lynn Cooper and Sandra Kuykendall.

Coffee Time

Everyone is invited to the Family Life Center for coffee and refreshments following worship.

Livestream of Worship

To join a livestream of worship, share today's service or watch previous worship services, visit <http://facebook.com/stjohnsbr/live>.

Music Livestream

Permission to stream music covered by OneLicense A-732159 and CCLI 20233858.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Friendsgiving

Today at 3 p.m., Youth (all students in 6th - 12th grades) are invited to meet at the Robertson's house (286 Stanford Ave.) for some outdoor activities and games; they will finish up at St. John's UMC at 5 p.m. Parent's please note youth are to be picked up at church.

Guest Preacher Next Sunday

Next Sunday, November 21, we will welcome guest preacher, Rev. Todd Rossnagel, Director of Communication Strategies for the Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. His sermon, entitled, "30 Seconds," will be based on Luke 10:38-42, the story of Mary and Martha hosting Jesus in their home. Its message will hopefully settle your soul prior to a very busy week and the start of the holiday season.

60th Anniversary Plaques, Ornaments, and Cookbooks

If you ordered a cookbook or an ornament, please come pick them up in the church office during regular office hours (Mon - Thurs, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.). We also have a limited number of plaques (\$30) available.

Upcoming Meetings and Groups

St. John's Writers' Group, Sunday, November 14, 4 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Mari Walker for Zoom information. Every one is invited to zoom in.

Good Grief, St. John's! Tuesday, November 16, 5:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

Finance Committee, Thursday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. in the Library. If you would like to attend on Zoom, contact Pastor Lane at pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org for Zoom information.

Holiday Super Store, Monday, November 22. Meet at Target on Siegen at 8 a.m. For more information contact Marilyn Damberg by e-mail or phone/text at 225-335-3321 if you have any questions.

Advent Fest, Sunday, December 5, 4 - 5:30 p.m. - Mark Your Calendars!

Lagniappe Kitchen Renovation Fund

Our fundraising efforts for the kitchen renovation are underway and we have already raised \$93,084! To give online go to www.stjohnsbr.org/give (under Fund, select Kitchen Renovation); to give by check write kitchen renovation in the memo line. Thanks for helping fill the pot!

Thank You For Pledging

Thank you for those who have already made a financial pledge to God's work here at St. John's for 2022. Your pledge will enable us to move into the future with hope. Pledges allow us to plan for the year ahead. Your pledge is a vital tool to develop the operating budget and plan for outreach, education, and other important spiritual and formation programs. Thank you for providing for the mission and ministries of St. John's through your financial support. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex and can be turned in through the Offering or the church office. You can also pledge online: stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2022.

Thanksgiving Closures

The church office will be closed **Thursday, November 25** and **Friday, November 26**. We will resume regular office hours on Monday, November 29.

The Shepherd's Market will be closed **Thursday, November 25** and will resume regular drive-through pantry hours on Tuesday November 30.



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church