



Sunday August 22, 2021

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

All Are Welcome

Our worship series, "I've Been Meaning to Ask," continues this morning with the question, "What Do You Need?" What we know for certain is that we need each other. How does today's question invite us to lean in with curiosity and openness in order to strengthen the connections between us? How does this question invite vulnerability and open heartedness in our relationships? What are scriptural examples of those in need and the people around them who responded in an effort to help? We'll spend time with Job in the First Testament and Paul in the Epistles as we explore these questions together.

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 statewide mask mandate, St. John's has returned to requiring all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear masks while in worship and in small group gatherings.

We look forward to the day when we can return to maskless gatherings, 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. If you or your child needs a mask, some are available in the Prayground. More details about the Prayground may be found in the pew insert and 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

### \*Song of Praise

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2171

### \*Call to Worship

Bobbi Marino

Family of faith, this must be the place.

This is the place for connection and growth,  
for community and hope.

This must be the place for questions like,

“Where are you from?” and, “What do you need?”

For whispers of: “I’ve been thinking of you,”

and, “I’ve been meaning to ask. . .”

**This must be the place, because all belong here.**

**All are welcome here.**

**All hurt and joy, needs and prayers,**

**dreams and love, are welcome here.**

God is near.

**Let us worship our Holy God.**

# LISTENING

## Children’s Moment

### Prayer for Illumination

Bobbi Marino

**God of long winters and longer summers,**

**in the words of Paul,**

**do your best to come to us quickly.**

**Come to us with loud praise and joy,**

**or appear to us in a still, small voice.**

**Come to us through friends,**

**or come to us through strangers.**

**Come to us in this text and in this hour of worship,**

**and come to us quickly if you can.**

**We are seeking you.**

**We are always seeking you.**

**With grateful hearts cracked open by love, we pray.**

**Amen.**

Job 2:11-13  
2 Timothy 4:9-18

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

Message

Pastor Lane

"I've Been Meaning to Ask...What Do You Need?"

## SHARING

\*Hymn of Faith

*Stand By Me*

The United Methodist Hymnal 512, vs. 1, 2, 3

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,  
sometimes life feels like cooking with flour—  
it looks like it should be easy,  
but we always make a mess.  
This is particularly true when it comes to our relationships.  
We so desperately long to say the right thing,  
to be the right thing, to find the right solution,  
that we overstep the line.  
Forgive us for assuming the place you fill.  
Forgive us for imagining that we, in all our humanity,  
could possibly fix all the hurt in this world.  
Instead, give us the grace and the strength to stand by our  
loved ones in their moments of need  
and witness their hurt without trying to fix it.  
You are God. We are not. Teach us how to be a friend.  
Teach us how to ask, "What do you need?"  
Teach us how to point to you.  
Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Family of faith,  
no matter how many times you have  
spoken without listening, assumed without knowing,  
offered without asking, or rushed without waiting—  
you are forgiven.  
God knows your desire and your intent.  
God knows when we try and miss the mark,  
and God surrounds us in grace.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**Every day is a new day for love.  
We are claimed. We are forgiven.  
We are invited into relationship.  
Thanks be to God for growth and grace  
that know no end. 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 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

*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 the Bread and Cup

*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

**O God, our Great Connector,  
this space is holy. This space is special.  
This space is unique, because we are fed.  
We are seen. We belong.  
Help us remain open to possibility,  
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit,  
who is with us now and with us always.  
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

*Here I Am, Lord*

The United Methodist Hymnal 593, vs. 1, 3

## \*Benediction

## \*Postlude

*The flowers on the altar are given by Mary and Mark Northington in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.*

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

*To join a livestream of worship, share today's service or watch previous worship services, visit [stjohnsbr.org/live](http://stjohnsbr.org/live).*

*Most of our liturgy and prayers were written  
by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art, LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 60th Anniversary Pictorial Directory

St. John's is doing a new pictorial directory! We want everyone to get a new picture in the directory to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. Make your appointment now online at <http://bit.ly/stjohns60photo> or by calling Rhonda Tucker at 225-270-2193 or sign up today in the Narthex. Check out our *Inside St. John's* newsletter for more information.

## Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will be meeting **Thursday, August 26** at 6 p.m. in the Library. If you cannot attend in person you will have the option to attend on Zoom. The Zoom information will be in Tuesday's *Inside St. John's* newsletter.

## 60th Celebration Sunday

**Sunday August 29** will be our next 60th Celebration Sunday. During worship next Sunday we will "Give God the Glory" through both services. You don't want to miss this joyful happening.

## Join St. John's Bell Choir

If you are wanting to join a close-knit, friendly, welcoming group then the Bell Choir is just what you are looking for. Join us on **Sundays at 6 p.m.** in our new practice room in the Admin Building (last door on the left). You don't have to have any prior musical knowledge. For more information contact Gay Grimes 225-766-6434.

## 60th Anniversary Ornaments

We are taking pre-orders for handmade ceramic ornaments created by local artist Kai. Each ornament is \$15, and they will be ready for this Advent. **The hard deadline to order is August 31.** Visit [stjohnsbr.org/order-ornaments](http://stjohnsbr.org/order-ornaments) to order.

## 60th Anniversary Cookbooks

Pre-ordered cookbooks are available for pickup in the church office, and we have additional copies available for \$20 each. Give God the Glory!

## Youth Meals

Please consider providing a meal for our Youth Group on Sundays - you don't have to have a child in the Youth Group to participate in this important ministry, it is an easy, simple way to get involved with St. John's and our youth, our future. They meet from 5 - 7 p.m. and really appreciate meals brought from home. To sign up to bring a meal or for more information please see Haleigh in the Narthex today or email her at [haleighschwartz@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:haleighschwartz@stjohnsbr.org). This request is open to all.

## St. Mark's Mission Meal, New Orleans

Our St. Mark's Mission Meal will be **Sunday, August 29**. Prior to that, on **Saturday, August 28**, we will gather at 9 a.m. in the FLC to prepare the sandwiches. We need 8 to 12 volunteers (who have been fully vaccinated) - everyone will be masked. All are invited to come and participate. We leave for St. Mark's early Sunday morning to deliver, assemble, and distribute the bag lunches. Check out the Tuesday and Friday newsletters for more information.



**ST. JOHN'S**

United Methodist Church

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*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*