



Sunday October 24, 2021

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord,
“plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a
future with hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

*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 IN HOPE

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

It Is the Cry of My Heart
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2165, vs. 1

My Life Is In You, Lord
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2032

*Call to Worship

Barbara Benton

We are here to celebrate God's presence and affirm God's gifts of love, hope, joy and peace.

**Here we discover the meaning of life,
know the power of love,
and together celebrate new life in Christ.**

God is with us as a community of faith as we look to the future with hope.

**With neighbor and friend and with the stranger, also,
we have come together to worship and give God praise.**

May we now celebrate new life in Jesus Christ.

**And sing the praise of a loving and compassionate Savior!
Together, we give God the glory! Amen.**

*Song of Response

My Life Is In You, Lord, refrain
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2032

GROWING TOGETHER

Children's Moment

Jennifer Csaszar

Prayer for Illumination

Barbara Benton

**Open our hearts and minds to your word, O God.
Help us to set aside all that distracts us from you.
Give us courage to hear your challenge for the future. Amen.**

*Scripture

Barbara Benton

Luke 9:10-17

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RETURNING TO GOD

*Hymn of Faith

Freely, Freely

The United Methodist Hymnal , 389

Stewardship Witness

Richard & Marilyn Damberg

Stewardship Prayer

**Provider and Sustainer God,
thank You for Your many blessings upon Your Church,
the family of St. John’s, and the unique gifts that
You have imparted upon me and each in Your creation.**

**I pray that I may be a devoted caretaker of these gifts.
I humbly ask for Your guidance as I strive to serve
humankind and radiate the loving light of Christ, so that
others may come to know You and Your enduring love
and mercy available to all.**

**Help me to live my days as a faithful steward of Your gifts
and to serve others according to Your good
and perfect purpose.**

**I trust in You as Your humble servant; set me as a blessing
unto others as I look to a future with hope, in unity and
wholeness with You.**

In Jesus’ name. Amen.

written by Natalie Cooper

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)

Blessed 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

Barbara Benton

God, by the bread of heaven and the cup of life, you make us one body. Bind us together by your Spirit that we might live into your hopes for us, a community centered in Christ and rich in compassion, commitment, courage, and care. May it be so. 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

Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast
The United Methodist Hymnal 616, vs. 1, 5

*Benediction

Pastor Lane

*Postlude

*The flowers on the altar are in thankfulness for
Emma Gordon's 9th birthday.
Carol and Don Gordon and family.*

*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 <http://facebook.com/stjohnsbr/live>.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers needed after 8:30 worship service TODAY

Help is needed to move the front communion rails to the back of the sanctuary in anticipation of next week's performance by our Alleluia Ringers. This will not take long. Any help is appreciated.

Youth and Children's Great Pumpkin Hunt

Youth (6th-12th grades) are invited to join Pastor Lane **TODAY** at 3 p.m. for an afternoon of high energy and fun. Costumes are encouraged, wear comfortable shoes AND bring a friend!

Elementary Children (K-5th grades) are invited to their Great Pumpkin Hunt on Saturday, October 30 at 3 p.m. Costumes are encouraged, wear comfortable shoes!

Youth Meals Update

Thank you to everyone who signed up to provide meals for the youth, we appreciate your time and generosity. At this time, we are revamping the fall/winter youth schedule. If you signed up to provide a meal beginning October 31 through January 2022, please email Rhonda Tucker (parkerrhondatucker@gmail.com) and let us know the date you volunteered (& your name).

Meetings and Groups Scheduled Next Week

Good Grief, St. John's. Tuesday, October 26, 5:30 p.m. in the parlor. Contact Susan Johnston (sbjohnston@gmail.com) for more information. All are invited to attend.

Church Council. Thursday, October 28, 6 p.m. in the library as well as on Zoom. All are invited to attend.

Commitment Sunday

We invite you to join us in building "A Future With Hope" at St. John's by making a pledge to our mission and ministries in 2022. Commitment Sunday will be **October 31**. We will share in one combined worship service at 10 a.m. next Sunday as we celebrate our 60th Anniversary and make our financial commitments to God's work through St. John's for next year. We will enjoy a potluck outside (weather permitting or in the Family Life Center) following the service so bring a dish to share. Pledge cards are in the narthex and you may also pledge online at stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2022.

All Saints' Day - Submission of Names to Remember

We will be observing All Saints' Day in worship on November 7. During the service, we will remember and give thanks for those who have passed away since the previous November 1, by reading their names and lighting a candle, giving thanks for their lives and good witness. If you have a loved one who has died in the past year that you would like us to name aloud in those services, please email Pastor Lane (pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org) with their name by November 1.

Lagniappe Kitchen Renovation Fund

Our fundraising efforts for the kitchen renovation are underway and we have already raised \$84,168! 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!



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church