

The Celebration of the Gospel

May 9, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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.



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.

Dancing Toward God

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Invitation to Dance Again

Call to Worship

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

This is our call!

The sun breaks through the clouds.

We lift up our heads to meet the day.

Christ calls us to deep friendship with one another and a great love for all people.

We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

And when rain comes again, we will open our umbrellas set out anyway.

For we are called to dance again!

Songs of Praise

We Are Called

Come! Live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!

**We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve on another,
to walk humbly with God!**

Sing! Sing a new song!

**Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love!**

**We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly,
we are called to serve on another,
to walk humbly with God!**

Make Me a Servant

**Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.**

Prayer

Carrie Poynot

**Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation,
let us be open to learn from the dances of others.
Their steps bring great joy and diversity to our lives.
Open us to new steps for a new day.
Come and dance with us and engage with us,
as we seek you, so that we can be risen
with Christ and in Christ.
Be with us now, we pray. Amen.**

Stretching Our Spirits

Children's Moment

Mari, Jane, and Livia Walker

Scripture Reading

Pastor Lane

John 15:9-17

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 are
our strength and our redeemer. Amen.**

Sermon

Pastor Lane

"Dance In All Our Diversity"

Stepping Out In Response

Hymn of Faith

Freely, Freely

**God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his love as he told me to.**

He said,

**"Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give. Go in my name,
and because you believe,
others will know that I live."**

All power is given in Jesus' name,
in earth and heaven in Jesus' name,
and in Jesus' name I come to you,
to share his power as he told me to.

He said,
"Freely, freely you have received,
freely, freely give. Go in my name,
and because you believe,
others will know that I live."

Offering Our Tithes *and* Gifts to God

Many Gifts, One Spirit

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!**

Sharing in Holy Communion

*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.*

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer After Receiving

Pastor Deirdré

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.

Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
the glory of God is theirs.
Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!

Benediction

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us!

*The flowers on the altar are given by St. John's Youth in
memory of Achilla Idikwu on Mother's Day.*

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

*Some of our liturgy and prayers were used with permission
of Dr. Marcia McFee | Worship Design Studio.*

Leaping Into Action

Call to Action

Hymn of Discipleship

Blest Are They

**Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
they shall be consoled.
Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!**
**Blest are they, the lowly ones;
they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;
they shall have their fill.
Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God!**