

Finding **God** in the Flames



CAMPFIRE STORIES FROM SCRIPTURE

Sunday, June 26, 2022

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but the Samaritans would not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But Jesus turned to them and rebuked them. Then they went on their way to another village.

Luke 9:51-56

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

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Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - noon



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome to worship! We are glad you've joined us and hope you feel at home here. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome. Our ushers are happy to assist you in anyway. Restrooms are in the Narthex.

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

Thank you for being here.

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 Playground** 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. More details about the Playground 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 in 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.

ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn
Lead Pastor
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Evan Gager
Summer Ministry Intern
evangager@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing
Choir Director
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Dr. Terry Byars
Praise Team Director and Accompanist
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Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

GATHERING AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Natalie Cooper

*Song of Praise

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
The United Methodist Hymnal 140, vs. 1, 2, 3

*Call to Worship

Theresa Sandifer

Our God welcomes and invites us to share in the joy of this day.

**However glad we are, however out of sorts we are –
we gather as God’s beloved children –**

We come together as a people whom Jesus calls into community –
so this becomes a place where all are welcome.

We have come to give thanks, to pray and sing, to be with others,
and to be with God –

**We come ready to experience the wonder of God’s love and
acceptance – for us and for all.**

Amen.

*Song of Response

Taste and See
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2267

Introduction of Guest Preacher

Paul Ivey

FANNING THE FLAMES

Children’s Moment

Rev. Callie Winn Crawford

Prayer for Illumination

Theresa Sandifer

**Open our hearts today, O Lord,
to feel the powerful love and inclusion you have for us.**

**Help us to listen,
not only with our ears,
but with our spirits
for your words of
tolerance,
forgiveness, and
compassion.**

**Enable us to become more faithful disciples for you;
for we ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Luke 9:49-56

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message

Rev. Callie

Our Campfire Story:
“Fire and Brimstone”

FEEDING THE FIRE

***Hymn of Faith**

Help Us Accept Each Other
The United Methodist Hymnal 560, vs. 1, 3, 4

***Prayer of Confession**

Evan Gager

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea,
and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth.
Trusting in that mercy and that grace,
let us make our confession, before God and each other,
first in silent prayer.

A time for silent prayer and confession.

Holy God,

**We open our hearts to you this day,
and offer the truth of our lives:**

**The fear that stifles us,
The prejudice that blinds us,
The ignorance that hobbles us,
The doubt that plagues us,
The chasm that divides us.**

**Help us, we pray, that we will find courage
in unlikely places, see the world and those around us
with new and gracious eyes,
move to those places where love is needed,
and have faith that you are with us.**

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

Evan Gager

Hear the good news:
We are forgiven!
We are set free to go out into the world
and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!
Alleluia! Amen.

***Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ**

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

Rev. Callie

*A Service of Word and Table III
The United Methodist Hymnal 15*

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:
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
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

Theresa Sandifer

Eternal God,

We give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Stoke within us the flames of your mercy and grace, that we might be Christ's sparklers in our community.

And now, send us out to do the work you have called us to do, of loving and serving others in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT

Call to Action

Natalie Cooper

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

Where Charity and Love Prevail

The United Methodist Hymnal 549, vs. 1, 2, 6

*Benediction

Rev. Callie

*Postlude

Terry Byars

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Stewards

Ushers in today's service are Susan Johnston and Bobbi Marino.

Coffee Time

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

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are given by Bill and Joyce Perry to the Glory of God, in memory of Bill's mother, Mabel Perry, and in honor of Bill's birthday TODAY! Happy birthday, Bill!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Guest Preacher

A pastor in the Louisiana UMC Conference since 1976, Rev. Callie Winn Crawford, has served in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas for over 40 years until she retired in 2017 after having served as senior pastor at Rayne Memorial UMC for 14 years. Since that time, she has twice served as an interim pastor and currently works primarily from home part-time at Gretna UMC and at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Picayune, assisting with all their communications.

Callie and her husband, Billy, a retired educator, live in New Orleans where both of their grown children, Luke and Sarah, also live.

Callie has always loved St. John's, in fact, she preached here once many years ago and was thrilled when she learned that her sister, Lane, the "Younger Elder," (also Smarter Elder!) was appointed to St. John's and that our former pastor, Jay Hogewood, was to follow her at Rayne Memorial.

Her father, John, and her stepmother, Carole, have recently moved to Baton Rouge, and she is very happy that St. John's will be their new church home.

New Series for July: "Upside Down Living"

In our July worship series, "Upside Down Living: Parables with a Punch," we will take a look at several of the parables that Jesus told. Stories open our minds to new ideas and different perspectives with power to spark emotions and inspire change. For centuries, stories and parables have challenged us, helping us make sense of our lives. In just three years, Jesus Christ, one history's greatest storytellers, captivated crowds and answered questions with stories. In this new series, we explore some of the parables of Jesus that literally turned ideas about life, love, and faith upside down and continue to forever change the world. *Rev. Bernie Johnson will get the series started on July 3 with Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37.*

Summer Sunday School - "Spirited Praise"

"Spirited Praise" our one room Sunday School for K-5th graders continues for the months of June and July. Kids will start with music led by Dr. Steve Rushing and then will enjoy a lesson and activities led by volunteers from our adult Sunday School classes. Parents: please drop off and pick up your children in the FLC (9:45 - 10:45 a.m.)

The Shepherd's Market Returns to Client-Choice Shopping

The Shepherd's Market food pantry has returned to client-choice shopping. We are having an exciting and joy-filled time as we welcome our neighbors back inside for a hot meal, fellowship, and pantry shopping. Volunteers are always welcome Mondays from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. or Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 - 10 a.m.

Youth Summer Schedule

Typical Summer Youth Schedule: Sundays, 3-4:30 p.m.; Mondays, The Shepherd's Market 3 - 5:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.

Additionally, Evan needs volunteers to help him on Sundays.

Please reach out and volunteer to serve! His email is evangager@stjohnsbr.org.

GriefShare

We are beginning a new session of GriefShare **Thursday, June 30 at 6 p.m.** in the Parlor. This is a 13-week grief recovery program that will help you on your journey through the loss of a loved one. GriefShare is not only for St. John's congregation, it is open to everyone and is non-denominational. If you know of someone who might benefit from this program, please let them know. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Roark (601-209-5102 or dianer14@gmail.com).