The Celebration of the Gospel

Maundy Thursday

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



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.

Again We Gather

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

Call to Worship

Pastor Lane

Tonight we will hear, again and again, of a love that knows no bounds.

May we be fully present to that love. May we worship our holy God.

Gathering Song

This Is Holy Ground

This is holy ground
We're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present
And where He is is holy
This is holy ground
We're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present
And where He is is holy

These are holy hands
He's given us holy hands
He works through these hands
And so these hands are holy
These are holy hands
He's given us holy hands
He works through these hands
And so these hands are holy

REPEAT VERSE ONE

Gospel Reading

Rev. Deirdré Halliburton

Selected verses from John 13

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Song

The Servant Song

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road. We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you in the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've know together of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Prayer for Illumination

Pastor Lane

Pastor Lane

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

Anthem

In Remembrance of Me

Meditation

Pastor Lane

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith,

Jesus knew that Peter would deny.
He knew that Judas would betray,
and he knew the disciples would hide in fear.
And still—and still—he invited them in.
He washed their feet, and he fed them.

Friends, we worship the living Christ whose love shocks, surprises, and far exceeds our understanding of love. So may this story tonight remind us: No matter who we are, no matter where we go, no matter how great our mistakes or regrets are in life, we will always be invited in and held together by the Living God. Again and again and again, we are forgiven. Again and again, we are held. Amen.

The Peace

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.

Call to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. Again & again you meet us where we are. Again & again, you show us the path of life - a path paved by love.

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. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The congregation is seated. The pastor recalls the story of the Last Supper and the institution of Holy Communion.

Again & again, 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 gain.

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

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.

Prayer After Receiving

Pastor Deirdré

O God,

Again and again, you meet us where we are and invite us to take another step closer, another step deeper, another step further, in this journey of faith. Again and again, we are fed by your love, grace, and forgiveness. Show us the way that leads to wholeness. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Man of Sorrows: A Canticle for Holy Thursday

Panis Angelorum Penny Kemler, flute

The Preparations The Witness

> Take, Eat Christ

When the Supper Was Done The Witness

> The Cry of Peter Peter

Don't Let Your Hearts Be Troubled The Witness

> Into the Night Peter, Christ

Peter: Bryan Adams Christ: Troy Prevot The Witness: Carrie Poynot

Composer and Accompanist: Terry Byars Flutist: Penny Kemler

Stripping of the Church

Please wait in prayer as candles are extinguished and paraments, linens, and other symbols are removed from the sanctuary.

Parting Prayer

Pastor Lane

Lord Jesus Christ, as you washed the feet of your disciples, teaching them the lessons of servanthood and love, make us ready to follow you, loving and serving one another in your name. Send your Holy Spirit to walk with us as we walk with you down the dark road that leads to the cross. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

Pastors

Please depart in silence.

We thank all our worship stewards, musicians, tech team, ushers, and hosts for assisting in this evening's service.

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

Some of our liturgy and prayers were written by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art, LLC | sanctifiedart.org



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