



A Service of
**Baptism Remembrance
&
Holy Communion**



Sunday, January 12, 2025
8:30 & 11 a.m. Worship Celebration
All Are Welcome

Today we read and reflect on the story of Jesus' baptism. Together, we will ponder the meaning and significance of baptism before being invited to come forward and touch the water as we remember our baptisms and give thanks. We will also celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at both services. Baptism celebrates birth and new life, and Communion celebrates our continued nourishment and growth as we live into all Christ calls us to be. Sharing our two sacraments in one worship service will be a holy and special experience. Welcome to worship!

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to scan the QR code to register your attendance and share any prayer requests you have. Thank you!



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Welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church

GUEST INFORMATION

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, located in the back of the Sanctuary.

Please take home a copy of our Welcome Brochure located in the Narthex or view it online at: stjohnsbr.org/welcome-brochure.

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. More details about the Prayground 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 18 months through 12th grade from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

St. John's Clergy and Staff

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Nursery Coordinator

The Celebration of the Gospel

**Please stand as you are comfortable.
Bold indicates congregational response.
Please scan the QR Code to register your attendance.*



Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Hymns

This Is the Day of New Beginnings
The United Methodist Hymnal 383, vs. 1, 2 & 4

*Call to Worship

8:30 - Susan Johnston
11:00 - Bill Metcalf

Gracious and eternal God,
you call us into a new way of being,
and give us endless second chances in life.

**May your love wash over us, as we turn toward you
and away from our sinful ways.**

Mold us as your people in new and powerful ways,
that we may be true disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and spirits this
morning, Lord, that we may be healed of our
faithlessness, freed from our fears and anxieties,
and placed on the pathways that lead to peace and
service to you.**

Amen.

*Response

Baptized in Water
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2248, vs. 3

Children's Message

Molly Means

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God,

**As we turn to your Word for us, may your Spirit rest upon
us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking,
in our believing, and in our living. Amen.**

*Scripture

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

“Take a Bow”

***Hymn**

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters
The United Methodist Hymnal 605, vs. 1 & 3

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Town Light

By Yuko Uebayashi

Flutists: Mickey Hogan & Dr. Penny Kemler

We appreciate your generosity.

Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.

*You may give online by scanning the QR Code
or navigate to 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!**

***Renunciation of Sin & Profession of Faith**

When we approach the font or the table, we first renounce the power that sin has in our lives.

And so, let us confess together in prayer:

Nourishing God,

You tell us not to fear for you are with us.

But we are so full of fear

that we cannot love you with our whole heart.

We use the freedom and power you have given us,

not to resist evil, injustice, and oppression,

but to rebel against your love, to hurt our neighbors,

and ignore the cries of the needy.

Cleanse us of our fear, and feed us the courage

to put our whole trust in your grace.

Amen.

***Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

The Holy Spirit has not abandoned us. We are still God's beloved, and the Holy Spirit continues to work within us.

We remember our baptism are thankful!

And now we come to the table, for God continues calling us each by name to bring us into the fullness of the new life we glimpsed at our baptism.

We offer ourselves anew to God, listening for the guidance of the Spirit.

Now let us share signs of love and peace which we find in Christ with our neighbors.

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

*The Great Thanksgiving

A Service of Word and Table

The United Methodist Hymnal 15

With sung responses 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

The pastor gives thanks and remembers God's gift of salvation.

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 story of the Last 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)**

A prayer invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit is lifted.

The Lord's Prayer

*Remembering Our Baptism and Holy Communion

All baptized Christians, young or old, are invited to remember and celebrate your baptisms by coming forward and touching the water to your forehead.

You may find it meaningful to say to yourself, "I am a beloved child of God," or "I remember my baptism with thanksgiving."

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.

I am no longer my own, but thine.

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being.

In truth, O God, I am Yours.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Make me into what You will.

Make me a neighbor with those whom You will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Guide me on the easy path for You.

Guide me on the rocky road for You.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You;

Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You;

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

**Whether I become full or empty,
with all things or with nothing;**

I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.

I give all that I have and all that I am for You.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.

**And may I always remember that you,
O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.**

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

Hymn of Promise

The United Methodist Hymnal 707, vs. 1 & 3

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Postlude

Worship Notes

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Phil and Jill Slicker.

Ushers for the 11:00 service are Joyce Perry & Tommie Reinhardt.

After the 8:30 service, everyone is invited to the Family Life Center for coffee and refreshments.

Announcements

STAR WORDS

On Epiphany Sunday, January 5, each person was invited to choose at random a special word for the year printed on a star. The Star Word is meant to help guide you on your spiritual journey throughout the year. If you did not receive one, we have envelopes with Star Words inside them, with an accompanying Reflection Guide, in the office and narthex. Contact the office if you'd like us to send you one.

COFFEE TIME SNACKS

If your last name begins with **D - G**, "your" day to bring a snack for Coffee Time is next Sunday, **January 19**. Remember, this is just a much appreciated suggestion not an obligation. *Please bring your items in a disposable container or single-use dish, and take them to the FLC by 9:30 a.m.*

SPRING YOUTH MINISTRY INTERN

Applications are now being accepted for our Spring Youth Ministry Intern position. This 15-week internship spans February 2 - May 19 and is designed for young adults who have a passion for working with youth (6th-12th grades). It is a great opportunity to gain valuable leadership and ministry experience. This is a part time, salaried internship of approximately 10 hours per week. Each intern will receive \$1,500 throughout the spring semester, to be paid semi-monthly (15th & 30th of each month) during the 15-week internship.

We are looking for someone who has a desire to learn, serve, and encourage others in a local church setting. This is a great opportunity for those majoring in education and humanities, but all degree programs are welcome. **Anyone who is interested should send a cover letter, resume, and the contact information of at least two references to jobs@stjohnsbr.org by January 12, 2025.**

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Beginning **Sunday, January 26**, we are asking members to spend some time with the youngest blessings of St. John's. This will help us meet our budget and best stretch your contributions! If no children arrive within the first 15 minutes of the worship service and/or Sunday School, volunteers are free to leave the nursery. You will remain "on call" until your time has ended and will receive a text if a child shows up and you are needed. Thank you for your willingness to serve on the rotation with others!

To sign up and share your availability, go to stjohnsbr.org/nurseryvolunteer. Also, keep an eye out for Safe Sanctuary Training sign-up, coming soon!

Middle school and high school students are welcome to sign up, too!

MEALS FOR LSU WESLEY FOUNDATION

LSU Wesley Foundation is beginning a new semester of Wednesday Prayer services beginning January 15 through April 30 at 6 p.m. After the service they have a meal that has been cooked by an individual or group or has been ordered and sent to the Wesley Foundation. The meal should serve 20 people and be brought or delivered by 6:45 p.m., to 333 Chimes St. They also ask that it contain a gluten free and vegetarian option. If you and/or your group want to help, sign up at <https://takethemameal.com/WKLU0298>.

2025 FLOWER CHART

The 2025 Flower Chart is up in the hallway of the Admin/Education Building. This is a wonderful way to remember or honor someone in your family, a very good friend, a group, or to the Glory of God, to name a few. Lynn will contact you during the week to remind you your Sunday is coming up and will ask you for a dedication to be printed in the bulletin. Many thanks for adding to the beauty of our Sanctuary and the day the Lord has made.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, January 12

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC*
- 9:30 a.m. Upstairs Cafe, 202 Admin Bldg.
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, Choir Room
- 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room

Monday, January 13

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, January 14

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Pickleball, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, January 15

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, January 16

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client-Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. Opening Doors Meeting, Library

Friday, January 17

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

Saturday, January 18

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 12:30 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center

Youth and Children's Ministries

YOUTH AND CHILDREN SUNDAY FLOW

We offer faith formation for children and youth of all ages during Sunday School.

Upstairs Café opens at 9:30 a.m. - Students start in the Upstairs Cafe (Room 202 of the Admin building) helping them get settled, enjoy a snack, and have a time of fellowship with one another before separating into their age specific Sunday School groups.

Sunday School Classes - Children 2 yrs to 4 yrs are in the Pre-K Room on the first floor of the Admin building; students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade are in Room 204; students in 3rd through 5th grades are in Room 207; students in 6th through 12th grades are in the Youth Sunday School class Room 201.

UPSTAIRS CAFE SNACK SCHEDULE

- First Sundays - Sunday School Teachers
 - Second Sundays - PreK - 2nd Families
 - Third Sundays - 3rd - 5th Families
 - Fourth Sundays - Youth Families.
- We will deal with Fifth Sundays separately.

JOIN MUSIC MAKERS

Music Makers rehearse on Sundays at 4:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. This is a wonderful opportunity for Kindergarten through 5th grade students as well as Youth (6th - 12th grades) to be introduced to songs and hymns of the United Methodist Church and a variety of instruments. Drop them off and pick them up in the choir room. They will have a wonderful time with Dr. Steve. **Music Makers will resume today January 12 at 4:30 p.m.**

YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th Grades)

First Sundays: The St. John's youth group gathers on the first Sunday of each month from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at the homes of different church members for small group Bible Study, games, crafts, or other activities. **Third Wednesdays:** Youth also meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 6 - 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room for Wednesday Night Live. Monthly activity calendars are being mailed to households with youth. Contact Connor Dean (connordean@stjohnsbr.org) if you did not receive one.