



*Sunday, November 10, 2024
8:30 a.m. Worship Celebration*

All Are Welcome

Though we're living in a divisive season and have experienced much of that this very week, our identity as children of God uniquely unites us as siblings. We may create barriers that divide us, but our faith calls us a spirit of unity. God's kingdom is one that has no borders. God's kingdom has no divisions. In today's scripture reading, the Apostle Paul reminds us that it is not that our differences don't exist, nor is it that they don't matter. It's that they pale in comparison to our identity in Christ. In that spirit of unity, we welcome you to worship this day.

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to scan the QR code to register your attendance so we know you're here and we can get to know you better.



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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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Cheryl Roubique
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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

*Songs of Praise

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2223, vs. 1 & 2

Bind Us Together
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2226

*Call to Worship

Phil Slicker

To whom do you belong?
To your country? To a political party?
To your work? To your play?
I belong to Christ.

Can Christ be divided?
No, we are one in the body of Christ.

Look who has gathered here today!
It is us, the hands and feet of Christ.

It is so good you are here, we have need of each
and every one of you!
Come, let us worship the Lord together!

*Sung Response

Make Us One
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2224

Children's Moment

Ben Hartman

Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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.

Witness to the Word

"United We Stand"

Pastor Lane

***Hymn**

This Is My Song
The United Methodist Hymnal 437, vs. 1 & 3

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God,

**In Christ you call us to unity of mind and purpose,
but we confess that our hearts are often turned toward
separation and division.**

**We quarrel; we encourage rivalries;
we tear down our siblings in faith.**

**Into the shadow side of life
you speak words of community.**

**Help us to remember that all have been baptized
as one body into your holy family.**

**Teach us to hold fast to those promises which draw
us together in the Spirit, and send us out to share your
reconciling love to all the world.**

A time for silent prayer and confession.

***Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

Share in this Good News:

There is no place, not even in our hearts,
where the love of God cannot penetrate,

**God is around and among us,
healing and restoring.**

God calls us to new life as one body, united in Christ,
who offers forgiveness and grace.

**Praise be to God for the gift of forgiveness and grace.
May we live into the promise of peaceful unity!**

In the spirit of peace and the hope of unity, let us offer each other
a sign of Christ's peace!

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

Mission Moment

Holiday Superstore

Marilyn Damberg

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 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!**

Gathering at God's Table

To prepare for Holy Communion, we recall the story of the Last Supper and the pastor invokes the presence of the Holy Spirit.

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 a person with limited mobility, please let the usher know and someone will bring communion to you.

Closing Prayer

Phil Slicker

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
guided by your Spirit of unity and peace
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Let There Be Peace on Earth
The United Methodist Hymnal 431

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Postlude

Worship Notes

The flowers on the altar are given by Daphne Grady and J.R. Madden to God's glory, in honor of the Marine Corps 249th birthday, and in appreciation for all veterans and their families.

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Darren & Chris Stubbs

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

Connect with Us

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love. Sign up for text/email notifications by texting the word "Connect" to 225-230-1017.

Announcements

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of November 5, we have received 79 pledges totaling \$460,215. This is a great start toward funding our 2025 aspirational budget of \$687,102. We celebrate 40 households have increased their pledges and we welcome 12 new first-time pledging households. If you haven't turned in a pledge for 2025, please complete your pledge online (stjohnsbr.org/pledge-2025) or with a printed pledge card (available in the Office and Narthex) as soon as possible.

We know that circumstances change, including personal finances, and so Pledges do not automatically renew each year. Please complete a new pledge annually. If you have your pledge set up as a recurring gift through the online system, please make sure to log in and enter your new 2025 pledge with a new start and end date for next year. If you would like to adjust the amount of your 2025 pledge and keep your recurring gift active without logging in, email LeAnn Davis at leannDavis@stjohnsbr.org with instructions and she can make the change for you. Just make sure to let her know if you want to cover the processing fee.

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED MONDAY

The Shepherd's Market will be closed **Monday, November 11** in honor of Veteran's Day. Regular shopping hours will resume on Tuesday at 8 a.m.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

UPCOMING CIRCLE MEETING: The UWF Circle of the Heart will hold their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, November 13 at 9:30 a.m.** in The Founders' Parlor. Norma Thomason will present the program on the 2025 Pledge Program and the Thank Offering. Members are asked to bring fruit, nuts, and candy for the gift baskets that will be assembled and brought to those who are home and facility bound. All women are invited to attend.

CRAFT & BAKE SALE: The call is out for craft & baked items that you might want to donate to the United Women in Faith's Craft & Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 15.** This very worthy cause raises funds for local missions supported by Circle of the Heart. If you would like to donate items, contact Clara Maynard at claramaynard@gmail.com.

CHURCHWIDE WORKDAY NOVEMBER 16

Can you scoop ice? Wipe down appliances? Use a paint brush? Wash windows? Trim bushes? If so, we have work items matching your skill set! If those skills aren't for you, can you do minor electrical work? Replace light covers? Plant flower beds? If so, we have work items matching those skill sets, too!

Whatever you can do, we have small jobs that you can do during the St. John's Fall Workday. Trustees will bring donuts, supplies and some tools, we just need you to bring yourself and join us for workday on **Saturday November 16 at 8 a.m.** Don't forget your work gloves.

COFFEE TIME SNACKS

If your last name begins with **A-C, Sunday, November 17** is "your" day to bring a snack for Coffee Time. Remember, this is just a much appreciated suggestion not an obligation. You don't have to cook or bake – in these days of prepared foods, any grocery store has plenty of delicious items to choose from. ***Please bring your items in a disposable container or single-use dish, and take them to the FLC by 9:30 a.m.***

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will meet **Sunday, November 17 at 4 p.m.** in the Library to review the proposed budget for 2025.

SAVE THE DATE - HOLIDAY SUPERSTORE

This year's shopping day for the Holiday Superstore will be on **Monday, November 25** at the Target on Siegen Lane; plan to meet at **8 a.m. at the entrance on the far right.**

For those of you who have not been involved before, the Holiday Superstore is an Opening Doors program that targets the children of the Charlie Thomas Head Start Center located in the Gardere area. During the year, parents earn points by following guidelines to get them involved in their children's education, these points are translated into a dollar amount and volunteers from St. John's do the shopping for the gifts. The money is budgeted by Opening Doors so there is no cost to you as the shopper.

If you can help this year or would like more information about this mission, email Marilyn Damberg (marilyndamberg@mac.com) or phone/text at 225-335-3321.

Upcoming Children's & Youth Events

FAMILIES WITH YOUTH AND CHILDREN

Our Staff Parish Relations Committee is inviting members of families with youth and children to a meeting on **Wednesday, November 20 at 6 p.m.** to discuss our next steps for the leadership of our children and youth ministries. Supper will be served at 7 p.m.; please RSVP to Beth LaCour (beth_lacour@att.net) with the number in your household attending the meeting and staying for the meal.

MUSIC MAKERS WILL MEET TODAY

Music Makers will meet this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. Children and Youth in grades K - 12 are invited to this fun, learning experience with Dr. Steve.

YOUTH ST. MARK'S MISSION

The St. John's youth group is planning a one-night trip to New Orleans on **Saturday and Sunday, November 23-24.** We will have a lock-in the evening of Saturday, November 23. On the morning of Sunday, November 24, our mission team will serve meals to those experiencing homelessness and hunger in the French Quarter. Adult volunteers are welcome to join as well! Please email Connor for more information (connordean@stjohnsbr.org). The cost to attend is \$30/person, which is due TODAY, Sunday, November 10. Scholarships can be made available upon request.

COMMON GROUND YOUTH RETREAT

YOUTH, SAVE THE DATE - February 21-23. A group of youth directors across the Louisiana United Methodist Conference are working together to plan a retreat for students in 6th-12th grades this winter at Camp Istrouma. The total cost to attend is about \$100-\$125 per person. **HOWEVER,** St. John's and the Louisiana United Methodist Conference will pay a portion of this cost. Students will need to pay \$20 to attend, which is due by December 15.

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, November 10

- 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, November 11

THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET IS CLOSED

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, November 12

- 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, November 13

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:30 a.m. UWF Circle of the Heart, The Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Ladies' AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday, November 14

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Doors, Library

Friday, November 15

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

Saturday, November 16

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center

Upcoming December Events

JOY FEST - SAVE THE DATE!

Join us on **Sunday, December 8, 3 - 4:30 p.m.** for an afternoon of JOY with your church family, before the hustle and bustle of the season gets the best of us. Let's celebrate the season together! More details

GREAT TURKEY GIVEAWAY

The 14th Great Turkey Giveaway will be **Saturday, December 14** and takes place in the church parking lot. Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome - you are asked to arrive by 7 a.m.

Volunteers are also needed **Friday, December 13** in the FLC for setup and staging as everything, including turkeys, will be delivered on Friday sometime between 1 and 2 p.m. We will be staging the various areas and bagging items that go along with the turkeys so there will be plenty of work.

If you cannot volunteer but would like to help out with a monetary gift, a donation of \$25 to the Shepherd's Market will buy a turkey and produce for one family. Your gift can be made to St John's by check with Turkey Giveaway in the memo line, on Sunday in an offering envelope marked with your name and Turkey Giveaway, or online at stjohnsbr.org/give.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TUESDAY DECEMBER 24

NATIVITY SERVICE: This year, our family-oriented Christmas Eve Nativity service will be held at **4 .m.** in the Sanctuary. During the service, children will process in to make up different parts of the nativity scene. Be looking for more information in Sunday bulletins and our 2 weekly e-newsletters.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: Our evening service is a traditional Christmas Eve service at **6 p.m.** with carols, Holy Communion, and Silent Night by candlelight. Join us for a time of worship, community, and celebration of the birth of Jesus.



ST. JOHN'S
United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.