



Praise  
THE  
LORD

PSALM 103

Sunday, June 11, 2023

**8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

All Are Welcome

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

- selected verses from Psalm 103

*Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to register your attendance (scan the QR code in the bulletin) 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

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*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. If you are feeling cold, shawls are available in a basket in front of the media desk in the back of the sanctuary. 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 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.

*Any questions? Ushers are glad to assist you.*

## ST JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn  
*Lead Pastor*  
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Connor Dean  
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Brooklyn Hays  
*Nursery Worker*

# WELCOME to the CELEBRATION of the GOSPEL

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



## GATHERING

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Natalie Cooper

\*Songs of Praise

*We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (2x)*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2031

*Glorify Thy Name*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2016, vs. 1 & 2

\*Call to Worship

Pat Lively

Praise the Lord, O my soul,  
**and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**  
This is our God, the Holy One.  
**God is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.**  
Come before God with thanksgiving and  
offer God the sacrifice of praise.

\*Song of Response

*On Eagle's Wings*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 143

## PROCLAMATION

Children's Moment

Molly Means

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Larry Norman

God of life,  
God of hope,  
God of all,  
Lift us on your love like eagle's wings.  
Sustain us.  
Guide us.  
Grow in us.  
That we may love as you love.  
And live and Christ lived.  
In his holy name we pray. Amen.

Psalm 103

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.**

The Message

Rev. Larry

“You’ve Been HESED!”

## RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

**\*Hymn of Faith**

*What a Friend We Have In Jesus*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 526, vs. 1 & 2

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Natalie Cooper

Within the strength of community, and in the power of silence, we come before God with the truth of our lives, trusting in the mercy and love of our Creator. Let us offer our confession before God and each other.

**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.**

*(A time for silent prayer and confession.)*

**\*Words of Grace and Forgiveness**

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God’s love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. 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 by scanning the QR Code  
or navigate to [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://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

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

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)**

**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. The bread will be dipped in the grape juice and handed to you. Or, if you prefer, you may receive pre-packaged elements.*

*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 an usher know and someone will gladly bring communion to you.*

**Prayer after Receiving**

Pat Lively

**Eternal God,  
We give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which we encounter Jesus,  
the bread, the life, and love of God.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your Spirit,  
to love others as you love us,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **DEPARTING TO SERVE**

**Call to Action**

Connor Dean

*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**

*O How He Loves You and Me*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook, 2108, vs. 1 & 2

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Larry

**\*Postlude**

*The end of worship.  
The beginning of service.*

# WORSHIP NOTES

**USHERS** for today's service are Jackie Creed and Maureen Robertson.

## **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**

The flowers on the altar are given by Rhonda and Parker Tucker in celebration of their 34th wedding anniversary and in memory of Scott and Zach.

## **COFFEE TIME**

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



# Announcements

## **PLANNED GIVING TEAM**

The Legacy page on our church website is live! You can read about planned giving options by going to [stjohnsbr.org/legacy](http://stjohnsbr.org/legacy). Planned giving team members are Kathy King, Brian Blackwood, Pat Cobb, Johnny McWilliams, and Mari Walker. They are happy to provide next step information.

# Worship

## **GUEST PREACHER TODAY**

Today we welcome Rev. Larry Norman, who calls St. John's home in his retirement. Rev. Larry will preach and lead worship at both services.

## **NEW WORSHIP SERIES - "SUMMER ON THE MOUNT"**

Beginning June 18, we will spend our, "Summer on the Mount," through our worship series. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gives us a sort of theological pep talk, not only to help us feel better about life, but to offer practical ways to help us live as God would have us live, that we might then help create the world as God envisions it. Join us as we spend the summer with Jesus' most famous sermon.

To begin the series, our **June 18 services will be a "Sermon of the Mount Reading and Hymn Festival."** We will read and sing our way through the Sermon on the Mount, in the style of a "Lessons and Carols" service. We will hear Jesus' entire Sermon on the Mount, as written in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 5-7, we will sing beloved songs of our faith, and we will witness beautiful special music offerings from our congregation. (Due to the nature of the service, we will not celebrate Holy Communion at the 8:30am.)

# Servanthood

## **BOOKS NEEDED FOR THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET LIBRARY**

The free "library" in The Shepherd's Market needs donations of gently used and/or new adult and children's books. We have recently had requests for children's games and puzzles so we are now accepting these items as donations.

## **SAVE THE DATE: ST. MARK'S MISSION DAYS**

The St. John's Youth Group will be serving a meal to the unhoused and those experiencing hunger through St. Mark's UMC in New Orleans on **Sunday, June 25**. If you would like to participate in this one-day mission, please contact Connor Dean at [connordean@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:connordean@stjohnsbr.org). Anyone is welcome to serve - whether you are Youth or not.

You are also welcome to take part in another mission to St. Mark's on October 8 being led by Rev. Larry Norman.

## **VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH YOUTH & CHILDREN SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Each Summer, we give our regular and reliable youth and children Sunday School leaders a chance to relax by giving them the summer off. We need your help. In June and July our youth and children Sunday School classes will meet in the Family Life Center for a combined Sunday School experience. Connor will be leading each week's lesson and will provide oversight. She is seeking helpers to guide the activities that accompany each lesson, for each of the three age groups. All materials will be provided.

Please consider the opportunity to create and strengthen intergenerational connections within our church family by volunteering for at least one Sunday in June or July. If you are willing to serve contact Connor Dean at [connordean@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:connordean@stjohnsbr.org).

# Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

## **VOLLEYBALL!**

St. John's will be hosting a volleyball night on **Tuesday, June 13 at 5 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. Come wearing comfortable clothes and shoes. Although our youth and children might be most excited about this event, people of all ages are welcome! Even if you can only join as a spectator, we hope you'll consider being a part of this fellowship time.

## **CHURCH-WIDE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

This summer we will offer a church-wide Bible Study on Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount" on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary from 9:55-10:45 a.m. Many of our adult Sunday School classes will be joining in this 7-week study, which begins on June 18. We invite you to participate in the study, too! We've lined up a great team of facilitators, including Pastor Lane, Rev. Bernie Johnson, Rev. Marie Williams, Rev. Larry Norman, Natalie Cooper, and more.

Together we will examine some of Jesus' most profound and memorable teachings along with a video featuring Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, author of *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. Taking themes from her book, we'll discuss how Jesus's teachings about forgiveness, kindness, prayer, and salvation are still relevant for us today. (It is not necessary to read or purchase the book, although for those who want to have it as a reference, you can buy the book online.)

## **COFFEE TIME UPDATE**

Since the beginning of March, our efforts to "Bring Back the Food" have been highly successful! The FLC has been full of fellowship and yummy snacks! However, beginning today, the fellowship may continue, but the food will be gone! Please talk about this with your friends and your Sunday School classes and see how you can help. In past months, several classes signed up for a whole month or 4 Sundays scattered throughout the year; some classes signed up for just 1 or 2 Sundays, but with fewer Sunday School classes, there is a more pressing need.

We have changed the signup format so that you can sign up as an individual or a family and still just bring a couple of things. You don't have to be in Sunday School class to sign up. Members of the congregation can sign up, the Chancel Choir can sign up! The Alleluia Ringers can sign up! To sign up you can go to <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeTimeSignup> or use the QR code.



# Children & Youth Ministries

## **YOUTH & CHILDREN SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Every Sunday in June and July, our children in Kindergarten - 12th grade, have a wonderful opportunity to meet together in a one-room Sunday school for Bible study, singing, activities, and snacks, led by Connor Dean. We will meet in the FLC from 10 - 10:45 a.m. Come early to enjoy some fellowship at Coffee Time. We do hope you will bring your children and youth to this experience.

## **YOUTH MINISTRIES (6TH - 12TH GRADES)**

**TODAY - Youth Tubing on False River, 2 - 5:30 p.m.**

Meet at St. John's at 2 p.m.; return to St. John's at approximately 5:30 p.m.

**Summer Tour '23: Wednesdays in June and July, 6 - 8 p.m.** Our collaborative youth ministry program will begin **Wednesday, June 7 at 6 p.m.** Each week a different United Methodist Church will host youth from the Baton Rouge area. This week Summer Tour '23 will take our youth to Jefferson UMC.

## **Youth Service Week: June 25-20**

- June 25 - St. Mark's Mission: See under "Servanthood" in today's bulletin.
- June 26 - The Shepherd's Market Food Pantry
- June 27 - The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank
- June 28 - Summer Tour Week 4 at University UMC, 6 - 8 p.m.
- June 29 - The Shepherd's Market Food Pantry
- June 30 - Shepherd's Garden

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**

**Family Camp - A VBS Alternative:** This summer, we will be hosting an event called "Family Camp." It will take place Thursday - Saturday, July 13 - 15. We will meet in the evenings on Thursday & Friday (July 13 & 14) from 6 - 7:30 p.m. and in the morning on Saturday (July 15) from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. We will gather in the Family Life Center each day for food, games, worship, Bible study, and other activities. Registration will be required for the event, but there is no cost to attend. For more information, please contact Connor Dean at [connordean@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:connordean@stjohnsbr.org).

**Summer Fellowship for Children & Families:** Every other Thursday in June and July, there will be opportunities for fellowship and fun activities.

- June 8, our first activity will be a Family Pool Party at the Magnolia Woods Swimming Pool, 5 - 7 p.m.
- June 22 is a Children's Ministry Pool Party at the Prevot's, 5 - 7 p.m.
- July 6 there will be an Ice Cream Social & Sock Hop at St. John's, 5 - 7 p.m.
- July 20 there will be Children's Ministry Pool Party at the Toneys, 5 - 7 p.m.
- Plus, we will have a Family Movie Night on August 3 at 5 p.m.

# This Week at St. John's

## **Sunday, June 11**

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC\*
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Youth Tubing, False River
- 6:00 p.m. Bells Practice, Bells' Room

## **Monday, June 12**

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, Parlor
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Tuesday, June 13**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Gardere Youth, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. Volleyball, FLC
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

## **Wednesday, June 14**

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Gardere Youth, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, Jefferson UMC
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA Meeting, FLC-E
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Choir Room

## **Thursday, June 15**

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 1:00 p.m. Gardere Youth, FLC
- 5:00 p.m. Family Game Night, FLC

## **Friday, June 16**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

## **Saturday, June 17**

- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

\*Family Life Center