



# holy in the everyday



Sunday, February 12, 2023

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

All Are Welcome

*"We are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body."*

- Romans 12:4-6, The Message

Today we are talking about relationships. We belong to each other. Our relationship with God is not, and cannot, become an individual endeavor. We are called to connection and community. We must nurture our relationships, and in doing so, we nurture our relationship with God.

***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

office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594 | stjohnsbr.org | @stjohnsbr

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. 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 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*  
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper  
*Administrative Assistant*  
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Dr. Steve Rushing  
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LeAnn Davis  
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Dr. Terry Byars  
*Praise Team Director and Accompanist*  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
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Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez  
*Nursery Worker*  
srodz23@gmail.com

# PREPARE

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

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## \*Songs of Praise

*Blest Be the Time That Binds*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 557, vs. 1 & 2

*Bind Us Together*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2226

## \*Call to Worship

Danielle Blackwood

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

The risen Christ is with us -  
in our waking and in our sleeping;  
in our coming in and our going out;  
in our everyday, ordinary lives,  
**God is with us. Always and forever. Amen.**

## \*Song of Response

*Make Us One*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2224

# ENGAGE

## Children's Message

Natalie Cooper

## Prayer for Illumination

Danielle Blackwood

Lord,  
**Open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

## Scripture

Danielle Blackwood

Romans 12:3-6a

## Response to the Word

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.**

# RESPOND

## \*Hymn of Faith

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*  
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2223, vs. 1, 2, & 4

## \*Prayer of Confession

Danielle Blackwood

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 Grace and Forgiveness

Danielle Blackwood

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

*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 the Bread and Cup

*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.*

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 in the strength  
of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## BLESS

Call to Action

Pastor Lane

*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

*Pass It On*

The United Methodist Hymnal 572, vs. 1 & 3

\*Blessing and Sending Forth

\*Postlude

### FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are from Gray Sexton in memory of his mother, Valentine Sexton. "Vallie" was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Pineville for 66 years.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UWF MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

The Mary Martha Circle of United Women in Faith will meet **Tuesday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. All women are invited to attend.

### DAYS FOR GIRLS

Day for Girls Spring work days will be **Saturday, February 18, 25, and March 4 at 9 a.m.** in the FLC. Days for Girls is a mission of United Women in Faith that makes feminine hygiene kits for girls in developing countries. We can always use your help. You do not have to know how to sew! Contact Joyce Perry (225-763-6613) for more information.

### MEETING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

A meeting for families with children in elementary school (Kindergarten-5th grades) will be held on **Sunday, February 26 from 4:30-6pm.** The meeting will primarily be informative, shedding light on the Children's Ministry programming calendar for spring and summer activities. As always, constructive feedback is appreciated to help create a ministry that best meets the faith needs of your family! Childcare will be provided.

### MANNA MISSION MEAL

Join us for a food, fun, and fellowship event on **Sunday, March 19 at 5 p.m.!** The youth will lead us in packing manna bags assembly-line style. We will meet in the FLC at 5 p.m. for a potluck dinner so bring a dish to share. Please refer to the flyer below for information on items we are requesting to be donated throughout the month of February. There will be a blue tub in the hallway of the Admin/ Education Building and in the Narthex for your donations.



## **COFFEE TIME REVISITED**

Tired of boxed raisins and packaged muffins? It's time to Bring Back the Food! The Food, Fun, and Fellowship team is looking for volunteers to provide snacks for Coffee Time on Sundays. Sign up for several Sundays as a group – Sunday School class, church committee, or just a bunch of friends! Sign up to celebrate a birthday or an anniversary! See more details and get on the schedule by going to <https://tinyurl.com/CoffeeTimeSignup>.

## **VOLUNTEER WITH YOUTH SIGNUP**

If you have a passion to work with young people or are just looking for more ways to get involved at St. John's, consider signing up as an adult volunteer with our youth group. To ensure the safety of our young people, St. John's requires at least two adults be present to oversee all events involving youth and/or children. You may sign up at [tinyurl.com/sjumcyouthsignup](https://tinyurl.com/sjumcyouthsignup). Remember, you don't have to have a child in Youth to help out!

## **MEET & GREET OUR NEW BISHOP!**

You are invited to attend the Service of Installation for Bishop Delores J. Williamston, the 11th bishop of The Louisiana Conference of The United Methodist Church on Saturday, **March 4 at 11 a.m. in Lawless Chapel at Dillard University in New Orleans**. It will be a joyous occasion to gather for worship and celebrate the historic installation of the first African-American bishop to be assigned to the Louisiana Conference, and the first African-American female to be elected bishop in the South Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.

Bishop Williamston has begun a Boots on the Ground Tour, meeting with clergy, laity, and members of local congregations all across Louisiana. All Laity of the Baton Rouge District are invited to meet with her on **Saturday, March 11 from 10:00am-11:30am at Wesley UMC** (544 Government St Baton Rouge, LA 70802). This gathering gives Bishop Williamston the opportunity to listen to United Methodist' hopes and dreams in Louisiana, hear their concerns, and learn of their interests. She also hopes to offer guidance and support for the coming year.

## **INTRODUCING COMMUNION COMPANIONS**

One of the many ministries impacted by the pandemic has been our Visitation ministry to our home-centered and facility-bound church members. We are eager to re-launch this ministry and rebuild those connections! To do so, we need volunteers to serve as Communion Companions.

Communion Companions will make a monthly visit to a church member to which they are paired, extending Christian love and fellowship, serving Communion, which was consecrated in worship, and maintaining the connection to our church family. These visits are set up by you, the Communion Companion, so it fits into your personal and/or work schedule.

These visits are so rewarding for everyone! If you are interested in visiting one of our cherished church members as a representative of St. John's, please come to the **Communion Companions Training on Sunday, March 5 at 3 p.m.** in the Library led by Pastor Lane. She will go over helpful tips for having a brief yet meaningful visit as well as instructions for sharing Communion together. If you are unable to attend the training but are willing to serve as a Communion Companion, please let Pastor Lane ([pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org)) know.

## **SPECIAL OFFERING FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF**

We are collecting a special offering to support the earthquake relief efforts in Turkey and Syria. Tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothes, ready-to-eat meals and first-aid kits will soon be headed to earthquake survivors through a grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). According to The Associated Press, the quake death toll has topped 22,000. Tens of thousands were also injured. The devastation is beyond compare. Please join us in prayer for the affected areas and consider giving to UMCOR's International Disaster Response to support these efforts. Through UMCOR, every penny donated goes to helping those in need. To make a financial donation, we have set up a special Disaster Relief Fund on our website at [stjohnsbr.org/give](https://stjohnsbr.org/give). Choose the Missions Fund, and then the Disaster Relief Fund / UMCOR. Checks written to St. John's should have UMCOR in the memo line or on the cash envelope.

## **ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT**

The sacred season of Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday, February 22. We invite you to join us for worship at 12 p.m. (Noon) and 6 p.m.** The ashes used are from last year's palms on Palm Sunday. This year's Lenten theme will be "Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith." Over the six weeks of Lent we will follow the Lectionary readings, which offer us stories of Jesus encountering people who were seeking – a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. Like those in scripture, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, balance. This series will help us unpack some of life's big questions in ways that are honest and faithful, as we ask ourselves: What am I seeking? What is God seeking? Join us on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. in person or online.