



Sunday, January 15, 2023  
**8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
All Are Welcome

When Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17

*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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Dr. Terry Byars  
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Bill Putzig  
*Custodian*  
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Sofia Rodriguez-Martinez  
*Nursery Worker*  
srodzm23@gmail.com

# PREPARE

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

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

## \*Song of Praise

*Spirit Song*

The United Methodist Hymnal 347, vs. 1 & 2

## \*Call to Worship

Rev. Bernie Johnson

Welcome to worship this day!

**We come seeking God's blessings and love.**

They shall be given to you.

**We come seeking forgiveness and healing.**

These will be offered to you, for even when the world says  
"No," to you, God says, "Yes!"

Open your hearts to receive God's Good News.

**We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways  
for us. Amen.**

## \*Song of Response

*Spirit of the Living God*

The United Methodist Hymnal 393

# ENGAGE

## Children's Message

Connor Dean

## \*Prayer for Illumination

Tori Lambert

**May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts  
be acceptable in thy sight, thou who art our strength and our  
redeemer. Amen.**

Adapted from Psalm 19:14

## \*Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17

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.**

## Message

Pastor Lane

"God Says Yes!"

# RESPOND

## \*Hymn of Faith

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

## Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Tori Lambert, prayer

*We appreciate your generosity.  
Each gift enables us to be a blessing in our community.  
You may give online at [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!**

## \*Reaffirming Our Baptismal Covenant

Pastors

*Today we are celebrating the baptism of Jesus, and we are remembering our baptism, when God affirmed our truest identity as God's children and enfolded us in a lifelong covenant.*

*If you have not been baptized, you are fully welcome here. Enjoy the ritual! Be among us in peace. Feel free not to say words that may not yet apply to you. If you would like to know more about the life of discipleship and about being part of the baptismal covenant, be sure to speak with one of the clergy or one of our lay leaders.*

## \*Affirming Our Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*  
The United Methodist Hymnal 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he arose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God  
the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge  
the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Thanksgiving Over the Water

## Gathering Around Christ's Table

## The Lord's Prayer

### \*Baptismal Renewal 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.*

# BLESS

## Closing Prayer

Tori Lambert

**Almighty God,**

**Who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit  
and welcomes us around the table,  
strengthen us in all goodness and keep us  
in your eternal care,  
as we strive to live out our baptismal covenant each day.**

**May your "YES!" in our lives  
inspire us to join in Christ's transforming work in the world.**

**We ask this in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.**

## 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

*Spirit of God*

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2117, vs. 1 & 2

### \*Blessing and Sending Forth

### \*Postlude

# WORSHIP NOTES

## USHERS

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

## COFFEE TIME

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

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, January 15

- 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*
- 3:00 p.m. Writers' Group, *Zoom*
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Group, *Youth Room*
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, *Choir Room*
- 6:00 p.m. Alleuia Ringers, *Bells' Room*

### Monday, January 16

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET CLOSED**

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, *FLC*
- 9:00 a.m. Visitation for Linda Smith, *Sanctuary*
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies Covenant Group, *Parlor*
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, *Library*
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Tuesday, January 17

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*
- 5:30 p.m. Good Grief!, *St. John's, Parlor*
- 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting, *Library*
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-E*

### Wednesday, January 18

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, *FLC*
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, *Choir Room*

### Thursday, January 19

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, *FLC*

### Friday, January 20

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

### Saturday, January 21

- 8:30 a.m. Watercolor Class, *FLC-E*
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC-C*
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting, *FLC*

\*Family Life Center

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFICE AND PANTRY CLOSED FOR MLK

Both the church office and The Shepherd's Market will be closed **Monday, January 16** in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The church office will reopen Tuesday at 9 a.m., The Shepherd's Market at 8 a.m.

## ST. JOHN'S WRITERS' GROUP

St. John's Writers' Group will meet at **this afternoon at 3 p.m.** on Zoom. Newcomers are welcome to this group. Contact Mari Walker (silvermari@gmail.com) for the Zoom information.

**NOTE NEW TIME FOR MEETING.**

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Youth will meet **this afternoon at 3 p.m.** Connor Dean our new interim Director of Youth and Children's Ministries will lead a relaxed time together with games and hanging out. She is looking forward to seeing everyone.

## MUSIC MAKERS RESUMES

Music Makers will resume their time together **this afternoon at 4:30 p.m.** in the Choir Room with Mr. Steve. While the focus will be on music for worship we will also be learning how to read and write music. It is going to be a fun-filled hour of learning about and making music through singing and playing instruments. We hope you will encourage your children and youth to participate in this fun, learning experience.

## BELLS PRACTICE RESUMES

Alleluia Ringers practice resumes **this evening at 6 p.m.** in the Bell Room. New ringers are welcome - you don't have to have a musical background to be a part of this resounding group.

## GOOD GRIEF, ST. JOHN'S

The monthly support and fellowship group, Good Grief, St. John's!, will meet on **Tuesday, January 17 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. All those who are suffering a loss are invited to attend. For more information contact Susan Johnston at sbjohnston@gmail.com or 225-773-9563.

## TRUSTEES MEETING

Trustees will hold their first meeting of 2023 on **Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Library.

## DISCIPLE FAST TRACK NEW TESTAMENT

Disciple Fast Track will begin **Monday, January 23 from 6 - 7:15 p.m.** in the Library. This 12-week study covers the entire New Testament. The class will be facilitated by Guy Johnson, Rhonda Tucker, and Danielle Blackwood. You may register with the form in the Narthex or online at [stjohnsbr.org/disciple-jan-23](http://stjohnsbr.org/disciple-jan-23). Student books cost \$18; there are scholarships available.

**PLEASE NOTE:** participants should pick up their student book from the church office prior to the first session in order to be ready to discuss the first lesson.

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY

Next **Sunday, January 22**, we will celebrate UWF Sunday at both services. This year's theme is "Compassionate Commitment: Explore, Experience, Engage." Guest speaker is Sandra Jones from First UMC here in Baton Rouge. A reception is planned in the FLC during coffee time.