

# HOLDING SPACE

CHECK-IN & PRAYER REQUESTS



## For Rest & Growth

This week, we hold space for the tension between rest and growth. What if transformation does not come from striving harder, but from tending the soil? What if the in-between season is not wasted time, but sacred ground?

## Donations Needed

**Tiller** If you have a tiller we could borrow, please contact [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org). **Knee Scooter** for a church member knee surgery - contact [karenyonts@att.net](mailto:karenyonts@att.net). Help us restock the **Shepherd's Market** with drinks (water, boxed drinks, juice), dried beans, and cereal (regular size please, not large), pasta, peanut butter, snacks, condiments, household items, and personal hygiene items. Bring them to the market, or to the St. John's office.

## Prayer Requests

Share prayer requests by scanning the QR code above, emailing [prayers@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsbr.org) or visiting [stjohnsbr.org/here](http://stjohnsbr.org/here).

## All Are Welcome & Affirmed Here

Whoever you are, wherever your faith journey, you are welcome and affirmed. We are so glad you joined us and hope you feel at home here.

## For Newcomers

**Restrooms** & Welcome **Brochures** are located in the narthex (lobby). Our **ushers** can help you in any way you may need. Text 'CONNECT' to 225-230-1017 join our updates.

## For Families with Children

- The **Prayground** is a child-friendly space at the front of the sanctuary where children and their families are welcome to participate in worship in a way that works for them.
- The **Nursery** serves infants - preschool in the Education & Administration building next door.
- **Changing tables** are located in the restrooms and nursery.
- **Holy Communion** elements of bread and grape juice are available to all including children weekly at the 8:30 a.m. service and on the first Sunday of the month at the 11:00 a.m. service. **Gluten free** elements are also available.
- We offer **Sunday School** for 18 months - 12<sup>th</sup> grade from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., along with a variety of adult classes as well.

The flowers on the altar are given to the **Glory of God**.

Today's ushers are **Beth Forester and Rhonda Tucker**.

## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Memorial Hospitality Ministry** provides loving support for families during funerals and celebrations of life. Volunteers may bring food, serve as a host at the reception, usher, or assist behind the scenes. Historically, this ministry is only called on twice a year, and you can just serve as you're available. If you would like to continue serving in this ministry or join us, please sign up via the QR code.



### Sunday, March 15 | Kids Night | 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for Kids Night as we begin learning about the story and meaning of Holy Week. The evening includes activities, faith formation, and dinner together in a fun and welcoming environment.

### Easter Dedications

Honor or remember a loved one this Easter with a Lily Dedication or a Mission & Vision Dedication. Each dedication is \$25 and will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Scan the QR code to submit your dedication by March 30.



### Saturday, March 21 | Work Opportunity Day | 8:00 a.m.

Join us for a morning of service and fellowship as we care for our church campus together. Opportunities will include projects both inside & outdoors, and volunteers of all ages are welcome to participate. Sign up via the QR code.



### Sunday, March 29 | Palm Sunday - One Worship Service | 10:00 a.m.

#### Coffee Time at 9:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The congregation will gather for one combined worship service at 10:00 a.m., with Coffee Time beforehand at 9:00 a.m.

### Thursday, April 2 | Maundy Thursday Worship | 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a reflective Maundy Thursday service as we commemorate the Last Supper and Jesus' commandment to love one another. This meaningful service invites us to enter the story of Holy Week with prayer, scripture, and music.

## EVERY WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

FLC = Family Life Center

### WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sundays**  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

### COFFEE TIME

**Sundays**  
9:30 a.m. FLC  
Last Names H-L, 3/22

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Sundays**  
9:45 a.m. Campus Wide for All Ages

### MUSIC MINISTRIES

**Sundays**  
6:00 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers, Bells Room  
**Wednesdays**  
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice, Choir Room

### CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Sundays**  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide  
**Upstairs Cafe Fruit: Q-Z, 3/22**  
3:30 p.m. Music Makers (K-5<sup>th</sup> grades)  
4:30 p.m. Music Makers (Middle School)  
5:00 p.m. Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)

### SERVE

**Fridays**  
10:30 a.m. Holy Helpers, Church Office

### WELLNESS

**Mondays**  
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**  
7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC

**Tuesdays**  
7:00 p.m. Pickleball  
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

**Wednesdays**  
6:30 p.m. Ladies AA Meeting, FLC-C

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

### THE SHEPHERD'S MARKET A client choice food pantry

**Mon 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.** FLC  
**Tues & Thurs 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.** FLC  
[shepherdsmarket.org](http://shepherdsmarket.org)

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

**CONTACT** [stjohnsbr.org/contact-us](http://stjohnsbr.org/contact-us)

# HOLDING SPACE

## For Rest & Growth

### 8:30 AM Worship Celebration

Sunday, March 15th, 2026

St. John's Mission  
Go and make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.

St. John's Vision  
Love.  
Grow Together.  
Serve Our Neighbors.

225-766-4594 | 230 Renee Drive BR, LA 70810  
[stjohnsbr.org](http://stjohnsbr.org) | [@stjohnsbr](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsbr) | [office@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:office@stjohnsbr.org)



# WELCOME



CHECK IN  
& PRAYER  
REQUESTS

## 8:30 AM Worship Celebration

Please stand as you are comfortable where marked by an asterisk (\*) & join in speaking where text is in **bold**.

**Gathering Music** Dr. Terry Byars

**Words of Welcome** Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #419 vs 1, 2, 3  
*I Am Thine, O Lord*

**Invitation to Worship\*** Margaret Sprunger

Worship is a place to rest.  
Here we breathe deeply.  
Here we lay down the burdens we have carried all week.

**Worship is a place to rest.**  
Worship is a place to grow.  
Here we listen for God's word.  
Here we open our hearts like soil ready for seed.

**Worship is a place to grow.**  
God is the patient gardener, tending the soil of our lives and  
nurturing what we cannot yet see.  
In God's care, we rest and we grow.  
So come as you are.  
Let us worship our gracious God.  
**We come to rest. We come to grow.**  
**With open hearts, we come to worship.**

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #534 vs 1  
*Be Still My Soul*

**We Encourage Our Children** Ben Hartman

**We Read the Word\*** Pastor Lane  
**Luke 13:6-9**

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.**

**We Reflect on the Word** Pastor Lane  
*Holding Space for Rest & Growth*

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal #395 vs 1, 3, 4  
*Take Time to Be Holy*

**We Name Our Need For Grace\*** Margaret Sprunger  
In a world that urges us to do more and be more,  
we often forget that God is patient with us.  
Let us come honestly before God, trusting in grace  
as we confess together.  
**Patient and loving God,**  
**Too often we believe our worth comes from what we accomplish.**  
**We push ourselves to keep going,**

to do more,  
**to prove our value.**  
**We struggle to rest.**  
**We struggle to trust that growth takes time.**  
**Forgive us when we measure ourselves or others by productivity**  
**instead of grace.**  
**Forgive us when we rush the slow work you are doing in our lives.**  
**Teach us to trust that you are tending the soil of our hearts,**  
**nurturing roots we cannot yet see.**  
**Help us rest in your love,**  
**so that in your time we may bear the fruit**  
**of compassion, justice, and joy. Amen.**

**We Hear Words of Grace & Forgiveness\*** Margaret Sprunger

Hear the good news:  
God is the patient gardener,  
tending the soil of our lives,  
nurturing what we cannot yet see.  
Through the grace of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven, loved, and made new.  
**Thanks be to God.**  
May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**We Greet One Another with Joy & Peace\***

**Mission Moment** Kathy Vandiver  
*Churchwide Work Opportunity Day*

**We Offer God's Tithes and Our Gifts** Molly Means  
*Let There Be Peace on Earth*  
Jill and Sy Miller

*Thank you for your generosity. Your gift helps us be a blessing in our community. Scan the QR code or visit [stjohnsbr.org/give](http://stjohnsbr.org/give) to give online.*



GIVING

**We Sing Together\*** U.M. Hymnal # 94  
*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow**  
**Praise Him all creatures here below**  
**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**  
**Amen.**

**We Prepare for Communion\*** Pastor Lane  
*We give thanks for God's grace, hear Jesus' words spoken at the table, and ask the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and cup. In this holy meal, we are joined with Christ and with one another, reminded that there is always room at God's table for all.*

**We Pray the Lord's Prayer** U.M. Hymnal #895

**We Partake in Communion\***  
*All are welcome to receive Communion.*  
*We serve by intinction (bread dipped in juice); servers handle the elements. Pre-packaged and gluten-free options are available.*  
*You may remain at the chancel to pray. If you need Communion brought to you, please let an usher know.*

**We Pray Together** Margaret Sprunger  
**Gracious God,**  
**We thank you for this holy meal,**  
**for the bread that nourishes us**  
**and the cup that reminds us of your steadfast love.**  
**As we leave this table,**  
**help us trust the quiet work of your grace.**  
**Root us deeply in your love.**  
**Give us patience to rest and courage to grow.**  
**Tend the soil of our lives so that, in your time, we may bear the fruit of compassion, justice, and joy.**  
**Send us into the world renewed and hopeful, trusting that you are still at work within us.**  
**Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**We Receive This Week's Call To Action** Pastor Lane

**We Sing Together\*** The Faith We Sing #2128 vs 1, 2  
*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

**We Share in a Blessing\*** Pastor Lane

**We Go Out into the World\*** Dr. Terry Byars  
*Music sends us out, but our worship continues as we go forth to love, grow together, and serve our neighbors.*