



holy in the everyday



Sunday, February 19, 2023

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

"So I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves..."

Ecclesiastes 8:15

As busy, practical, hurried people we develop habits of inattention and miss the ways God seeks to delight us. Today we will focus our hearts and minds on those ways in which we find rest, joy and wonder in our everyday lives.

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

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
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Lynn Cooper
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Dr. Terry Byars
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Bill Putzig
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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

For the Beauty of the Earth
The United Methodist Hymnal 92, vs. 1 & 2

I Love You, Lord
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2068

*Call to Worship

Daphne Grady

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

All I Need Is You
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2080, vs. 1

ENGAGE

Children's Message

Pastor Lane and Connor Dean

Prayer for Illumination

Daphne Grady

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 Readings

Daphne Grady

Genesis 2:2-3
Ecclesiastes 8:15

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.

“Holy Delight”

RESPOND

Hymn of Faith

Come and Find the Quiet Center

The Faith We Sing Songbook 2128, vs. 1, 2

Prayer of Confession

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

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.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Listen

by Betty Schroeder

lead vocalist John Toney

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!

*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

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

The United Methodist Hymnal 138, vs. 1, 2, & 6

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Postlude

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are from Bill Perry in celebration of Joyce's 80th birthday. Happy birthday, Joyce!

USHERS

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Sandra Kuykendall and Amy Richardson.

COFFEE TIME

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARDI GRAS CLOSURES

The church office will be closed Tuesday, February 21; The Shepherd's Market will be closed Monday, February 20 and Tuesday, February 21.

GOOD GRIEF! SUPPORT GROUP

The Good Grief! Support Group will meet **Tuesday, February 21 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. If you are suffering a loss of any kind and are looking for support and fellowship, come to Good Grief, St. John's! Newcomers are welcome.

DAYS FOR GIRLS

Day for Girls have two remaining Spring work days: **Saturday, February 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT DEVOTIONAL CARDS

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.** 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?

To guide your Lenten journey, we are offering each household a set of **Daily Devotional Cards**, which you can take home today or pick up from the church during office hours. Each card has a reflection question and prayer, and the 48-card set begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, and continues through the week of Easter. You can also follow St. John's on Facebook and Instagram (@stjohnsbr) for daily reflections during Lent.

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. There will be a blue tub in the hallway of the Admin/Education Building and in the Narthex for your donations.

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) know.

UMCOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

We are collecting donations to support the earthquake relief efforts in Turkey and Syria. Tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothes, ready-to-eat meals and first-aid kits are being distributed to earthquake survivors through a grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). 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. Use the *Fund* drop down menu and choose *Missions*, under *Sub Fund* choose *Disaster Relief/UMCOR*. Checks written to St. John's should have UMCOR in the memo line or on the cash envelope.