



Sunday, January 21, 2024

8:30 WORSHIP CELEBRATION

All Are Welcome

Whether you are a guest or member, we invite you to scan the QR code to register your attendance 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
pastorlane@stjohnsbr.org

Connor Dean
Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
connordean@stjohnsbr.org

Lynn Cooper
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Steve Rushing
Choir Director
steverushing@stjohnsbr.org

Ben Balsler
Media Producer
benbalsler@stjohnsbr.org

Cheryl Roubique
Nursery Coordinator

Gabe Guillory
Youth Intern
youth@stjohnsbr.org

LeAnn Davis
Manager of Finance & Facilities
leanndavis@stjohnsbr.org

Dr. Terry Byars
Praise Team Director and Accompanist
terrybyars@stjohnsbr.org

Bill Putzig
Custodian
billputzig@stjohnsbr.org

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

Rev. Dr. Jack O'Dell

***Song of Praise**

Spirit Song

The United Methodist Hymnal 347, vs. 1 & 2

***Call to Worship**

Theresa Sandifer

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
who has shone in our hearts

**to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

***Prayer**

O God of all the nations, you manifested your love by sending
your only Son into the world that all might live through him.
Pour your Spirit on your Church, that it may fulfill his command
to preach the gospel everywhere; send forth laborers into your
harvest; defend them in all dangers and temptations; give them
grace to bear faithful witness to you; endue them with zeal and
love, that they may turn many to righteousness; through the same
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Song of Response**

Come, We That Love the Lord

The United Methodist Hymnal 732, vs. 1

Listening

Children's Message

Natalie Cooper

Prayer for Illumination

Theresa Sandifer

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.

Scripture

Jonah 3

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.

Sermon

“Three Conversions”

Rev. Jack

Responding

*Hymn of Faith

Amazing Grace
The United Methodist Hymnal 378, vs. 1 - 3

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Jack

O God, source of all that makes life possible,
giver of all that makes life good:
We gather to give you our thanks,
yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness.
What we have we take for granted,
and we grumble about what we lack.
We have squandered your bounty,
with little thought of those who will come after us.
We are more troubled by the few who have more
than by the many who have less.
Forgive us, O God.
In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving;
and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life;
through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Offertory: *Come to Jesus*
Bryan Adams, soloist



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

Prayer After Receiving

Connor Dean

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.

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. Jack

***Postlude**

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

Worship Notes

FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given by Pam Toney in celebration of John's 72nd birthday!
Happy birthday, John!

USHERS

Ushers for the 8:30 service are Brian and Danielle Blackwood.

COFFEE TIME

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

Announcements

THIS WEEK'S PASTOR ON CALL

Pastor Lane is taking Bereavement Leave in the recent passing of her father. For the week of January 21, the Pastor On Call is Rev. Dr. Jack O'Dell. He can be reached on his cell: 318-401-1243, should a pastoral need arise. Thanks Rev. Jack for preaching and leading worship for us today, too.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will have a meeting on **Thursday, January 25 at 6 p.m.** in the Library.

8-SESSION BIBLE STUDY STARTS AT THE END OF JANUARY

Our upcoming Bible Study on James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, and Jude explores these letters not only with a keen theological eye and a pastor's heart, but also with the imagination of a poet and master storyteller. Guy Johnson will be leading this 8-session Bible Study using the Immersion workbook as the guide, which is designed to help us explore the emotional, spiritual, and intellectual needs of our faith.

We will offer two sessions of this study. Choose the one that works best for you!

- DAYTIME: Mondays at 10am (starting January 29)
- EVENING: Tuesdays at 6pm (starting January 30)

Register online at stjohnsbr.org/winter-study-2024 or by filling out the form in the Narthex.

Participants will need a workbook and a Bible. Workbooks are \$15 and will be handed out at the first class session. If you do not have a Bible, the church can provide one for you. A nursery as well as scholarships are available upon request. Please contact the church office (office@stjohnsbr.org; 225-766-4594) for assistance.

You can pay for your workbook online at stjohnsbr.org/give (Select "SS Classes and Small Groups" Fund; "Bible Study" Sub fund) or by placing a check in the offering plate made out to St. John's, with Bible Study on the memo line.

YOUTH GROUP SPRING SEMESTER

First Sundays: The St. John's youth group will gather on the first Sunday of each month from 4 - 5:30 p.m. Throughout the spring semester, they will meet at the homes of different church members for small group Bible Study, games, crafts, or other activities.

Third Wednesdays: Youth will also meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 6 - 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room for *Wednesday Night Live*. Monthly activity calendars are being mailed to households with youth. Contact Connor Dean (connordean@stjohnsbr.org) if you did not receive one.

YOUTH MEALS NEEDED

Help is needed to feed our Youth once a month! Yes, it is only for the third Wednesday of each month for 8 - 10 people. The meal should be brought to the Admin Building between 5:45 and 6 p.m. Sign up to help at stjohnsbr.org/YouthMeals. Contact Connor Dean (connordean@stjohnsbr.org) for more information.

C.H.A.O.S. - CHRIST HERE AND OTHER SPACES

Save these dates for our upcoming events for children and their families!

January 28, 4:00 p.m. Join us for a family movie night in the Family Life Center. We will enjoy a hot cocoa bar as well!

February 25, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Bring your leftover Mardi Gras beads and join us for a craft night using upcycled beads! Dinner will be included.

March 23, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. St. John's UMC is hosting our annual Bunny Breakfast celebration - complete with pancakes, crafts, games, and an egg hunt. You won't want to miss out on this!

April 28, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Save the date for this event... More info coming soon!

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, January 21

- 8:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up, Sanctuary
- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time, FLC*
- 9:30 a.m. Upstairs Cafe, Rm 202
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Campus Wide
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 4:30 p.m. Music Makers, Choir Room
- 6:00 p.m. Bells Practice, Bells Room

Monday, January 22

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Founders' Parlor
- 3:00 p.m. Men's Covenant Group, Library
- 3:30 p.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Tuesday, January 23

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 2:00 p.m. Grief Support, Founders' Parlor
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, January 24

- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. Women's AA Meeting, FLC-C

Thursday, January 25

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market, FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee, Library

Friday, January 26

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Group, Founders' Parlor
- 7:00 a.m. Early Risers Exercisers, FLC
- 8:00 a.m. Food Bank Delivery, FLC

Saturday, January 27

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center