

YOUTH & SENIOR SUNDAY

CELEBRATING AN
INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH
THROUGH THE STORY OF PENTECOST



Sunday, May 19, 2024
8:30 a.m. Worship Celebration
All Are Welcome

“Generation after generation stands in awe of God’s work; each one tells stories of God’s mighty acts.”

- Psalm 145

Happy Pentecost! Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church because it marks the moment when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles and empowered them to spread the message of Jesus Christ to the world. It is a time of reflection, renewal, and celebration, and a reminder of the importance of sharing our faith with others. Today is Youth Sunday and our students in 6th-12th grades will be sharing their faith with us by leading our worship time. Additionally, we are delighted to celebrate with the Class of 2024 as we recognize our graduates. Welcome to worship!

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 | 230 Renee Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70810
office@stjohnsbr.org | 225-766-4594

Welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church

GUEST INFORMATION

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, located in the back of the Sanctuary.

Please take home a copy of our Welcome Brochure located in the Narthex or view it online at: stjohnsbr.org/welcome-brochure.

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 Prayground** 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 Prayground 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.

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
stevenrushing@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

The Celebration of the Gospel

**Please stand as you are comfortable.
Bold indicates congregational response.
Please scan the QR Code to register your attendance.*



Prelude

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lane Cotton Winn

*Songs of Praise

Awesome God (2x)
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2040
Clap Your Hands
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2028

*Call to Worship

Bishop Idikwu

From those older than us, we learn many things – how to pray, how to love Jesus, and how to take care of one another.

Spirit of God, generation after generation stands in awe of your work; each one tells stories of your mighty acts.

From those younger than us, we are reminded of many things – the need for laughter, the importance of play, constant curiosity, and almost boundless energy.

Spirit of God, generation after generation stands in awe of your work; each one tells stories of your mighty acts.

From those who are wise beyond their years and younger than they seem, we begin to understand more about faith - theirs and our own.

Spirit of God, generation after generation stands in awe of your work; each one tells stories of your mighty acts.

Based on Psalm 145:5

*Response

Praise the Name of Jesus
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2066

Children's Message

Connor Dean

Special Music

Spirit of the Living God
Flute duet: Grace Idikwu & Haylee Matthews

Scripture Readings

Bishop Idikwu, Paul Idikwu,
Haylee Matthews, Jane Walker

Psalm 145:4; Acts 2:1-4, 42-47

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2173, vs. 1 & 3

*Prayer of Confession

Jane Walker

Every week as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called.

In this time of prayer, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love.

Let us pray.

Sometimes we are like those disciples so long ago:

**Huddled in fear of what others will think,
of what others will do,
of what God will do.**

Sometimes we are like passive bystanders:

**Making fun of what we do not understand,
tearing down what is sacred to another,
waiting until we are sure it's okay.**

Always God is with us:

**Nudging us like a gentle breeze,
stirring us with flames of hope,
speaking to us with words engraved in our hearts. Amen.**

*Words of Grace and Forgiveness

Siblings in Christ,

God's Spirit did not leave us after that first Pentecost.

The Spirit is still with us, empowering us to know God's love and grace, that our faith may be made whole.

In this Spirit, and through Christ, we proclaim the Good News:

We are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Sharing the Love and Peace of Christ

Senior Recognition

Connor Dean, Deborah Cross-Young

Class of 2024:

Olivia Caputo, Grace Idikwu

Ministry Moment

Youth Video Highlights

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.*



*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!**

*Thanksgiving and Communion

Pastor Lane

Together, let us unite our voices responsively, in sharing praise and thanks for God's Spirit.

We celebrate the Divine Spirit, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness.

We praise you, Spirit.

We celebrate the Divine Spirit, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through him, made divine life available to all.

We praise you, Spirit.

We celebrate the Spirit, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Reign of God.

We praise you, Spirit.

And so, as we gather at this table, we recognize the Holy Spirit's presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence in our lives.

(The congregation is seated as we recall the Last Supper and pray for the Holy Spirit's presence in this act of worship.)

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 Communion

Seth Robertson

Let us pray together.

God of all ages,

**May the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the power of your Spirit light a fire in our
hearts and minds so we may love and serve your
world faithfully.**

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

The Trees of the Field (2x)
The Faith We Sing Songbook 2279

*Benediction

Grace Idikwu

May the God of ages past, the God of this day, and the God of tomorrow, bless you and keep you.

May God's love shine on you here in this place and be a light to your path as you go out into the world.

May God's people be awestruck by the movement of God in our lives and may we multiply God's love in our acts and deeds.

May we celebrate a faith that is as ancient as the stones around us and as relevant as the air we breathe. Go in peace.

Amen.

*Postlude

Worship Notes

Usher/Mentors for our Youth at the 8:30 service are Phil and Jill Slicker.

Youth serving in today's service: Greeters-Haylee Matthews and Jane Walker; Acolyte-Evie Durham; Offering Ushers-Paul Idikwu and Evie Durham; Communion Ushers-Haylee Matthews and Jane Walker; Youth Communion Servers: Evie Durham and Seth Robertson.

The flowers on the altar are in honor of our Youth and graduating seniors. Congratulations to all of you! Have a great summer!

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

Connect with Us

You are invited to participate in any of our activities, and to become a part of this community of faith and love. Sign up for text/email notifications by texting the word "Connect" to 225-230-1017.

Announcements

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to serve in the church office on **Wednesday, May 29** between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. while Lynn Cooper has a procedure on her neck. You may serve all day or for half a day (9 a.m. to noon or 1 - 4 p.m.). Your time will consist of answering the phone, greeting visitors, and we may have a few administrative tasks to work on, as well. There will be some unstructured time as well so you may want to bring something to keep yourself occupied. Please let Lynn (office@stjohnsbr.org) know if you will be willing to help out.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking willing servants for Vacation Bible School **June 17-21, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.** There are plenty of ways to help out. The best part is – everything is already planned, and all the materials will be provided. We are just asking for your time. If you do not have other commitments during that week or have a flexible work schedule that allows you to volunteer for a day or two, please consider volunteering.

Some slots only require 30 minutes of your time, some require 2 hours, and some require 4 hours. For many of the spots, you can choose if you volunteer for a single day or multiple days. All of that to say, there are many ways to get involved, and we have tried to make this as flexible and volunteer-friendly as possible. **You can visit stjohnsbr.org/vbs-volunteers to get more information and sign up.** If you have any questions, please contact Connor (connordean@stjohnsbr.org).

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Children who have completed fifth grade and younger are invited to join us for VBS! You can register online at stjohnsbr.org/vbs-2024.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to serve as “table leaders” to help lead each age group within our one-room Sunday School class for our children & youth during the summer. Please carefully review the available slots at stjohnsbr.org/summer-ss or contact Connor if you have any issues or questions.

ADULT SUMMER STUDY - TED TALK THEOLOGY

This summer we will view TED Talks through the lens of our faith during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:55am). TED is a nonprofit devoted to “Ideas Worth Spreading,” usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment, and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics from science to business to global issues and more.

Each Sunday we will watch a different TED talk, read a corresponding passage of scripture, and discuss what they say to each other and to us about our faith and life. A team of facilitators will rotate leading each week. Many of our adult Sunday School classes are combining for this study, and we invite you to join us, too.

*TED Talk Theology starts on **May 26** and concludes July 28.
Come weekly or come when you can!*

NEW COFFEE TIME IDEA!

Thank you, once again, to all of you who have faithfully provided snacks for our Coffee Time for the past year! Whether it was donut holes picked up on the way to church, sliced cheese from WalMart, or something yummy you baked in your own kitchen, all has been appreciated ... and eaten!

In order to give our Sunday School classes a little break for June and July, we’re going to do something different for the next 8 weeks. Here’s how it works: Look at the chart below and find the beginning letter of your last name to know which Sunday is “yours” – and bring something then. You don’t have to cook or bake – in these days of prepared foods, any grocery store has plenty to choose from. Please have your item to the FLC before 9:30 am.

Please understand that this is not in ANY way meant to be an obligation! If you’re going to be out of town, if you’re not going to be at church for whatever reason, if you just don’t want to participate, you are OFF THE HOOK! On the other hand, if you want to bring something even when it’s not your “letter”, please feel free to help out. Anything is appreciated ... and eaten! Thanks so much!

Sunday, June 2: A – C
Sunday, June 9: D – G
Sunday, June 16: H – K
Sunday, June 23: L – N

Sunday, July 14: O – R
Sunday, July 21: S
Sunday, July 28: T – Z

****Sunday, July 7: Anyone brings red, white, and blue treats! ****

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, May 19

- 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
- 2:00 p.m. St. John's Writers' Group, Founders Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Bells Practice, Bells Room

Monday, May 20

- 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 Client-Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Ladies' Covenant Group, Founders' Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Gardere Youth, FLC
- 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

PLEASE NOTE: The church office and The Shepherd's Market will be closed next Monday, **May 27** for the Memorial Day holiday.

Tuesday, May 21

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client-Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 5:30 p.m. Good Grief St. John's!, Founders Parlor
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-E

Wednesday, May 22

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

Thursday, May 23

- 8:00 a.m. The Shepherd's Market Client-Choice Food Pantry, FLC
- 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee, Library

Friday, May 24

- 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
- 11:00 a.m. Charlie Thomas Head Start Graduation, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Children's Pool Party, Kathy King Residence

Saturday, May 25

- 8:00 a.m. River City Quilts, FLC
- 12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC

*Family Life Center

TODAY - WRITERS' GROUP

St. John's Writers' Group will meet **this afternoon at 2 p.m.** in the Founders' Parlor. Anyone who enjoys writing - poetry, fiction, drama, essays, or any other genre - is invited to attend. You will find a place where ideas can be shared, new pieces tested, and friendly back-up provided. There's no need to register - just show up!

GOOD GRIEF FELLOWSHIP

The Good Grief, St. John's! Fellowship will be getting together **Tuesday, May 21 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Founders' Parlor. If you would like more information about this grief support and fellowship group, please call Susan Johnston at 225-773-9563.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will hold a regular meeting on **Thursday, May 23 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Library.

MUSIC MAKERS ON SUMMER BREAK

Music Makers are on a summer break. They will resume their practice sessions in August so be looking for the start up dates in our newsletters.

CHILDREN'S POOL PARTY

Our first pool party of the summer will be on **Friday, May 24, 6-8 p.m.** at the home of Kathy King, 16440 Philip Hickey Dr. Mark your calendar now! Bring the whole family.



ST. JOHN'S

United Methodist Church

Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.