



First United Methodist Church
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

New Worship Service – Due to increased worship attendance in the fall, a third traditional service is being offered in the gymnasium at 9:45 a.m. until we return to the sanctuary. Help spread the word and consider attending this new worship service.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

John Hatton

GREETING

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

† HYMN *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

**Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!**

**Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!**

**Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presley Grace, child of Biff Ritchie and Carrie King (8:30 a.m.)

Elizabeth Grace, child of Brandon and Heather Hebron (11:00 a.m.)

Pastor to congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include this family, now before you, in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the Good News and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this family with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *all sing*

**(Child's first and middle name), God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.
We this day do all agree, a child of God you'll always be.
(Child's first and middle name), God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

OUR SHARED LIFE

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Epworth Guild.

The votive candle is in memory of Betty Bergeron.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children are invited to the altar for the children's sermon.

HYMN *Jesus Loves Me* (8:30 and 11:00 a.m.)

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON (8:30 and 11:00 a.m.)

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please register your attendance on the Connect Card, located in the black basket at the end of each row. Place your card in the offering basket.

OFFERTORY *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal*

Neil Harmon

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore, as I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar. Halleluiah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM! And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day, passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away. Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM! Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest; and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest. Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

† DOXOLOGY **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

† PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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.

† GOSPEL LESSON Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON *No Such Thing as a Half-Way Christian*

Reverend Whitton

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

† HYMN *Take Time to Be Holy*

**Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in him always, and feed on his word.
Make friends of God’s children, help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.**

**Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,
And run not before him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.**

**Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath his control.
Thus led by his spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.**

SENDING FORTH

† BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Glory, Honor and Praise*

Mark Hayes

LEADING TODAY’S WORSHIP

Preaching Reverend Brady Whitton, *Senior Pastor*
Liturgist Reverend Dr. Jane Riecke, *Associate Pastor*
Reverend Greg Toney, *Associate Pastor*
Crucifer Kim Gilly (8:30 a.m.); Rob Fairly (11:00 a.m.)
Acolytes Reid Banks and Amelia Hursey (8:30 a.m.)
Walker Caro and John Thomas Hart (11:00 a.m.)
Musicians Kyle Melton (8:30 and 9:45 a.m.); Chancel Choir (11:00 a.m.)
Richard Webb, *Music Associate/Piano*
Andrew Kendall, *Assistant Director of Music*

Lay Reader Amanda Spain (8:30 a.m.); Janice Evans (11:00 a.m.)
Children's Sermon Eric Lockridge
Soundboard Tim McKey (8:30 a.m.); Tripp Fairly (11:00 a.m.)

Welcome to First United Methodist Church

- Childcare is available during all services for children ages 6 weeks through Kindergarten. Check-in is located in the Conference Center.
- FUMC offers Sunday morning groups for children and youth from 9:40-10:40 a.m. Let us assist you in finding a group by visiting the Check-in table located in the Conference Center.
- New to First Methodist? Stop by Café 930 in the Conference Center for coffee and tea, and meet people who have a genuine love for the church. Café 930 is open every Sunday from 9:30-10:50 a.m. and following the 11:00 a.m. service.
- While sanctuary worship is being held in the gymnasium, Sunday morning activities normally taking place in the gymnasium (coffee, refreshments, event registrations, mission items) will be held in the Conference Center.

Classes, Events & Mission Opportunities

The **Welcoming & Inviting Ministry** will offer a church facility tour today at 10:00 a.m. and again at 12:00 p.m. Please meet at the Information Station located near the Conference Center. Grab a cup of coffee, sign-in, and join us!

Mission Sunday Opportunities

- Mission Lunch will benefit the LSU Wesley Foundation. Menu: Red beans and rice with sausage, mustard greens, cornbread, and a cookie. Eat-in/take-out (\$7). Pick-up your food in the Conference Center.
- Salsa Sale, supporting the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, is available in the Conference Center.
- Cambodian "Crafts Change Lives!" are on sale in the Conference Center. Proceeds help Cambodian women develop economic self-sufficiency and to provide scholarships for college students.

Find fellowship this fall: Our next supper club event will be held on October 18 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Ory Parish Hall. Join us and connect with a group of 6 to 8 people who will share meals and grow together in friendship and faith. Register online or email kmilioto@firstmethodist.org.

Believe and Belong will be on September 10 and September 12. Fellowship and dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Zea's Rotisserie in Towne Centre on Corporate Blvd. Believe and Belong is for all non-members that are ready to learn more about what we believe about God; how we belong to and support one another in community; and how to join FUMC. You may RSVP by emailing Sonia Fealing at sfealing@firstmethodist.org or Rev. Jane Riecke at jriecke@firstmethodist.org.

The **Senior Adult Ministry** programs will resume on Wednesday, September 11 featuring "Cajun Roots." The group has been together for 10 years playing traditional Cajun instruments and singing in Cajun French. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Center and is followed by lunch in the gymnasium. Cost is \$7.00. Reservations are appreciated by calling Dottie Anklam, *Administrative Assistant to the Care and Senior Adult Ministries*, at (225) 383-4777, ext. 229.

Lamar Drummonds has arranged a trip to Canada to visit Montreal, Quebec City, and visit the Casavant shop to hear our organ for the first time. The trip is November 5-9. Brochures are available in the church office. If you are interested in knowing more, email Lamar Drummonds at lamar@firstmethodist.org. Registration deadline next Sunday, September 15.

Are you interested in serving as an elected leader at FUMC? If so, visit www.firstmethodist.org and download the **2020 Self-Nomination Packet**. (Paper copies are available in the church office for those with no computer access.) The purpose of a **Self-Nomination Packet** is to nominate oneself for an elected leadership position at FUMC. If you are rotating off of a committee this year, and would like to continue in your committee position or be considered for another, it is necessary to complete a **Self-Nomination Packet** (most committee members complete their service after a total of 3 years.) Completed packets are due in the church office by Tuesday, September 17. Contact Virginia Guffey at (225) 383-4777, or vguffey@firstmethodist.org with questions.

FUMC Ladies are invited to attend “**FACING FAITH SPA WEEK**” the week of September 23. Enjoy a wonderful spa experience including a facial, access to the sauna, a relaxing foot bath and refreshments for only \$40.00 per person. Reservations are limited. Contact Sonia Fealing at sfealing@firstmethodist.org or call (225) 383-4777, ext. 231 for more information. Deadline to RSVP is September 15, 2019.

FUMC Youth is hosting a **United Methodist College Day**, September 29 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. featuring representatives from Methodist Universities, and a panel to help with test prep, admissions processes, college visits, and scholarships. Any high school student interested in higher education is invited. All should register at www.firstmethodistyouth.org. There is no cost to attend this event open to youth from across the state.

The One Night Stand Retreat for 7th-9th grade youth and their parents will be September 27 and 28 at FUMC. We will discuss our identity in Christ, and theology around human sexuality. The cost to attend this important weekend is \$85. Registration is found at www.firstmethodistyouth.org.

Let's go to England! Explore with Reverend Whitton and Lamar Drummonds the path of John Wesley and the Methodist movement from March 27 – April 3, 2020. Beyond Methodist monuments, the tour will also visit Westminster Abbey, the National Gallery, Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey), and Windsor Castle. The tour is limited to 14 people, so register quickly. Brochures are available in the church office. For more information, contact Ann Hogan, FUMC member and tour sponsor, at annrhogan@att.net or (225) 588-8404.

We Celebrate Today's Birthdays

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| Sarah Austin | Richard Hobson | Jules Messa |
| Kim Gilly | Knox Kidder | Brayden Payne |
| Michael Greer | Collins Lee | Danielle Porche |
| Robert Grunewald | Emerson May | Betty Robertson |
| Ken Harelson | Stephanie McCandless | Allyson Shroyer |
| Gwen Henry | Jade McDowell | Scarlette Snee |