

**WE'RE
SO GLAD
YOU JOINED
US TODAY!**

Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome to worship at St. John's United Methodist Church.

You are welcome and celebrated in this faith community!
 If you are a first time attendee or a long-time member;
 If you are black, brown, white or anything in between;
 If you are gay, straight, bisexual, lesbian, or transgender;
 If you are a Native American or an immigrant friend;
 If you are male or female, young or old, abled or differently-abled, rich or poor;
 No matter what you believe or doubt;
 No matter where you are on life's journey;
 You are a gift of the Creator God. Together, we are family of God,
 because we are gathered in the name of the One who makes us one.



St. John's has been affiliated with Reconciling Ministries Network since 1998, when we adopted a statement affirming the sacred worth of all God's children, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. We celebrate our diversity and welcome all people to join us in our journey together toward greater understanding and mutual respect.

We welcome children and enjoy their participation in all aspects of congregational life. For caregivers of small children, a changing table is available in the front bathroom and the library is open if you need a quiet place to tend to your little one. A nursery with certified workers is available for infants through age 5 at the southeast corner of the building if you need respite. Ushers will be glad to direct you to any of these resources.

Meet Our Staff.

To contact a member of our staff please call 806-762-0123, visit us online, or send us an email at openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

Rev. Josh Stueve
Senior Pastor
 Rev. Ann Akin
Associate Pastor
 Clint Barrick
Organist

Tim Algate
Choral Conductor
 David Cranford
Facilities Manager
 John Dotts
Assistant Facilities Manager

Rachel Shipley
Director of Youth Ministries
 Kyle Collins
Director of Communications
 Trish Hernandez
Director of Childcare Ministries



From the Lectionary

Blessed are Those
 Cara Hochhalter

This is a sobering version of the Beatitudes as read in the Gospel of Luke. While the poor are blessed, Jesus goes on to chastise those who are wealthy at the expense of the poor!...This image begs for the conversation about our own "riches." Are they attained at the expense of others? How does the image make you feel? What issues does it bring up? Might Jesus cry out for a system in which all are dignified by their labors, with living wages and equitable working conditions?

The Rev. Cara B. Hochhalter is a United Church of Christ (UCC) minister. She received her Masters of Divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, where she studied the intersections of art, theology and justice. She served the Charlemont Federated Church in Massachusetts for ten years and now lives in Hyde Park, New York.

Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Homebound
 Jane Haynes
 Dwight Finckbone
 Glenna Keesee
 Gary Pate
 Julie Shirey
 The family of Pat Cantrell
 The family of Roy Goodloe
 Jack Glaze
(The cousin of Pam Cook)

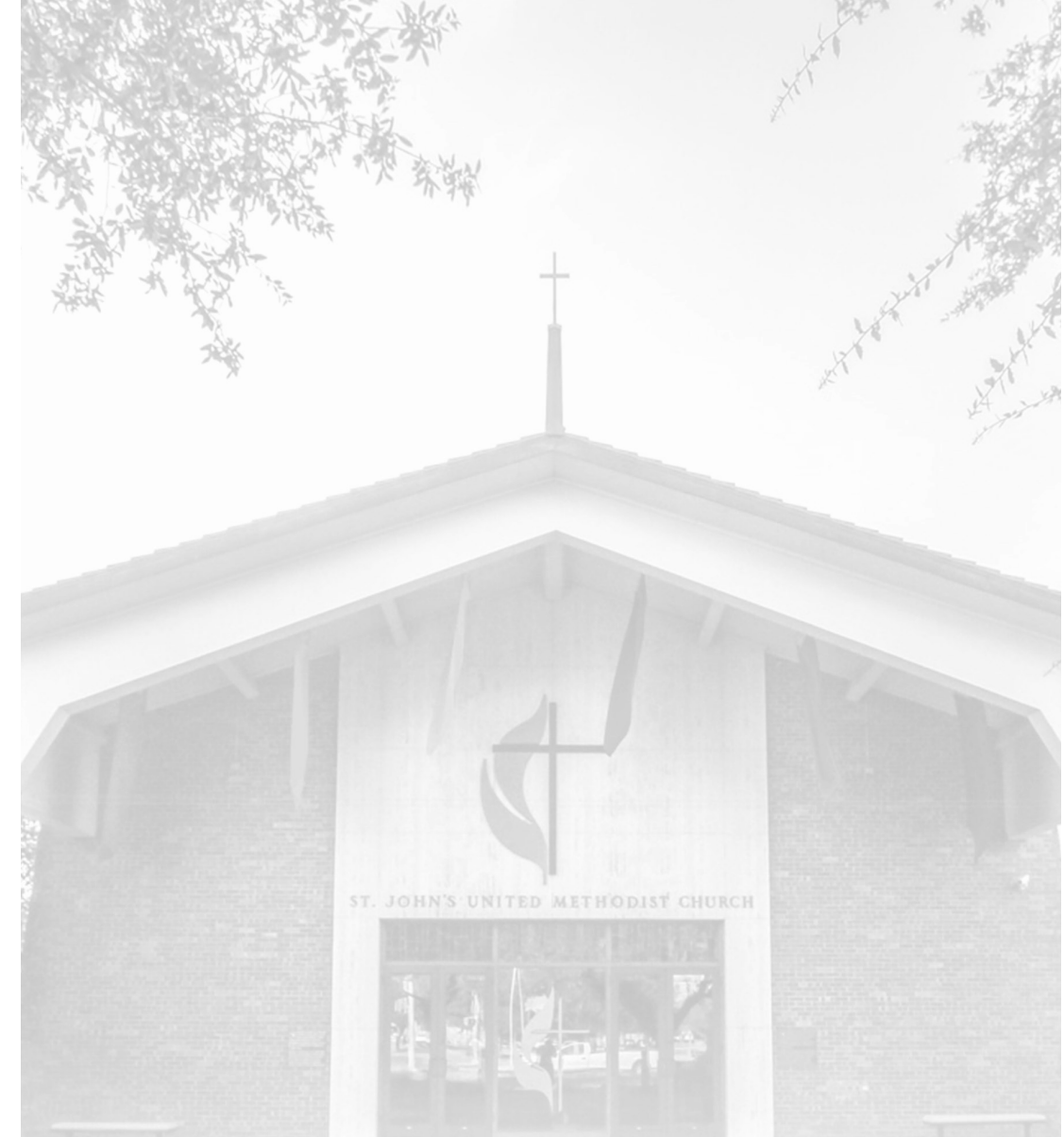
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Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Address: 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401
Phone: 806-762-0123 **Web:** stjohnslubbock.org
Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

The Worship of God - 10:30 A.M. Service

ENTRANCE

**Gathering Revs. Josh Stueve and Ann Akin

Prelude Clint Barrick
Air J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Call to Worship Marcy Stueve

Creator God, you are a stream of living water; we are trees planted nearby, rooted in your deep, flowing love.

We drink from your blessing; we grow in your grace.

By the gentle presence of Christ with us we avoid the ways of selfishness and cynicism, even when they are all around us.

We fill ourselves with your Word, and we delight in your ways; rooted in your Creation, we flourish in your love.

All of our evil perishes in your grace. It becomes like dry leaves, blown away in the wind of your Spirit.

In closeness with you, we bear the fruit of love for the healing of the world. Flow in us, God of life, and once again transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

*Hymn No.132 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
All My Hope Is Firmly Grounded MICHAEL

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A Time for Young Disciples Kelley LaRue
Hymn No. 405 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Seek Ye First SEEK YE

As the children arrive:

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added
unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!*

As the children depart:

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall
be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!*

Prayers of the People | Lord's Prayer Rev. Ann Akin
God, in your graciousness/mercy.
Hear our prayers.

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.

Act of Praise Allison Matherly, Leslie Cranford, Tim Algate, Paul Shuey
O Holy City, Seen of John Charles H. Webb (b. 1933)

Lyrics can be found in The United Methodist Hymnal No.726

Listening Prayer Marcy Stueve
God of infinite grace, allow the deep roots of our souls to sink deep in your grace. Let us draw up your blessing into our hearts and our community.

**You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.
**Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.*

Hebrew Bible Lesson - Jeremiah 17: 5-10, p. 719 Marcy Stueve

*Gospel Lesson - Luke 6: 17-26, p. 64, N.T. Marcy Stueve
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Josh Stueve

Prayer of Receiving Rev. Ann Akin
Imagine Jesus standing before you. What might Jesus say?

Blessed are you in your hurt, in your concern, in your grief.
Blessed are you for you are a child of God.
Blessed are you who is called beloved because of God's love.
Blessed are you who is called holy because of God's grace.

Imagine Jesus standing before you. What might you say?

THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering Rev. Josh Stueve

*Hymn No. 529 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

Anthem St. John's Chancel Choir
Beatitudes I: The Poor in Spirit Patrick Hawes (b. 1958)

*Blessed, blessed, blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of heav'n,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven,
Theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of heav'n.*

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts No. 94
**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!**

SENDING FORTH

Reception of New Members Rev. Josh Stueve

**We rejoice to welcome you as members of Christ's Holy Church, and we bid you welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church.
With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.**

*Hymn No. 66 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven LAUDA ANIMA

Benediction Rev. Josh Stueve

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude Clint Barrick
Allegretto Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)



Flowers in the Narthex are given by Charles & Sara Yancey in celebration of their 41st anniversary and James Yancey's birthday.

Altar flowers this morning are given by David Cranford in celebration of Leslie Cranford's birthday on Valentine's Day.

PFLAG Monthly Meeting

PFLAG will hold their monthly meeting at St. John's on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Room.



Birthday Celebration

We're throwing a birthday party for everyone in the church on Sunday, February 23 at 11:30 a.m. There will be a baked potato bar with all the toppings, salad, bread and cake/cupcakes.

RSVP's are required so please let us know you're coming by Tuesday, February 18. Sign-up sheets are available in the hallway.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Mark your calendars—our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is coming up! Join us on Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 p.m. for an evening of good food and good company. We'll be flipping pancakes, serving up all the fixings, and just enjoying time together before Lent.

Bring your appetite, bring a friend, and we'll see you there!