

**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](mailto: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 *Reconciliation* Amos Supuni

Preferring to work in Springstone, Amos's exceptional skill and creativity is exemplified as he intermingles the stones' natural roughness with precisely carved and polished areas. Amos creates powerful images that are immediate and emotional in their impact that derive their beauty not only from the luminous striations in the stone, but from the force of their expression.

Amos takes an interest in social issues and sees his work as "a voice for the voiceless", often tackling subjects such as poverty, street kids and desperation.

### Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Homebound  
Jane Haynes  
Dwight Finckbone  
Glenna Keesee  
Gary Pate  
Julie Shirey  
Justin Hughes  
Jowannah Ellis  
Rick Nelson  
The family of Roy Goodloe

## WAYS TO GIVE

  
**ONLINE**  
GIVE YOUR GIFT ONLINE  
AT  
[STJOHNSLUBBOCK.ORG](http://STJOHNSLUBBOCK.ORG)

  
**MAIL**  
MAIL YOUR GIFT TO  
1501 UNIVERSITY  
LUBBOCK, TX  
79401

  
**APP**  
DOWNLOAD THE FREE  
"REALM CONNECT" APP  
TODAY!

  
**TEXT**  
TEXT [STJOHNSLUBBOCK](http://STJOHNSLUBBOCK)  
PLUS THE AMOUNT  
TO 73256

 **ST. JOHN'S**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



# Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, February 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

 **ST. JOHN'S**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Address:** 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401  
**Phone:** 806-762-0123 **Web:** [stjohnslubbock.org](http://stjohnslubbock.org)  
**Email:** [openminds@stjohnslubbock.org](mailto:openminds@stjohnslubbock.org)



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

## ENTRANCE

\*\*Gathering Revs. Josh Stueve and Ann Akin

Prelude Clint Barrick  
*Help Us Accept Each Other* John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

\*Call to Worship Lola Smith-Gentry

God, you who are love, you create us in love.

**We are the body of your love.**

Christ, love made flesh, you come to us in grace and healing.

**We are your Beloved, blessed and embraced.**

Holy Spirit, energy of love, your fire alone in us is our life.

**We are bearers of your love to this world.**

**Fill us with your love, fill us to overflowing,**

**for the sake of the world you love. Amen.**

\*Hymn No. 549 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Where Charity and Love Prevail* ST. PETER

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A Time for Young Disciples Rev. Ann Akin  
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 Matthew DiLeo  
*In the Garden* Austin Miles  
*Words can be found in the United Methodist Hymnal #314*

Listening Prayer Lola Smith-Gentry

**Merciful One, you have been kind even to the ungrateful and the wicked.**

**We have received your grace, a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, placed in our lap. We give thanks, and we open ourselves wider to receive your Spirit, that we may be merciful as you are merciful.**

*\*You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.*

*\*\*Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.*

\*Gospel Lesson - Luke 6:27-38, p. 64-65, N.T.  
The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Lola Smith-Gentry

Sermon

Rev. Josh Stueve

\*An Affirmation of our Statement of Reconciliation Rev. Ann Akin  
We affirm that through God's redeeming love for all, we are one in Christ.

**We respect the inherent and valuable contributions each member makes to the Body of Christ. We celebrate our diversity and recognize the sacred worth and dignity of all persons regardless of sexual orientation, gender, race, age, ethnicity, gender identity, physical or mental capacity, education, or economic or marital status.**

As we journey toward reconciliation, we proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination within the church.

**We welcome all persons to full participation in the life and ministries of St. John's United Methodist Church.**

At the same time, we recognize that there remain differences of opinion among us. We do not seek to erase our differences. We welcome all in our journey together in faith toward greater understanding and mutual respect.

**"All this is from God, who reconciled us...through Christ, and who gives us the ministry of reconciliation."** (from 2 Corinthians 5:18)

—Statement of Reconciliation (1998), St. John's United Methodist Church

## THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering

Rev. Josh Stueve

\*Hymn No. 121 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

WELLESLEY

Anthem  
*God Be In My Head*

St. John's Chancel Choir  
John Rutter

*God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and in my departing.*

\*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. 408  
*The Gift of Love*

*The United Methodist Hymnal*  
GIFT OF LOVE

Benediction

Rev. Josh Stueve

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

Postlude  
*Prelude in G major*

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



*Flowers in the Garden Room are given by  
Sandy Goodloe in loving memory of Roy Goodloe.*

*Altar flowers this morning are given by Glenda Boverie  
in loving memory of Clem and Estelle Boverie.*

## Birthday Celebration Today

We're throwing a birthday party for everyone in the church after the 10:30 a.m. worship service this morning. See you there!



## 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!

## Ash Wednesday Worship Service

On Wednesday, March 5 we will observe Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent with a service at 6:00 p.m.