

**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

*Prodigal Son*  
JESUS MAFA

Vie de Jesus Mafa (Life of Jesus Mafa) was an initiative undertaken in the 1970s to help teach the gospel in Northern Cameroon. French Catholic missionary François Vidil worked with Mafa Christian communities in Cameroon to create an enormous catalogue of paintings depicting the life of Jesus as an African man. The plan was to build a resource that would help Mafa people to teach from the bible in a way that connects with their community.

Vidil formed a team of local church leaders, theologians and a carefully selected artist. The team would spend time in Mafa communities, reading bible passages and getting people to reenact them. Vidil and his team would photograph their reenactments as the artist sketched sketched them. These sketches and photographs became the basis of the final paintings in this collection.

### Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Homebound  
Jane Haynes  
Dwight Finckbone  
Gary Pate  
Glenn Stueve  
Jowannah Ellis  
Rick Nelson  
Dale B.

## 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

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 30, 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  
*Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Robert Jackson (1840-1914)

\*Call to Worship Sue Cates

God of love, when we wander away  
it is your grace that calls us back to you.

**You receive us with mercy, and we give thanks.**

Loving Christ, when we are lost and lonely in a far land,  
you accompany us in love, and guide us home.

**You receive us with grace, and we give thanks.**

Holy Spirit, your joy in us calls us, blesses us, and revives us.

**We celebrate, for we who were lost are found!**

**We who were dead are alive!**

**By your invitation we come to your table to feast in joy.**

\*Hymn No. 384 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* BEECHER

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A Time for Young Disciples Lindsey Sobrehad  
Hymn No. 707 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Hymn of Promise* PROMISE

### As the children arrive:

*In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.*

### As the children depart:

*There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.*

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 Gabriela Nord  
*Come Unto Him* James Dunn

\*Gospel Lesson - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, p. 78-79, N.T. Emalie Endsley  
The word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Introduction of Guest Speaker Clint Barrick

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

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

Sermon Rev. Karen Lovett

*And He Came to Himself*

Ministry Moment & Recognition VelvetLee Elder

## THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering Rev. Josh Stueve

\*Hymn No. 465 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Holy Spirit, Truth Divine* CANTERBURY

Anthem St. John's Chancel Choir, Sara Yancey, mezzo-soprano  
*Come Home* Craig Courtney

*Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me;  
See, on the portals He's waiting and  
watching,  
watching for you and for me.*

*Refrain*

*Come home, come home, you who  
are weary, come home.*

*Come home, come home, you who  
are weary, come home.*

*Why should we tarry  
when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?*

*Why should we linger and heed not  
His mercies,  
mercies for you and for me.*

*Refrain*

*O for the wonderful love  
He has promised,  
promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, He has  
mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me.*

*Refrain*

\*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts No. 95  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

## 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. 545 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

Benediction Rev. Karen Lovett

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

Postlude Clint Barrick  
*Abide With Me* Dan Miller (b. 1954)



*Altar flowers this morning are given by Joylynn Harris in honor of the  
birthdays of Misty McCoy and Joylynn Harris.*

## United Women in Faith

Today, we celebrate the ministry of the United Women in Faith in the United Methodist Church and at St. John's. The UWF seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

They are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children and youth, they act for justice and transform communities.



## Holy Week

Join St. John's as we observe Holy Week, from the heights of Palm Sunday and the depths of Good Friday to the joy of Easter morning! Join us for:

Palm Sunday, April 13 at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18, at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20 for a Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m. and

Traditional Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

## Easter Activities

You're invited to join St. John's and bring your favorite dish to Easter Brunch on Sunday, April 20 at 9:00 a.m. in the Garden Room!

St. John's will have an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Please consider donating pre-filled eggs for this fun activity! Pre-filled eggs can be dropped off at the booth in the hallway.

## Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies are now available for purchase!

Lilies are \$20 and can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday, April 20. The deadline to place an order is Sunday, April 13.