

**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 *The Father and I Are One* The Book of Hours

The Global Refugee Mural tells the story of three refugees who live in Maryland. In partnership with the International Rescue Committee's (IRC) local Refugee Resettlement Center in Silver Spring, the mural is based on actual interviews with the refugees. The first section of the mural tells the story of Georges, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo who was once the mayor of his city. When a violent rebel group attacked his region, he took his family and escaped to a refugee camp in Kenya, and eventually came to the U.S.

The second section shows the story of Mai, a refugee from Burma. When the repressive government discovered that she had visited a Christian church group in the U.S, she and her family were persecuted and she was unable to return to her country.

The third refugee, a woman from the south of Iraq who wishes to remain anonymous, explained how her brother, a young and educated man with democratic ideals, was murdered by a local fundamentalist militia group. She was targeted by the group as well, and escaped and came to the U.S.

Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Homebound & Those in
Assisted Care

The Family of Julie Shirey

Rev. Janie Noble

WAYS TO GIVE

ONLINE
GIVE YOUR GIFT ONLINE
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STJOHNSLUBBOCK.ORG

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MAIL YOUR GIFT TO
1501 UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TX
79401

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ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 18, 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

Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

The Worship of God - 10:30 A.M. Service		
ENTRANCE		
**Gathering	Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin	
Prelude	Clint Barrick	
<i>Holy God, We Praise Thy Name</i>	Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)	
*Call to Worship	Rev. Ken Peterson	
Gracious God, in love you have created us. In love you have called us your own. In love you have made us your people, and called us to bear your love to the world. In love you have come among us in Christ, healing and forgiving. In love you have raised us out of our old lives into new life. You give us life and fill us with your love. Bless us that we may witness your love, be changed by it, and go into the world bearing love, and love alone, in the name of Christ, to your praise and glory. Amen.		
*Hymn No. 384	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i>	
<i>Love Divine, All Loves Excelling</i>	BEECHER	
A Time for Young Disciples	Wesley Orr	
Hymn No. 393	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i>	
<i>Spirit of the Living God</i>	LIVING GOD	
As the children arrive and depart: <i>1. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.</i>		
A Prayer for Graduates	Rev. Josh Stueve	
	<i>Rachel Barrick Kamryn Chandler Lily Pierce</i>	
Today we honor you who are graduating, for you are on a sacred journey. Your journey is not only the learning of your mind but the growing of your heart. We celebrate the effort you have given to accomplish this. And we ask God's blessing for the journey yet to come. May God always give you gifts of curiosity and discipline. May God give you courage to explore new things. May the Spirit work in you that in all you do you may serve God. May the Spirit give you grace to do justice, to love kindly, and to walk humbly with God. May you know always that Christ goes with you. We who have made many journeys give you our blessing. By the grace of God, we surround you with our prayers. Our spirits will go with you. For we too are pilgrims, always learning, always by the grace of God beginning anew. Go in peace, and serve God with joy. Amen.		
<i>*You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk. **Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.</i>		

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	Jack Hays	
<i>The Call</i>	Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)	
PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE		
Scripture Lesson - Revelation 21: 1-6, p. 259, N.T.	Rev. Ken Peterson	
*Gospel Lesson - John 13: 34-35, p. 108, N.T.	Rev. Ken Peterson	
The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.		
Sermon	Rev. Josh Stueve	
Litany Prayer for the UM Social Creed	Rev. Ann Akin	
God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace to be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world.		
Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness. And so shall we.		
Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends. And so shall we.		
Today is the day God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace. And so shall we.		
Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly. And so shall we.		
Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb. And so shall we.		
Today is the day God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captives, gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free. And so shall we.		
Baptismal Covenant II, p. 39	Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin	
	<i>James Sobrehad</i>	
THANKSGIVING		
Invitation to an Offering	Rev. Josh Stueve	
*Hymn No. 2223	<i>The Faith We Sing</i>	
<i>They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love</i>	ST. BRENDAN'S	

Anthem	St. John's Chancel Choir
<i>I Will Not Leave You Comfortless</i>	Carlton Young
<i>I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you yet again; And your heart shall rejoice. Alleluia! Yet a little while and the world shall see me no more, but you shall see me, Because I live, you also shall live. And your heart shall rejoice, rejoice, rejoice I will not leave you comfortless.</i>	
*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. 2238	<i>The Faith We Sing</i>
<i>In the Midst of New Dimensions</i>	NEW DIMENSIONS
Benediction	Rev. Josh Stueve
<i>Please be seated for the Postlude</i>	
Postlude	Clint Barrick
<i>Earth and All Stars</i>	David Johnson (1922-1987)

Honoring Our High School Graduates This morning we celebrate three high school graduates - Rachel Barrick, Kamryn Chandler, and Lily Pierce. We encourage you to visit with them in the hall outside of service time.
An Invitation to John You're invited to join a short 11-week DISCIPLE Bible study group "Invitation to John". The study will begin on Monday, June 2 at 6:00 p.m. Register at https://bit.ly/Invitation-to-John
Participants for this Invitation to John do not have to have an in-depth knowledge of the Bible to enjoy and benefit from participation. Reading just two chapters of John a week, they will discover the life altering stories that will invite them to follow Christ as true disciples.
Contact Jeff Watson or Lola Smith-Gentry for more information.