

**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.

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

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



From the Lectionary

Story of Ruth

John August Swanson

Ruth's journey is a testimony to moving forward boldly. What prompted Ruth to take this journey with Naomi? She knew that she would be among strangers in the city of Naomi, not welcomed, and likely mistreated. Also there were dangers in this long journey of many miles by two uprooted women. Ruth trusted Naomi and listened to her plans, even though she was unfamiliar with the customs and language of the place they travelled to.

The Book of Ruth is a beautiful and ancient narrative, yet I feel it is contemporary in its content. Through the individuals in the story, we can learn about compassion, tolerance, commitment, bonding, generosity, the feminine, respect, closeness to the earth, and love. This is a story of refugees and very poor people who take part in the plans of God.

The Story of Ruth connects us with our ancestors and our histories. The twelve panels are unified into a single image through a continuity of horizontal lines: in the first four panels the hills, then of barley fields in the second row of panels, and finally the patterns of the arches in the third row.

Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Pastors, Staff, Small Council, and Ministries

St. John's Members who are homebound or in assisted care

St. John's Sojourner's ministry and the Anwari Family

All Educators and Students

Justin Hughes

Kristie Mahan

David Lanehart

Kathy Keesee

WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE

GIVE YOUR GIFT ONLINE AT
STJOHNSLUBBOCK.ORG



MAIL

MAIL YOUR GIFT TO
1501 UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TX
79401



APP

DOWNLOAD THE FREE
"REALM CONNECT" APP
TODAY!



TEXT

TEXT [STJOHNSLUBBOCK](https://www.stjohnslubbock.org)
PLUS THE AMOUNT
TO 73256



ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address: 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401

Phone: 806-762-0123 **Web:** stjohnslubbock.org

Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 31, 2025

10:30 a.m.

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

ENTRANCE

**Gathering
Revs. Josh Stueve and Ann Akin

Prelude
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
Clint Barrick
Charles H. Webb (b. 1933)

*Call to Worship
Emalie Endsley
God, we've been meaning to ask,
"Where do we go from here? How do we speak truth?
How do we listen for you?"
Guide us. Be with us.
Hold us. Unsettle us.
Catch us. Feed us.
Fill us. Meet us here.
God, we are open.
Pour into us.
Gratefully we pray. Amen.

*Hymn No. 660
God Is Here
The United Methodist Hymnal
ABBOT'S LEIGH

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A Time for Young Disciples
Hymn No. 2233
This, This is Where Children Belong
Rev. Josh Stueve
The Faith We Sing
RITCHIE

As the children arrive & depart:
*1.This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
This is where children belong.*

Prayers of the People
God in your graciousness/mercy
Hear our prayers
Rev. Ann Akin

The 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.

Act of Praise
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
Lory and Dan Powers

Old Testament Lesson - Ruth 1:1-22, p. 241
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.
Emalie Endsley

Sermon
Rev. Josh Stueve

Affirmation of Faith
We believe that God draws close to us asking, "What do you need? Where does it hurt? Who do you long to be?" We see God in Jesus Christ, God's own flesh, who walked the earth speaking with the poor, hungry, lonely, and outcast.
Rev. Ann Akin

Therefore, we believe that our call as people of faith is to continue this holy conversation. We believe that through these conversations, we are able to catch a glimpse of the Kingdom of God. So, we continue the conversation in hope. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering
Rev. Josh Stueve

*Hymn, No. 707
Hymn of Promise
The United Methodist Hymnal
PROMISE

Anthem
Entreat Me Not To Leave Thee
St. John's Chancel Choir
arr. Noble Cain

*Entreat me not to leave thee,
Nor to return from following after thee,
Whither thou goest I will go,
Whither thou dwellest I will dwell,
There I will dwell, will dwell with thee.
Thy people shall be, shall be my people,
Thy God shall be my God!
Entreat me not to leave thee.*

*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. 383
This is a Day of New Beginnings
The United Methodist Hymnal
BEGINNINGS

Benediction
Rev. Josh Stueve
Family of faith, as you leave this place, may God grant you the curiosity to counter assumptions, the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak your truth, the wisdom to listen, the strength to ask for help, the resiliency to choose love, even when it's hard, and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you. Let us go in peace. Amen.

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude
Prelude in D minor
Clint Barrick
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)



*Altar flowers this morning are given by Rev. Dave & Dennie Treat
in celebration of 54 years of marriage and
in honor of Tricia Treat Reed's birthday.*



St. John's 101—Your Input Is Needed
We're putting together a new monthly video series that answers common questions about our worship—things like "Why do pastors wear stoles? Why do we stand for the Gospel? What do the banners mean?"

Before we launch, we'd love your input! Vote for your favorite series idea or share your own. Your feedback will help shape how we share these stories and traditions with the whole church.



Take the survey by scanning the QR code or visiting the survey at <https://bit.ly/StJohns101>

Disciple Bible Study
Disciple III Remember Who You Are will start on Monday, September 8 from 6:00— 8:00 p.m. You do not need to have participated in Disciple I or II, all are welcome to join.

If you're interested in learning more or participating in this study, please meet with Jeff Watson or Lola Smith-Gentry in the Conference Room after worship on Sunday morning.

Game Day Parking
Did you know that St. John's sells parking spaces in the parking lot during TTU football games? Spaces are \$10 and can be purchased when the lot opens 4 hours before kick-off.



We need volunteers to help work the lot on game days! Sign up by scanning the QR code or by emailing Jay or Coleen Sedberry at jay.and.coleen@gmail.com

The next home game is Saturday, September 6 at 11:00 a.m. The parking lot will open at 7:00 a.m.

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