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
Don't Stone Others
David, The Naked Pastor
www.nakedpastor.com

I drew this cartoon in 2019 to show that the Jesus of the gospel stories sides with the poor, the marginalized, and with victims. Indeed, to throw stones, real or metaphorical, at the marginalized is throwing stones at truth and justice and love.

I'm a pastor turned artist painting, drawing, and thinking about what it takes to be free to be you. If you're interested in deconstruction, spiritual journeying, freedom of thought, or looking for your authentic self, you're welcome to join me while I search too.

In case you're wondering, I'm not actually naked. The idea behind my name, NakedPastor, is to seek to tell the naked truth - no matter how vulnerable it feels. I used to be a pastor but I've been creating art and working towards freedom with this community for over 10 years now.

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
David Lanehart
Kathy Keesee
Nathan Holland
(brother of Nick & Joey Holland-Garcia)
The Family of Robena Tooke
The Family of Danny Byrd
(Sarah Nuckolls' Brother-In-Law)

WAYS TO GIVE

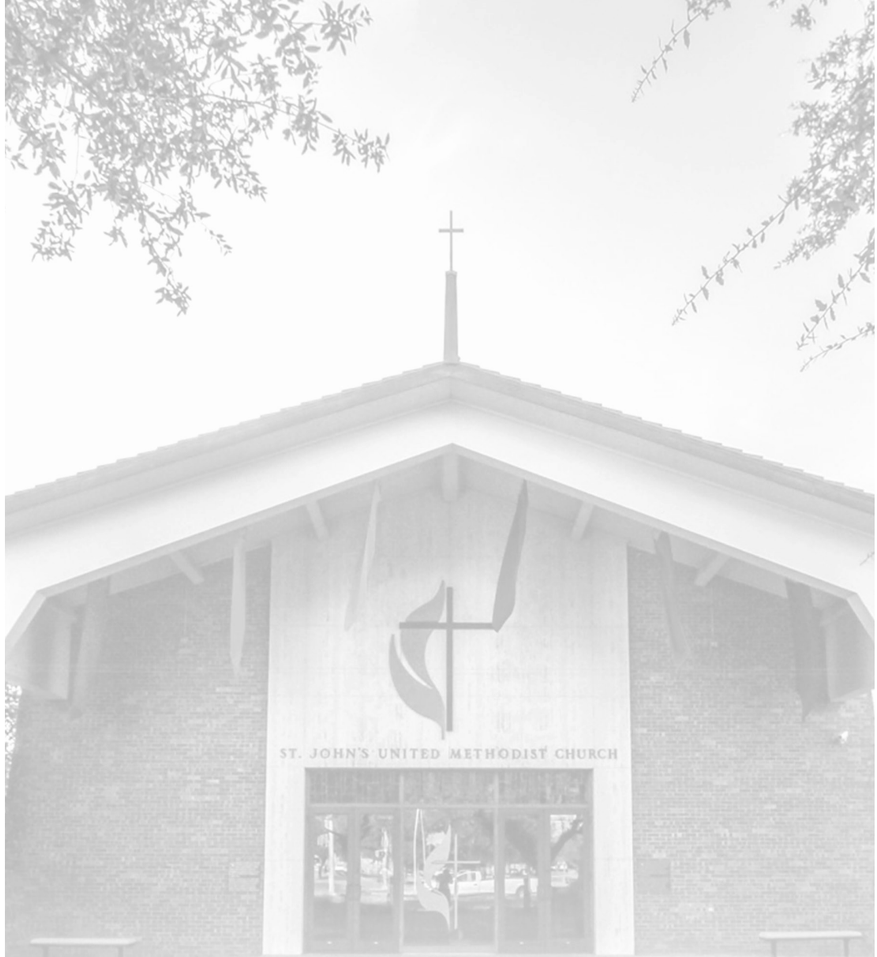
ONLINE
GIVE YOUR GIFT ONLINE AT STJOHNSLUBBOCK.ORG

MAIL
MAIL YOUR GIFT TO 1501 UNIVERSITY LUBBOCK, TX 79401

APP
DOWNLOAD THE FREE "REALM CONNECT" APP TODAY!

TEXT
TEXT STJOHNSLUBBOCK PLUS THE AMOUNT TO 73256

ST. JOHN'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 14, 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 and Ann Akin

Prelude — Clint Barrick
Steal Away to Jesus — arr. William Farley Smith (1941-1997)

*Call to Worship — James Peabody
Loving & Gracious God, you have searched for us in the lost, lonely, and grimy places.
You found us and brought us home, into one another's company.
You set a celebration of joy and invited us all.
We come to join in the celebration!
Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, celebrate with us.
Transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

*Hymn No. 568 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Christ for the World We Sing — ITALIAN HYMN

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

A Time for Young Disciples — Zoe & Craig Bradley
Hymn No. 191 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Jesus Loves Me — JESUS LOVES ME

As the children arrive
Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
they are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
The Bible tells me so.

As the children arrive
Jesus loves me! This I know
as He loved so long ago,
taking children on His knee,
saying "Let them come to Me."

Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
The Bible tells me so.

Prayers of the People | Lord's Prayer — Rev. Ann Akin
God, in your graciousness/mercy
Hear our 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 — Naehyeog Kang
The Journey

My eyes now have wrinkles,
and my tears have grown in number.
It feels like I just closed my eyes and opened them,
and here I am already.
There were many days of heartache,
and days of joy, too.
Looking back on this short journey,
it is all God's grace.

Until now, my journey
has all been God's grace.
Every single one of my journeys until now,
He has guided them all.
My remaining journey
I will entrust it all to God.
Until the day I end my life,
He will hold me close.

**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 15:1-10, p. 78, N.T. — James Peabody
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon — Rev. Josh Stueve

Prayer of Response — Rev. Ann Akin
Sometimes we feel like a lost sheep, not knowing the way. Sometimes we feel like a forgotten coin under the cushion, not knowing our worth. Yet God seeks us, finds us, and brings us home.
Open us to your grace, O God, so that we can join in your celebration of joy. Transform us so that we may live among those who are lost as living signs of your mercy. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation to an Offering — Rev. Josh Stueve

*Hymn, No. 381 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us — BRADBURY

Anthem — St. John's Chancel Choir
The Lord Is My Shepherd — Allen Pote

The Lord is my shepherd,
nothing shall I want.
My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters.
The Lord is my shepherd,
who restores my life.
Leads me in the paths of righteousness
for the sake of the Lord's name.
And even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff will comfort me.
The Lord is my shepherd,
nothing shall I want.
My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters.

The Lord is my shepherd,
who restores my life.
Leads me in the paths of righteousness
for the sake of the Lord's name.
You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy, shall follow me all the days of my life,
And in the house of my God
I will live for ever.
The Lord is my shepherd,
nothing shall I want.

*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. 138 — *The United Methodist Hymnal*
The King of Love My Shepherd Is — ST. COLUMBA

Benediction — Rev. Josh Stueve
My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, gathering us into the people of God. Let us rejoice in God's mercy! Amen.

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude — Clint Barrick
Agincourt Hymn — Early 15th Century

Altar flowers this morning are given by Mary Hamilton
in celebration of Mike Hamilton's 87th birthday
on Monday, September 15.

This Week at St. John's
Common Table—St. John's will be providing today's meal. Common Table provides a free meal for anyone in need each Sunday evening. Thanks to our volunteers.

College Ministry—all students are invited to dinner and bible study today at 6:00 p.m. in the Garden Room at St. John's.

PFLAG—The Lubbock chapter of PFLAG will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Room at St. John's.

Men's Breakfast—all men are invited to breakfast on Saturday, September 20 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room at St. John's.

Visit the Ministry Fair
Over the next several weeks, you're invited to learn more about the various ministries and fellowship groups at St. John's. Come visit with the Chrismon Beaders, Prayer Shawl Ministry, 12 Days of Christmas, United Women in Faith, and Men's Breakfast in the Garden Room.

Choral Scholarship Benefit Concert
Sunday, September 21 at 5:00 p.m.
The concert will feature Clint & Jeannie Barrick with music from the St. John's Chancel Choir and Choral Scholars. All donations will benefit the choral scholarship fund. Childcare will be provided. A reception will follow.