

Poinsettia Honoraria

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Sally Abbe
In honor of the Chrismon Beaders

Travis & Cindy Albright
In honor of Reese
and Briggs Albright
In memory of Dale and Mary
Albright and Valerie Reynolds

Jamie & Sammy Biggers
In honor of our children,
grandchildren, and
great-grandchild

Angella Bjerk
In honor of my grandmother Mary
In memory of my auntie Berna, my
grandma Maria, my father-in-law,
Ken Bjerk, my auntie Agnes,
and my two babies

Glenda Boverie
In honor of Kyle Collins

Craig & Zoe Bradley
In memory of our moms, Zoe Leahy
and Sally Bradley

Dennis & Sue Cates
In memory of Robert N. and Wanda
J. Cates and Randall and
Mary Jo Sadler

Rev. Archie & Donna Echols
In honor of Rev. Daniel & Cecilee
Echols, Isaac, Mara, & Chloe Echols,
Luke Echols, & Michelle, Brad,
Haley, & Madison Ott
In memory of our parents
and siblings

VelvetLee Elder
In honor of Jared Elder, Dwight
Finckbone, Alivia McClom, Ashton
Elder, Michelle Tidwell,
Brendan Finckbone,
and Cayse Gindlesberger
In memory of Charlotte MacIver
and Ronald and Ilene Elder

Emalie Endsley
In memory of Brent Endsley

Mike & Mary Hamilton
In memory of our parents,
Addie and Joe Christian and
Kathrin and Jack Hamilton

Robbie Harbison
In memory of Polly Grice

Brenda Hays & Family
In memory of Julie Shirey

Betsey Heavner
In honor of my children and
grandchildren
In memory of Jim Heavner

Joey Holland-Garcia
In memory of Arturo Garcia,
beloved father

Sally Jo Jackson
In honor of Josie Alice Kennedy
In memory of Alice Jo Jackson

Michael Jordan & Marie Cox
In memory of JoAnn and
Paul Jordan

Renee Lane
In memory of Brett and
Melissa Lane

Kelley LaRue
In memory of Mary Lou Rhodes
and Anita Wallace

Helen Lauderdale
In honor of John Lauderdale

Kat & Jatawn Mahan
In honor of Emily, Owen, and Zach
In memory of Harold Brothers

Becky Maul & Cindy Albright
In memory of B. R. and Barbara
Burleson and Natalie Crawford

Bobby McMillan
In memory of my beloved Marilyn
and Dr. Charles (Chuck) Keller

Sarah Nuckolls
In honor of Dave and Dennie Treat,
the Journey Sunday School Class-
Our Family, The Chrismon Group,
and Jeff Watson

Dan & Lory Powers
In honor of the
Holland-Garcia Family
In memory of our loved ones

Jude Meche & Nick Robinson
In memory of Witness & Julia
Meche and Donald Williams

Kathryn Quilliam
In memory of my birth family -
Reed Jr., Myrna, Corky, & Reed III

Peter & Tricia Reed
In honor of Dave & Dennie Treat,
Grace, Maggie, and Will Reed, and
Kyle Collins

Nick Robinson & Jude Meche
In memory of Jack Damon & Lillian
Robinson and Richard &
Betty Darling

Shannon Russell
In honor of Maggie Faust
and Deborah Barger
In memory of Ruth Russell and
Kim Minor

Lola Smith-Gentry
In honor of the Smith and
Gentry families
In memory of Lowell and
Shirley Smith

Dave & Dennie Treat
In honor of Peter, Tricia, Grace,
Maggie, & Will Reed & Todd,
Renee, Sam, Kate, & Tim Treat
In honor of the
Journey Sunday School class

Robby Vestal
In honor of Rob Scoggins
In memory of Kenneth, Mozelle,
and Steve Vestal, Vera Perkins,
James and Betty Baker, Rollin
& Helenoire Herald, &
Johnny & Alura Spikes.

Brent Wester
In honor of St. John's
In memory of Jo & Ed Wester



*If you purchased a poinsettia, you're invited take it
with you after the service this evening.*

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24, 2025


10:45 p.m.



Address: 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401
Phone: 806-762-0123 **Web:** stjohnslubbock.org
Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

| The Worship of God - 10:45 P.M. Service | |
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| ENTRANCE | |
| **Gathering | Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin |
| Prelude <i>Improvisation on Christmas Themes</i> | Clint Barrick Clint Barrick |
| Lighting the Advent Wreath and the Christ Candle | Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin |
| Tonight we tell the story that we tell every year—the story of Christ’s birth, the story of love made flesh. It’s a story that weaves through every generation. It’s a story that picks up the bits and pieces of our narrative and braids us together. | |
| So tonight we light the Christ candle, because from generation to generation, our story belongs to God. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen. | |
| *Hymn No. 234 v. 1-3 <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> ADESTE FIDELES |
| PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE | |
| *Gospel Lesson - Luke 2: 1-14, p. 58, N.T. The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God. | VelvetLee Elder & Leslie Cranford |
| Act of Praise <i>O Holy Night</i> | Ben Tery, baritone arr. Ashleigh Stone |
| <i>O holy night, the stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Saviour’s birth; Long lay the world in sin and error pining, 'Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;</i> | <i>thus in lowly manger, In all our trials born to be our friend; He knows our need, To our weakness no stranger! Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend! Behold your King! your King! before him bend!</i> |
| <i>Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born. O night, O holy night, O night divine.</i> | <i>Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is Love and His gospel is Peace; Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, Y en Su Nombre ceso la’opresion (and in his name all oppression shall cease.) Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we; Let all within us praise his Holy name!</i> |
| <i>Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming; With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand: So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, Here come the wise men from Orient land, The King of Kings lay</i> | <i>Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we! His pow’r and glory, evermore proclaim! His pow’r and glory, evermore proclaim!</i> |
| *You’re invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk. **Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices. | |

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| Homily | Rev. Josh Stueve |
| Prayer of Response | Rev. Ann Akin |
| Blessed God, we praise you on this holy night for the mystery of your Incarnation. We bless you for the birth of Jesus. We thank you that you dwell with us in love. | |
| In the name of the infant Jesus we pray for all children, and their families. We pray for those for whom Christ came: those who suffer, those who are lost or lonely, the sick, the powerless and the rejected, those who struggle in life; and those who do not know you. Blessed are the poor, and those who mourn. Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are those who are persecuted: for among them is Emmanuel. | |
| Holy Spirit, make of our hearts an open manger, that Christ may be born in us anew and live in us always. By your grace help us to receive the gifts of this holy season, to share them with all the world, and to live always in the light of Jesus’ presence. Amen. | |
| Anthem <i>Christ is Born!</i> | St. John’s Chancel Choir, Mark A. Miller |
| <i>Alleluia, Christ is born. Love came down at Christmas time, love all lovely, love divine, love was born at Christmas time, star and angels gave the sign. Alleluia, Christ is born. Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign. Alleluia, Christ is born.</i> | |
| THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION | |
| <i>Please approach the altar using the center aisle. Please speak your name to the servers so that you may receive the bread and cup by name. We receive by intinction. (As you receive the bread, hold it until the cup is offered. Dip the bread into the cup and then eat.) You are invited to pray at the altars.</i> | |
| <i>When you are ready, you may return to your seat using the side aisles. If you are unable to come to the altar, please tell an usher so that we may serve you in your seat. Our communion bread is vegan, free of dairy, egg, and gluten.</i> | |
| <i>All people gathered to worship God are invited to receive the bread and the cup.</i> | |
| Communion Stewards: Allison Matherly-Pierce and Leslie Cranford | |
| Invitation to the Table The Great Thanksgiving Sharing the Bread and Cup | Revs. Josh Stueve & Rev. Ann Akin |
| Music for Communion Hymn No. 242 <i>Love Came Down at Christmas</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> GARTAN |
| Hymn No. 219 <i>What Child Is This</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> GREENSLEEVES |

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| Hymn No. 229 <i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> W ZLOBIE LEZY |
| SENDING FORTH | |
| Sharing God’s Holy Light | Rev. Ann Akin |
| For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. | |
| *Hymn of Light, No. 239 <i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> STILLE NACHT |
| <i>The pastors will bring light from the Christ candle to those sitting on the center aisle to begin the sharing of light. To minimize dripping, please hold burning candles upright while your neighbor lights their candle from yours.</i> | |
| *A Christmas Blessing | Rev. Josh Stueve |
| The story goes on. When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. | |
| But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. | |
| The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. (Luke 2:15-20) | |
| *Hymn No. 246 <i>Joy to the World</i> | <i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> ANTIOCH |
| (Let us process from the sanctuary singing <i>Joy to the World</i> . May we carry this joy with us throughout the Christmas season.) | |
| <i>Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.</i> | |
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| <i>Altar flowers this evening are given by Shannon Russell in memory of Ruth Russell (mother) and dear friends Helen Griffin and Kim Minor.</i> | |
| <i>May God watch over and take care of them for eternity.</i> | |