

**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

*Shining Hope*

Lauren Wright Pittman

"After a long journey, the star hovers, suspended over the wise men's destination. Shining Hope images the joy of this moment and reminds us to revel in wonder of the journey itself."

Lauren is an artist, graphic designer, and theologian. She studied Media Design at Middle Tennessee State University, worked as a wetlands advocate in Southern Louisiana, and attended Columbia Theological Seminary to piece together her passions for artistic expression, design, and Creation Care. She is Founding Creative Partner & Branding Director for A Sanctified Art LLC, a collaborative arts ministry providing multimedia resources for worshiping communities.

### Please Remember in Prayer:

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

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

## 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

## Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 4, 2026

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 & Ann Akin
Prelude <i>What Star is This, with Beams so Bright</i>	Clint Barrick Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
*Call to Worship People of faith, look! In our darkness a light shines: the star is love. <b>Alleluia! In gratitude we follow the star of love.</b> The star moves ahead of us, and leads us faithfully. <b>Alleluia! In wonder we follow the star of love.</b> The star hides itself in each of us: in everyone we meet, in all God's people. <b>Alleluia! In devotion we follow the star of love. Alleluia!</b>	Jeff Watson
*Hymn No. 254 <i>We Three Kings</i>	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> KINGS OF ORIENT
A Time for Young Disciples Hymn No. 2095 <i>Star-Child</i>	Marcy Stueve <i>The Faith We Sing</i> STAR CHILD
<b>As the children come forward:</b> <i>V. 1 Star Child, earth Child, go between of God, love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod, This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!</i>	<b>As the children depart:</b> <i>V. 5 Hope for peace Child, God's stupendous sign, Down to earth Child, Star of stars that shine, This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!</i>
Lighting a Candle for Peace, Hope, and Justice The light shines in the darkness. <b>We stand in this light, unshaken, knowing that the darkness has never overcome the light.</b> Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice. <b>Empower us, Jesus, to boldly use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.</b>	Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin
Lord's Prayer <b>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.</b>	
Act of Praise <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	Dan and Lori Powers, Alan Winner, Leslie Cranford
*You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk. **Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.	

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE	
*Gospel Lesson - Matthew 2: 1-12, p. 2, N.T. The word of God for the people of God. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	Jeff Watson
Sermon	Rev. Josh Stueve
Prayer of Response <i>The Work of Christmas</i> <b>When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among brothers, To make music from the heart.</b>	Rev. Ann Akin Howard Thurman
Anthem <i>Masters in This Hall</i>  <i>Masters in this hall, hear ye news today Brought from over sea, And ever I you pray"</i>  <i>Then to Bethlem town we went two by two, And in a sorry place heard the oxen low.</i>  <i>There in did we see a sweet and goodly may And a fair old man, upon the straw she lay.</i>  <i>And a little child on her arm had she, "Wot ye who this?" Said the hinds to me:</i>  <i>Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we clear! Holpen are all folk on earth, Born is God's Son so dear. Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised and cast a down the proud.</i>	St. John's Chancel Choir arr. William H. Brown, Jr.
THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION	
Please approach the altar using the center aisle. You may make a financial offering in the basket as you come forward.	
You may kneel or stand at the communion rail. 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.)	
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. All people gathered to worship God are invited to receive the bread and the cup. Communion Stewards: Rev. Dave & Dennie Treat	

Invitation to the Table The Great Thanksgiving, Musical Setting E, p. 24 Sharing the Bread and Cup Invitation to an Offering	Rev. Josh Stueve & Rev. Ann Akin
Music for Communion	
Hymn No. 617 <i>I Come with Joy</i>	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> DOVE OF PEACE
Hymn No. 618 <i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> LET US BREAK BREAD
Hymn No. 620 <i>One Bread, One Body</i>	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
*Doxology No. 94 and Presentation of Gifts <b>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!</b>	
SENDING FORTH	
Reception of New Members	Rev. Josh Stueve
<b>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.</b>	
*Hymn No. 220 <i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	<i>The United Methodist Hymnal</i> REGENT SQUARE
Benediction You have come to this Table in faith; go in peace. Know the God of peace goes with you.	Rev. Josh Stueve
<i>Please be seated for the Postlude.</i>	
Postlude <i>Prelude in A minor</i>	Clint Barrick J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
<b>Contribution Statements for 2025</b> Contribution Statements for 2025 will be mailed later this month. If you would also like a digital version of your statement, please contact the office at 806-762-0123.	
<b>Chili Lunch This Month</b> Join the FUN Committee for a Chili Lunch after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 25. Bring a pot of chili, savory toppings, or your favorite dessert and we'll see you there!	