

**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
Director of Music Ministries
David Cranford
Facilities Manager
John Dotts
Assistant Facilities Manager

Rachel Blackwell
Director of Youth Ministries
Kyle Collins
Director of Communications
Trish Hernandez
Director of Childcare Ministries

From the Lectionary *Born Again* Lauren Wright Pittman

"Jesus lists metaphors that swirl around and fly over Nicodemus' head, such as, "the wind blows where it chooses." Jesus' words create a halo of confusion around Nicodemus' head.



I imagine Nicodemus faced away from Jesus with his eyes closed, grappling for answers by playing the metaphors in his head like little vignettes on repeat.

While Nicodemus spins in his searching, Jesus says simply, 'We speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony.'

In Jesus' perspective, his explanations to Nicodemus are as real and tangible as earthly things, but for Nicodemus Jesus' words seem so distant, so celestial. Nicodemus is a leader of the Jews; he has all of the knowledge of the law and of doctrine, but he doesn't know Jesus. He's not even really listening to Jesus. Jesus is right in front of his face. He can reach out and touch him. But they are light years away from one another."

I wonder how things would shift for Nicodemus if he would just look at Jesus. . ."

Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Pastors, Staff, Small Council, and Ministries
St. John's Members who are homebound or in assisted care
Julia Christensen
Rev. Janie Noble
Glenn Stueve
Jan Davis
Brandi Spence
Marilyn Reid
The Family of Dorothy Ford
The Family of Domingo Cervantez
The Family of Bunny Kennedy

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 **ST. JOHN'S**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 1

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
Out of the Depths, I Call to Thee Herman Schein (1586-1630)

*Call to Worship Matthew DiLeo

God, you give birth to all Creation.

We your people praise you.

Christ, you give us new birth, death and resurrection in your Spirit.

We your people thank you.

Spirit, you give us new birth through water and through love.

Spirit, we serve you with joy.

Have mercy on us, that we may be your faithful people.

Amen.

*Hymn No. 327 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Crown Him with Many Crowns DIADEMATA

Prayers of the People | The Lord's Prayer Rev. Ann Akin
God in your graciousness/mercy
Hear our prayers.

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 Emma Davis

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*Gospel Lesson - John 3: 1-17, p. 93, N.T. Matthew DiLeo
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Josh Stueve

Prayer of Response Rev. Ann Akin

Nicodemus came to Jesus at night.

We, too, are in the dark, and so we come to you, God, to teach us.

Jesus told him that God so loved the world that God gave the only Son to save us.

We, too, come to you, Love, to save us.

Jesus said we must be born again, from above, to see the Realm of God.

Speak your Word to us, Holy One, that we may see the Realm of God, and be born again, and enter into the eternal life you give us.

Speak to us, God, for we are open to your grace. Amen.

Anthem St. John's Chancel Choir
To Be Born Again Postgate

*To be born again is to start all over with new life from God above,
to have a soul-stirring glimpse of God's love;
to leave behind all the sins and the guilt and the loss,*

*You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.

**Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

*all the wasted years and the futile tears
at the foot of the Savior's cross.*

*To be born again is to start a life that will last
when this world is gone,
to find a goal for your life from now on,
to know life's greatest joy deep within;
Jesus said: "Ye must be born again."*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Please approach the altar using the center aisle.

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: Greg and Stacey Carley

Invitation to the Table Rev. Josh Stueve & Rev. Ann Akin
The Great Thanksgiving, Musical Setting A, p. 17
Sharing the Bread and Cup
Invitation to an Offering

Music for Communion St. John's Choral Scholars
Healing Light Karl Jenkins

Deep peace of the running wave to you
deep peace of the flowing air to you
deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Amen.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you
deep peace of the gentle night to you
moon and stars pour their healing light on you
Amen.

*Hymn, No. 617 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
I Come with Joy DOVE OF PEACE

*Hymn, No. 623 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Here, O My Lord, I See Thee PENITENTIA

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts No. 95
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

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. 545 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
The Church's One Foundation AURELIA

Benediction Rev. Josh Stueve

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude Clint Barrick
Psalms 18 Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

Daylight Saving Time Starts

Daylight Saving Time starts next week on Sunday, March 8. Be sure to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

Clothing Drive for Family Promise

Family Promise is in need of socks and underwear for boys and girls (ages 2-14). Next week is the last week to bring items.

Holy Week Devotional

St. John's plans to publish a daily devotion for Holy Week written by members of our church community. If you are interested in writing, please contact Pastor Josh at clergy@stjohnslubbock.org

Mental Health First Aid Training

In partnership with StarCare, St. John's will be hosting Mental Health First Aid Training on Saturday, May 2. Registrants will receive a link for a 2-hour virtual pre-coursework in early April to prepare for the training in May.

The course is designed to give members of the public key skills to respond in a mental health emergency and offer support to someone who appears to be in emotional distress.

Sign up by scanning the QR code with the camera app on your phone or visiting the table in the hallway.

