

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



From the Lectionary
Don't Stone Others
NakedPastor

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. Here we see Jesus defending and protecting a member of the LGBTQ community as they are pelted with stones from a small flock of bigoted sheep. It echoes the sentiment of a popular idiom – people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. Let's throw love around, not stones made of ignorance and hate.

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.

Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Pastors, Staff, Small Council, and Ministries
 St. John's Members who are homebound or in assisted care
 Glenn Stueve
 Selah Wright
 Don Foreman
 Glenna Keesee
 Jonathan Krebbs
 The Family of Bob Haynes

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.

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 26, 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

Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

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

ENTRANCE

**Gathering Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin

Prelude Clint Barrick
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us William Bradbury (1816-1868)

*Call to Worship Rachel Blackwell

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd."

Good shepherd, you call us by name.

Shepherd of love, lead us in your way.

Shepherd of mercy, you provide for us and protect us.

Shepherd of love, lead us in your way.

Shepherd of justice, you gather your flock, and care for the hurting.

Shepherd of love, lead us in your way.

Good Shepherd, you guide us toward your own heart, and we follow.

Shepherd of love, lead us in your way.

In gratitude and trust, we worship you. Alleluia!

*Hymn No. 428 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
For the Healing of the Nations CWM RHONDDA

A Time for Young Disciples Zoe Bradley
Hymn No. 304 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Easter People, Raise Your Voices REGENT SQUARE

As the children arrive and depart:

*1. Easter people raise your voices,
Sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us Heaven's choices;
Heavenly music, let it ring,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people let us sing.*

Following the message, children Pre-K through 2nd grade are invited to
Sunday School for storytelling, arts & crafts & a snack.
We will meet at the church nursery.

Prayers of the People | The 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, baritone
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands arr. Moses Hogan

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Listening Prayer Rachel Blackwell

So many things vie for our attention.

In the quiet, we listen. For your love, O God, we listen.

For your grace, we listen. For your voice, we listen.

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

**Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

A reading of Psalm 23 written by Robert Alter Rachel Blackwell
The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
In grass meadows He makes me lie down, by quiet waters guides me.
My life He brings back.
He leads me on pathways of justice
For His name's sake.
Though I walk in the vale of death's shadow,
I fear no harm, For You are with me.
Your rod and Your staff - It is they that console me.
You set out a table before me in the face of my foes.
Let goodness and kindness pursue me all the days of my life.
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for many long days.

*Gospel Reading - John 10: 1-11, p. 103, N.T. Rachel Blackwell
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Josh Stueve

Prayer of Response Rev. Ann Akin
The Peace of Wild Things Wendell Berry

THANKSGIVING

*Invitation to the Offering Rev. Josh Stueve

*Hymn No. 138 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
The King of Love My Shepherd Is ST. COLUMBA

Anthem St. John's Chancel Choir
The Lord Is My Shepherd Thomas Matthews
Words from Psalm 23

*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, who 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. 584 *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Lord, You Give the Great Commission ABBOT'S LEIGH

Benediction Rev. Josh Stueve

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude Clint Barrick
Grand Chorus in Dialogue Eugene Gigout (1844-1925)



Altar flowers this morning have been given by Renee Lane in memory
of her brother and his wife, Brett and Melissa Lane,
who passed away on April 25, 2025.



United Women in Faith Spring Tea

The women of St. John's are invited to join United Women in Faith
for a lovely morning of fellowship and refreshment at their Spring
Tea event on Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 a.m. at the home of Donna
Chandler (5001 95th St.).

Graduation Sunday Next Week

Next Sunday we will honor our high school and college graduates
during the coffee and fellowship time and the 10:30 a.m. service.

Now Hiring Nursery Workers

St. John's is looking to hire several nursery workers to work on
Sunday mornings or as part of a rotation/backup. This position is
part-time with a compensation of \$15/hour. Candidates must be
comfortable working with infants though early elementary aged
children. For more information please contact Marie Cox at
mariemcox22@gmail.com