

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



### From the Lectionary Jubilee Monument

In the year 2000 the Catholic church commissioned the construction of a memorial for their Jubilee Year to commemorate the arrival of the first Catholic missionaries in Dahomey, an old kingdom covering the present-day Benin which lasted from about 1600 until 1894.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, this historic town was the center of the Kingdom of Dahomey and hub of the slave trail.

### Please Remember in Prayer:

St. John's Pastors, Staff, Small Council, and Ministries  
 St. John's Members who are homebound or in assisted care  
 Richard Miller  
 Madoc Thomas  
 Glenn Stueve  
 Jonathan Krebs  
 Helen Lauderdale  
 Madison Page  
 The Family of Bob Haynes

## 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 PLUS THE AMOUNT TO 73256



# Ascension Sunday

Sunday, May 17, 2026

10:30 a.m.



**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 Clint Barrick  
*Canon* Francois Couperin (1626-1660)

\*Call to Worship Alan Hendrix

Despite the world's chaos,  
**love is the root of all.**  
Over and beneath men who fight for power and influence,  
**love is the greatest power.**  
Though death looms and evil prowls,  
**Christ, risen from the dead, is in every time and place.**  
**God, the God of love, is with us.**  
**We worship in gratitude and joy.**

\*Hymn No. 715 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Rejoice, the Lord Is King* DARWALL'S 148th

A Time for Young Disciples Rev. Ann Akin  
Hymn No. 611 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* STUTTGART

### As the children arrive

Verse 2

*Child of love, our love's expression,  
love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,  
into joy and laughter lead.*

### As the children depart

Verse 4

*Child of God, your loving Parent,  
learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,  
trust and love God more than all.*

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. Josh Stueve  
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 Alan Winner, baritone  
*Alleluia, Sing To Jesus* arr. Mark Hayes

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture Reading - Acts 1: 1-11, p. 118, N.T. Alan Hendrix  
The word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Josh Stueve

\*You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.  
\*\*Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

Prayer of Response Rev. Ann Akin  
*Ascension* Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes  
*He was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.*  
—Acts 1:9

Heaven is not *up, but in.*  
It's the heart of things.  
That's where God is.

Jesus was pure love,  
the love of God made flesh.  
He was resurrected  
not as an individual,  
but as a community.  
We're his risen body.

The angels at his tomb said “He is not here.”  
He is not in any “here;”  
he is in us, each of us,  
and all of us together.  
When Jesus was raised  
and came to the disciples  
it was not to prove a point,  
but to give them his spirit,  
so we could be the living body  
of the risen Christ.

When he “ascended”  
it doesn't mean he literally  
floated up into the sky.  
It means he dissolved into us,  
like salt dissolving into the soup.  
Christ, the love of God made flesh,  
is now in us.  
We are witnesses—we are the evidence—  
of resurrection.  
Go.

## THANKSGIVING

\*Invitation to the Offering Rev. Josh Stueve

\*Hymn No. 168 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*At the Name of Jesus* KING'S WESTON

Anthem St. John's Chancel Choir  
*Behold now, praise the Lord* Everett Titcomb

*Behold now, praise the Lord,  
all ye servants of the Lord.  
Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord,  
even in the courts of the house of our God.  
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary,  
and praise the Lord.*

\*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. 163 *The United Methodist Hymnal*  
*Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know* HENDON

Benediction Rev. Josh Stueve

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

Postlude Clint Barrick  
*Festival Postlude* Domenico Zipoli (1688-1726)

## Summer Essentials for Open Door

We're supporting Open Door in their mission to support people  
experiencing poverty, homelessness, and sex trafficking.  
With summer weather on the way they're in need of the following  
items:

Bugspray, Sunscreen, Lotion, Chapstick, Deodorant, Soap

Items can be dropped off at the bin in the hallway through Sunday,  
May 31.

## PFLAG Monthly Meeting

The Lubbock chapter of PFLAG will hold their monthly meeting at  
St. John's in the Garden Room on Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.

## Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, May 30 at 9:00 a.m. in the  
Garden Room at St. John's. All men are invited to join.

## Mini Junk & Jewels Sale

Shop a mini Junk & Jewels sale upstairs in room 223 through May 31.  
It's by donation only, so pay whatever you think is fair.

The lift is working again, so head on upstairs and grab some great  
bargains!