



ST. JOHN'S

A United Methodist Congregation

The Week Ahead

Sun., Dec 11	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Treehouse Kids Sunday School
	10:30 am - 11:00 am	Fellowship Time
	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
Tues., Dec 13	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Mother's Day Out
Wed., Dec 14	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs., Dec 15	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Mother's Day Out
	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Advent Study -- in person
	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Brown Bag Lunch Bunch - Bring lunch and eat in cafe
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Advent Study -- in person
Fri., Dec 16	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Community Garden work

Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2022



On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy.

Sermon Notes

1. John the Baptist baptized people for the forgiveness of sins. How would you define forgiveness?

2. How does knowing that God has forgiven your sins affect your life and your faith?

3. Read Galatians 5:22-23. How have you seen people produce "fruits" such as love, joy, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control?

Lord hear our prayers...

Christian sympathy to Lucinda & Richard Webb. Lucinda's dad, Allan Middleton, passed away on Dec. 5.

- 11-13 Lupe Aguilar, Ingrid and Ty Clark, June Simpson
- 11-20 Carol Pounds, Clint Knudson, Joyce Vyvial, Desmond & Joan Hutchinson, Esta & Cary Geron
- 11-27 Dan Koster, Gary Scoggin, David Welch, Josh Post, Barbara Guthrie
- 12-4 Linda Johnson Adams, Debbie Collins, Rusty McClellan, Debbie Forbush, Ron Collins, Suanne Alsip, Frank Ball, Holly Ball, Lynnette Martin, Beverly Vanderpool, Bob Viglini, Tom Smith, family and friends of Allan Middleton, Coach Clayton, The Johnson Family

Those in Care Facilities: Richard Alvarado (Bayou Pines), Dolores Boatman (Brookdale Senior Living), Grace Boyd (Heartis Clearlake Senior Living), Mary Jenkins (Sodalis), Carol Spealman (Magnolia Crossing), Pam Syers (Sodalis), Barbara Williams (Regal Estates)

Those Who are Homebound: J.T. Agregard, Joy Holder, Mozelle Lubojasky, Mildred McLemore, Louise Ovesny, Tommye Pitman

For the people who are recovering from Hurricane Ian, for the people of Uvalde, the people of Ukraine, for Afghanistan, for students, teachers and staff, for caregivers, for those who are recovering from the aftermath of natural disasters, marriages that are struggling, our nation, for those affected by the pandemic, our church, those in the military.

Welcome to worship at St. John's! May your worship experience be one of blessing and encouragement! While you are here, CDC guidelines are encouraged. And please silence your phone, so that you won't be distracted to hear God's call! Now, take a few slow breaths and relax. You've made it through the hardest part – you walked through the door and found your seat. Make yourself at home. Worship will start in a few minutes.

Got kids? There will be a children's moment early on in the service and then they will go to the Treehouse for their own worship time. There are activity bags for your children at the Welcome Center to help you keep them engaged while in worship. Simply return the bag and supplies after worship. Nursery is also provided for children 5 and under. The ushers & greeters are friendly and will be happy to show you around or answer your questions.

Guest Wi-Fi password is: walnut89



Address: 8200 25th Ave N, Texas City 77591

(409) 655-5348 · Fax (409) 655-5810

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsUmcTexasCity>

Website: <https://stjohnsumctc.org/>

Church office hours: Monday 9 AM - 4 PM / Tuesdays-Thursdays 9 AM - 4 PM

Pastor - Rev. Stephanie Hughes

Minister of Discipleship & Connections - Rev. Cindy Riddick

Director of Missions and Administration - Ingrid Clark

Children's Director & Bookkeeper - Leanne Post

Director of Traditional Worship - Dr. James Heffel

Praise Band Leader - Aassi Windom

Accompanist - Sophie Chapman

MDO Director - Melissa Patrick

9:30 AM Worship

Welcome		Praise Band
Welcome and Announcements		
Lighting of the Third Advent Candle	Susan Carpenter, Carissa Carpenter and Kaclynn Hawkins	
A voice is crying out in the wilderness: prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight path through the desert, a highway for our God. Lift up every valley, bring down every mountain and hill. Make the uneven ground level, and the rough terrain a smooth valley plain. When we pass through the water, God will be with us. When we go through rivers, they won't wash us away. Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed. All people together will see it. We rejoice because the Lord's messenger is coming. He calls us into the water as a sign that we are changing our hearts and lives. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of joy. We hear the words of John the Baptist, whom God sent to prepare the way, and we know that our Savior is near. The sun of righteousness is rising. We enter the baptismal waters with gladness, knowing that our sins are washed away. We turn to Christ with anticipation and delight. We seek to be a people prepared for the Lord.		
*Worship Songs:	<i>How Great Is Our God Doing It Again</i>	Praise Band
Children's Moment		Leanne Post
Generosity Moment		
Prayer		Rev. Cindy Riddick
Tithes and Offerings		Praise Band
*Scripture		Luke 3:1-8
Sermon	"John's Ministry & Preaching"	Rev. Heather Gates
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		
*Reflection Song:	<i>O Praise The Name (Anástasis)</i>	Praise Band
*Benediction		<i>*please stand as you are able</i>

11:00 AM Traditional Worship

Prelude	<i>Creator of the Stars of Night</i>	arr. Jones	Sophie Chapman, piano
Welcome & Greeting			
Choral Introit	<i>Rejoice!</i>	arr. Smith	Chancel Choir
Lighting of the Third Advent Candle	Allana McClellan, Kimber Schwamb, Kaylie and Kellen		
A voice is crying out in the wilderness: prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight path through the desert, a highway for our God. Lift up every valley, bring down every mountain and hill. Make the uneven ground level, and the rough terrain a smooth valley plain. When we pass through the water, God will be with us. When we go through rivers, they won't wash us away. Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed. All people together will see it. We rejoice because the Lord's messenger is coming. He calls us into the water as a sign that we are			

changing our hearts and lives. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of joy. We hear the words of John the Baptist, whom God sent to prepare the way, and we know that our Savior is near. The sun of righteousness is rising. We enter the baptismal waters with gladness, knowing that our sins are washed away. We turn to Christ with anticipation and delight. We seek to be a people prepared for the Lord.

*Hymn of Praise	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	UMH #240
Generosity Moment		
Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer		Rev. Cindy Riddick
Choral Amen		Chancel Choir
Offertory/Special Music	<i>Still, Still, Still</i>	arr. Raney Chancel Choir
*Doxology Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.		
*Hymn of Preparation	<i>What Child Is This</i>	UMH #219
Scripture		Luke 3:1-8
Sermon	"John's Ministry & Preaching"	Rev. Heather Gates
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		
*Closing Hymn	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	UMH #238
*Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>Let Us Now Depart In Thy Peace</i>	UMH #668
Let us now depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus. Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts. Let not the busy world claim all our loyalties. Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord, of thee. Amen		
Postlude	<i>Rejoice</i>	arr. Austin Sophie Chapman, piano <i>*please stand as you are able</i>



The altar flowers are placed to the glory of God. In loving memory and celebration of Ida Elgin's 88th birthday. The flowers are placed by her family Don & Terry Gray.



Convenient ways to give are:
Give online on our website at <https://stjohnsumtc.org/giving/>
OR **NEW Text Giving...**Text "GIVE" to (409) 226-0450 and then follow prompts
Thank you for your generosity and blessing!

Christmas Cantata

THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE WORSHIP SERVICE THIS DAY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th CHRISTMAS POTLUCK AFTER THE CANTATA



Stay after the Cantata on December 18 for a Christmas Potluck Lunch. Bring the following dishes to share, according to your last name:
A-H Main Dish
I-Q Salad & Dessert
R-Z Vegetable & Dessert



Thank you so much for showing your love and appreciation to your St. John's clergy! As we come to the end of the year, let's show the rest of the staff the same love and appreciation. You can drop off cards and gifts for Ingrid, Leanne, James, Aassi, Sophie and Melissa at the church office. Thank You all in advance for your generosity!!!