



ST. JOHN'S

A United Methodist Congregation

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2022

The Week Ahead

Sun., Dec 18	10:30 am	Christmas Cantata
	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Fellowship Meal
Wed., Dec 21	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs., Dec 22	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Advent Study -- in person
	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Brown Bag Lunch Bunch - Potluck Lunch eat in cafe
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Advent Study -- in person
Fri., Dec 23	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Community Garden work
Sat., Dec 24	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Sun., Dec 25	10:30 am - 11:00 am	ONE SERVICE ONLY - Christmas Day Service

Sermon Notes

1. Read Mark 6:16-29. Why is Herodias, Herod's wife, upset with John?
2. John felt that it was wrong for Herod to divorce his previous wife and marry his half-brother's wife, Herodias. Speaking out against Herod's behavior got him in trouble. Who are some other people who have put themselves at risk by taking a stand?
3. When have you spoken out against something you felt was wrong? When have you not taken a stand because you were worried about what might happen?

Lord hear our prayers...

Christian sympathy to Gregory Boone who had a death in his family.
Christian sympathy to Tiffany Schmidt and family. Tiffany's dad passed away on December 8.
Christian sympathy to Dianne Ho-Gland. Her niece, Debbie Forbush, passed away on November 23.

- 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, Ron Collins, Suanne Alsip, Frank Ball, Holly Ball, Lynnette Martin, Beverly Vanderpool, Bob Vignini, Tom Smith, family and friends of Allan Middleton, Coach Clayton, The Johnson Family
- 12-11 Lupe Aguilar, Yolanda Jones, Cheryl Hadley, Melanie (co-worker of Sheri Reznicek), Nelson (Betty Magee's neighbor), Nezzie Marsden

Those in Care Facilities: Richard Alvarado (Bayou Pines), Dolores Boatman (Brookdale Senior Living), Grace Boyd (Heartis Clearlake Senior Living), Mary Jinkins (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

Christmas Cantata 10:30 AM

Prelude *Creator of the Stars of Night* arr. Smith Sophie Chapman, piano

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle Chris & Leanne Post
A righteous branch will grow up from the stump of Jesse.
He will carry the Spirit of the Lord, a spirit of wisdom and understanding.
He will bring righteousness and the fear of the Lord.
He will bring peace and justice.
The wolf and the lamb will live together,
The lion and the calf will live together, and a little child will lead them.
They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on God's holy mountain.
The Son of God comes to us as the Prince of Peace. He sends his messenger to prepare the way. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of peace.
We eagerly await the day when violence and greed come to an end, when God's spirit brings down the powerful and lifts up the lowly. We pursue compassion and kindness, turning to God. We seek to be a people prepared for the Lord.

Children's Moment Leanne Post

*Opening Hymn *Angels From the Realm of Glory* UMH #220

Generosity Moment

Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer Rev. Cindy Riddick

Tithes and Offerings

Scripture Reading Luke 3:7-14

**please stand as you are able*



The altar flowers are placed to the glory of God, and in joyous celebration of Richard & Lucinda Webb's 47th Wedding Anniversary which will be 12/19/22. We wish them many happy years together.

Chancel Choir Cantata

Peace

A Christmas Celebration
by Joel Raney

A Prayer for Peace
Let Us Adore Him
Bring Us Heavenly Peace
Once in Royal David's City
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella
Carry Me to Bethlehem
Still, Still, Still
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)

Dr. James Heffel
Director

Kathy Dyson
Narrator

Instrumentalists

Sophie Chapman, Piano

Suzi Mitchell, Percussion

Barbara Wallace, Keyboard

Soloists

Beth Slaughter

Chancel Choir

Susie Newman
Susan Just
Doris Glanz
Kathy Wurzlow
Beth Slaughter

April Drewry
Joyce Shanks
Relana Germi-Luss
Benjamin Luss

Hershel Glanz
John Mitchell
Bill Wurzlow
Robert Doss
Tom Mills

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Closing Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
(changed order: verses 3 and then 2. Not verse 1)

UMH #237

Benediction

Special Thanks To:
The St. John's Media & Audiovisual Team

CHRISTMAS EVE
EVENING SERVICES

5:00 pm – Family Friendly Service
With Communion & Candlelight

7:00 pm Late service
With Communion & Candlelight

Nursery available for both services

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:30 AM
A FAMILY WORSHIP WITH
SINGING OF CAROLS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD
Come in your pajamas!!!
Kiddos bring your favorite
present to be blessed!

Convenient ways to give are:
Give online on our website at
<https://stjohnsumctc.org/giving/>

OR **NEW Text Giving...** Text "GIVE" to
(409) 226-0450 and then follow prompts
Thank you for your generosity and blessing!

Year End
Tax Deductible Contributions

Thank you all for your generosity through out this year. To help make sure you get credit for your gifting this year all donations must be in by December 31 to receive tax credit for 2022. **If you wish you can mail your donation to the Church Office. Please note that the office will be closed December 26th-31st. However, as long as your contribution is mailed and post-marked by the 31st, you will receive credit for 2022.**



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!!!