

The Week Ahead

Sun., Dec 4	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
	4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Youth Group
Tues., Dec 6	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Mother's Day Out
Wed., Dec 7	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs., Dec 8	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 9	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Community Garden work
	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner With Friends Christmas Party - Cafe

Sermon Notes

1. Read Luke 39-46. After reflecting on the scripture, think about your own big moments in life. Who was there to support you?

2. John the Baptist prepared people for Jesus Christ. One way we prepare people for Christ is by showing them God's grace. How do you show God's grace to the people you interact with? How do you show them God's love and compassion?

3. Read aloud Luke 1:67-79. These verses are a song, or prophecy, from Zechariah. What does Zechariah say about in this song?

Lord hear our prayers...

Christian sympathy to David Welch. His uncle, Andrew Welch, passed away on November 26.

Christian sympathy to Allana McClellen. Her brother passed away on November 25.

11-6 Linda Johnson Adams, Debbie Collins, Rusty McClellen, Debbie Forbush, Ron Collins, the Epperson & Lozano families, Curtis Collins, Suanne Alsip, Doug Fraley, Rebecca Wright, Amy Allgood, John Broadly, Deb Jandes, Carisa Venegas

11-13 Lupe Aguilar, Ingrid and Ty Clark, June Simpson

11-20 Carol Pounds, Clint Knudson, Joyce Vyvial, Desmond & Joan Hutchinson, Esta & Cary Geron

10-31 Dan Koster, Gary Scoggin, David Welch, Josh Post, Alan Middleton, Barbara Guthrie

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 (Lillian's Love), 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.



ST. JOHN'S

A United Methodist Congregation

Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 2022



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 10 AM - 2 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 Second Advent Candle Melissa Patrick and Family
 God shows mercy and love to all people, from one generation to the next.
We come to the Lord for comfort and healing. We rest in God when we are troubled.
 God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of trouble.
We stand in the presence of the Lord, full of awe and wonder.
 God has come to the aid of his servants, remembering his mercy, just as he promised to our ancestors.
We glorify the Lord with all our hearts. In our very depths we rejoice in God our Savior.
 Be still and know that I am God.
 God shows us mercy and deep compassion. The dawn of heaven breaks upon us, giving light to those sitting in darkness. On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of love. Because of God's great love, he sends a messenger to teach us salvation and forgiveness. God rescues us, that we might serve God in love and without fear. We seek to be a people prepared for the Lord.

*Worship Songs: *O Come All Ye Faithful* Praise Band
In the Hands of Christ My King

Children's Moment Leanne Post

Generosity Moment

Prayer Rev. Cindy Riddick

Tithes and Offerings Praise Band

*Scripture Luke 1:57-79

Sermon "Pregnancy, Birth, Circumcision, and Zechariah's Prophecy" Rev. Stephanie Hughes

Holy Communion

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Reflection Song: *Do You Hear What I Hear?* Praise Band

*Benediction

**please stand as you are able*

11:00 AM Traditional Worship

Prelude *The Holly and the Ivy* arr. Smith Sophie Chapman, piano

Welcome & Greeting

Choral Introit *Rejoice!* arr. Smith Chancel Choir

Lighting of the First Advent Candle Jerry and Susie Newman
 God shows mercy and love to all people, from one generation to the next.
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 God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of trouble.
We stand in the presence of the Lord, full of awe and wonder.
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*Hymn of Praise *People Look East* UMH #202

Invitation UMH # 12
 Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

UMH #12

Prayer of Confession and Pardon
Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Generosity Moment

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Cindy Riddick

Offertory/Anthem

Once in Royal David's City 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.

Scripture

Luke 1:57-79

Sermon

"Pregnancy, Birth, Circumcision, and Zechariah's Prophecy"

Rev. Stephanie Hughes

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH # 13

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Closing Hymn

The Maid Engaged to Joseph

UMH #215

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Let Us Now Depart In Thy Peace

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

Emmanuel

arr. Austin

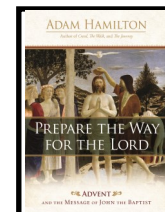
Sophie Chapman, piano

**please stand as you are able*



ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are placed to the glory of God. In honor and celebration of Dorothy and Jim Blankenship's 76th wedding anniversary.



ADVENT #1

Advent Bible Study began Thursday, December 1 11 AM & 7PM

Prepare to receive Christ this Advent as we study the message of John the Baptist in the four weeks leading up to Christmas. You can still join a group. Study books are \$13 and available in the church foyer.



Dinner with Friends Christmas Party / Dec. 9 / 5-7 PM

For all of the Dinner with Friends folks, we are having a Christmas Party on Friday, Dec. 9. Bring a finger food to share and a white elephant gift (\$10 limit). We'll eat together and then have some fun with the gift exchange.



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!



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!!!