



ST. JOHN'S

A United Methodist Congregation

”Almost Hope”

December 8, 2024

The Week Ahead

Sun., Dec 8	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Treehouse Kids Sunday School
	9:30 am - 10:30 am	5th - 9th Graders Sunday School
	10:30 am - 11:00 am	Fellowship Time
	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
	4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	1st - 5th grades, Ornament Painting
	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Y'All
Mon., Dec 9	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Almost Christmas Bible Study - Zoom (Mtg ID: 948-0693-8718 Passcode: 689828)
Tues., Dec 10	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO
Wed. Dec 11	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO
	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	8th - 12th Grade Bible Study
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Chancel Bells - Sanctuary
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
Thur. Dec 12	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO
	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Brown Bag Bunch - bring your lunch and drink, cards to shut-ins.
Fri., Dec 13	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Community Garden Work
	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner With Friends Christmas Party
Sat., Dec 14	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast - The Rigos Café, 902 6th St. N., TC



Daily Prayer and Scripture Reading

1. Think about a situation in your life that has seemed hopeless. In what ways did you make your way through? Watch *Altogether Christmas – Session 2: Almost Hope on Amplify*. _____
2. Read Ezekiel 37:1-14. What does this story tell us about what God is capable of? _____
3. In what ways can you embody hope for those who have been marginalized within your friends and family? Within your family? Within your church or social groups? Within the world? _____

Lord hear our prayers...

- 11-03 Suzanne Bowron, Tammy Dawson, Terry & Joquetta Eierdam, Brittany Guidry, Mercedes Harris, Roger Hawkins, Breeze Hunter, Heather Lopez, Linda Masters, Danny Morgan, Tammy Wilson, Sid & Marlene Young
- 11-10 Tony Aguilar, Debbie Collins, Gary and Liz, Teresa Haak-Benigar, Barb & Denny Holt, Dan Koster, Philip Shama, Marika Simpson
- 11-17 Lupe Aguilar, Yvette Arrendo, Nezzie Blair, Linda Cooper, Jerry Cooper, Jay Johnson, Dean Jones, Martha Loisey, Billy Jack Rife, Pam Scoggin
- 11-24 Bruce Austin, Bobby Edrozo, Joan Hutchinson, Shawna Novak, Sheri Reznicek, Gary Scoggin, Debbie Vyvial, Elgin & Joyce Vyvial, Janis Wright

Those in Care Facilities: Richard Alvarado (Bayou Pines), Dorothy Blankenship (Regal Estates), Grace Boyd (The Forum at The Woodlands), Mary Jenkins (Sodalis), Carol Spealman (Magnolia Crossing), Pam Syers (La Vita Bella), Barbara Williams (Regal Estates)

Those Who are Homebound: Alice Blanton, Dannie & Edna Day, Mozelle Lubojasky, Mildred McLemore, Marvin Roehl

Our church, nation & those serving in our military. Those recovering from natural disasters. Our schools.

Welcome to worship at St. John's! May your worship experience be one of blessing and encouragement! 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 -Thursdays 9 AM - 4 PM

- Pastor - Rev. Stephanie Hughes
- Minister of Discipleship & Connections - Rev. Cindy Riddick
- Director of Missions and Administration - Ingrid Clark
- Director of Traditional Worship - Dr. James Heffel
- Praise Band Leader - Natalie Mendez
- Accompanist - Sophie Chapman
- MDO Director - Melissa Patrick
- Administrative Assistant - Terri L. Mills

9:30 AM Contemporary Worship

Welcome		Praise Band
Welcome and Announcements		
Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope	Don & Terry Gray and Dean & Cheryl Jones	
*Worship Songs	<i>Glorious Day</i> <i>Raise A Hallelujah</i>	Praise Band
Children's Moment		Sharon Rouleau
Ministry Moment		Rev. Cindy Riddick
Pastoral Prayer		
Tithes & Offering	<i>What a Beautiful Name</i>	Praise Band
Video	New Room: Hope	
Scripture		Luke 1:26-38
Sermon	"Almost Hope"	Rev. Stephanie Hughes
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		
*Reflection Song	<i>Holy Forever</i>	Praise Band
*Benediction		

*Please stand as you are able

11:00 AM Traditional Worship

Prelude	<i>Veni Emmanuel</i> arr. M. James	Sophie Chapman, Piano
Welcome, Announcements & Greeting		
Congregational Introit	<i>O Come, O come, Emmanuel</i> (vs. 1)	UMH # 211
Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope	Tom Mills, Terry Fry & Alice Darlington	
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Angels From the Realms of Glory</i>	UMH # 220
Affirmation of Faith	<i>(The Apostles' Creed, Ecumenical Version)</i>	UMH # 882

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen. (*Church Universal)

*Gloria Patri		
Ministry Moment		Rev. Cindy Riddick
Pastoral Prayer		
Choral Amen		
Offertory Music	Advent	Douglas Wagner
*Doxology		
Hymn of Preparation	<i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	UMH # 196

Video	New Room: Hope	
*Scripture		Luke 1:26-38
Sermon	"Almost Hope"	Rev. Stephanie Hughes
Invitation to Christian Discipleship		
*Closing Hymn	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	UMH # 230
Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>Sent Forth by God's Blessing</i> (vs. 1 only)	UMH # 664
Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.		
Postlude	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i> arr. Austin	Sophie Chapman, Piano

*Please stand as you are able



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

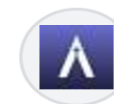


Angel Tree 2024 — Our Angel Tree is up! Lots of tags to pick from!!! We have a total of 31 kid tags and 10 family tags left. We are assisting 15 families and a total of 44 children! Pick a tag, sign your name and cell number, then shop for your gifts.

Please return your wrapped gifts by December 12th (this Wednesday).

Advent Bible Study — "Almost Christmas". This study will follow along with Pastor Stephanie's Advent sermons. Join us on Zoom on Monday Nights at 7pm. Even if you don't have a book, join us to talk about our faith and the latest sermon topic. Study guides are available for \$10 each, located in foyer. Zoom Meeting ID: 948 0693 8718 Passcode: 689828

The youth, 8th-12th grades, will meet on Wednesday, 5:00-6:00 pm, with Pastor Stephanie.



Follow Along "Almost Christmas" on Amplify Media

Join Amplify Media for access bible studies and a whole lot more.

1. Scan the QR Code
2. Enter this code: **DHVYJR** to create your free Amplify Media account.

Access Amplify Media from your browser or the Amplify Media app on your phone.



Dinner with Friends Christmas Party

Fri. December 13th - 5-7pm

If you have been, or would like to be, part of "Dinner with Friends", join us for food & fellowship on Dec.13th. Bring finger food and a white elephant gift (gift limit \$10). We'll eat and then play games with our white elephant gifts. For more info, contact Cindy Riddick.

Sodalis/Homebound Christmas Outreach

We are blessing residents with gift bags. We are collecting the following items:

1. Warm socks for men (13 pairs)
2. Socks w/grips for women (37 prs)
3. Hand lotion (13)
4. Toothpaste (50)

Items needed no later than **Sun., 12/15.**

