

The Week Ahead

Sun., Dec 22	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Christmas Cantata
	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Treehouse Kids Sunday School
	10:30 am - 11:30 pm	5th - 9th Graders Sunday School
	11:30 am - 12:00 am	Christmas Potluck Lunch - everyone invited
	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Y'All
Mon., Dec 23	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO - Closed
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Almost Christmas Bible Study - Zoom
Tues., Dec 24	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO - Closed
	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Church Office Closed
	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Candle Light Christmas Eve Service
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Candle Light Christmas Eve Service
Wed., Dec 25	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO - Closed
	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Church Office Closed
Thur., Dec 26	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	MDO - Closed
	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Church Office Closed
Fri., Dec 27	8:00 am - 9:00 am	Community Garden Work
Sat., Dec 28	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast - The Rigos Café, 902 6th St. N., TC
Sun., Dec 29	10:00 am - 10:30 am	Christmas Brunch
Sun., Dec 29	10:30 am - 11:30 pm	One Worship Service - Covenant Renewal & Old Fashion Hymn Sing

Sermon Notes:

1. In what ways do you attempt to create joy during the weeks before Christmas? During other times?
Watch Almost Christmas - Session 4: Almost Joy on Amplify. _____

2. Read Luke, chapters 1 and 2. Where do you find God's joy in these passages? _____

3. How can you open yourself more fully to receiving God's joy? _____

Lord hear our prayers...

- 11-24 Bruce Austin, Bobby Edrozo, Joan Hutchinson, Shawna Novak, Sheri Reznicek, Gary Scoggin, Debbie Vyvial, Elgin & Joyce Vyvial, Janis Wright
- 12-1 Suzanne Bowron, Aaron Doss, Tammy Dawson, Terry & Joquetta Eierdam, Mercedes Harris, Breeze Hunter, Heather Lopez, Linda Masters, Danny Morgan, Tammy Wilson, Sid & Marlene Young
- 12-8 Debbie Collins, Gary and Liz, Teresa Haak-Benigar, Barb & Denny Holt, Dan Koster, Philip Shama, Marika Simpson, Jason Wilson
- 12-15 Lupe Aguilar, Yvette Arrendo, Nezzie Blair, Linda Cooper, Jerry Cooper, Lela Hill, Jay Johnson, Dean Jones, Martha Loisey, Billy Jack Rife, Pam Scoggin, Betty Wilson

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.



ST. JOHN'S

A United Methodist Congregation

"Almost Joy"

December 22, 2024



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

Christmas Cantata 10:30 am

Prelude *Veni Emmanuel* Sophie Chapman, piano
Welcome and Announcements
*Opening Hymn *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* UMH# 203
*Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy John & Suzi Mitchell
Children's Moment Sharon Rouleau

Chancel Choir Cantata

"A Thrill of Hope"

By: Joel Raney

Dr. James Heffel, Director

Kathy Dyson, Narrator

A Thrill of Hope

Long Ago, Prophets Knew

Sing We Now of Christmas

The First Noel

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Ministry Moment
Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer
Tithes and Offerings

Rev. Cindy Riddick

A Gift of Love

*Love Came Down at Christmas
Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Away in a Manger

The Gift of Love

*Scripture Reading

Luke 1:68-73

A Prayer for Peace

Silent Night, Holy Night

Let There Be Peace on Earth

O Holy Night

Video

New Room – Joy

A Song of Joy

Rejoice

Angels, We Have Heard on High

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Joy to the World

Good Christians Friends, Rejoice

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Closing Hymn *O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1, 2, 3 & 6)* UMH# 234

*Benediction

*Benediction Response *Sent Forth by God's Blessing (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.

Blessing of the Meal

***Please stand as you are able.**

Instrumentalists

Shanna Dement, Flute

Suzi Mitchell, Percussion

Sophie Chapman, Piano

Chancel Choir

Ron Bailey

Susan Just

Elizabeth Schmalsteig

Amy Bell

Tom Mills

Joyce Shanks

Robert Doss

John Mitchell

Bill Wurzlow

Relana Gerami

Susie Newman

Kathy Wurzlow

Dale Robertson

**A special "Thank you" to
The St. John's Medial Audiovisual Team**

"Thank you so much for showing your love and appreciation to your St. John's clergy!"

Stephanie and Cindy are humbled and grateful for your expressions of appreciation and encouragement.

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, Melissa, Natalie, James, Sophie and Terri at the church office.

Thank you all in advance for your generosity!!!



The flowers on the altar are placed to the glory of God,
in loving memory of Rose Lawson, placed by Elizabeth Lawson.



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!"

