*** Greeting** (from Psalm 36) Responsive, led by Angela Russell

How precious is your love, O God.
Whether creatures of heaven or children of earth,
we all find refuge in the shadow of your wings.
We feast on the bounty of your world,
and drink from the stream of your delights.
In you is the wellspring of life,
and in your light we become enlightened. Amen.

*** Opening Hymn** "As the Deer" TFWS 2025 All

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

Contributor: Martin Nystrom
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Morning Prayer All, led by Angela Russell

Gracious God, your mercies are new every morning. Your light shines into our world, and from our slumber we wake up to your ways of calling us into being. Gift us with that inner sight so that we too may be changed by your grace. We pray this in the name of Jesus, whose wholeness guides our way. Amen.

Children's Time Izzy Lopez

After Children's Time, children age 4 – 3rd grade are invited to go to Room 103. Children 4th – 5th grade are invited to stay in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and follow along with their activity-filled bulletins. At 11:00 a.m., 4th – 5th graders may go to music class.

Prayers of the People Rev. Knighten

The Prayer of Jesus All, led by Rev. Knighten

Our Father/Mother/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Words of Life John 9:1-41 Katie McKenna,

Narrator (Katie McKenna), Disciple (Kaylie Warfield), Jesus (Randy Knighten), Blind Man (Angela Russell), Neighbor 1 (Jackie Coleman), Neighbor 2 (Cina Crisara), Neighbor 3 (Hilary Marchbanks), Pharisee 1 (Andy Smith), Pharisee 2 (Dylan Graves), Blind Man's Parent (Rebecca Witte)

Message for Today Rev. Hilary Marchbanks

"Abiding in Awe: Delight"

*** Response** "O Love, How Deep" UMH 267 vv 1,3,6 All

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

Words: 15th cent. Latin; trans. by Benjamin Webb; alt.
Music: English melody; harm. from "Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised"
Public Domain

Offertory Prayer All, led by Angela Russell

Holy God, reveal yourself anew in these offerings. Give us eyes to see the infinite and intricate ways you are weaving your world into wholeness and redemption. May we too be changed by your Holy Spirit's power, and through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Offertory "A Place at the Table" Quartet

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

REFRAIN:
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice, and joy.

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair. REFRAIN

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong. REFRAIN

For just and unjust, a place at the table.
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live. REFRAIN

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free. REFRAIN

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*** Song of Thanks** All

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

Words: Thomas Ken
Music: Attr. Louis Bourgeois
Public Domain

*** We Continue Our Worshipful Work** Rev. Knighten

*** Sending Hymn** All

"O for A Thousand Tongues to Sing" UMH 57 vv 1-3

(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Carl G. Glaser, arr. by Lowell Mason
Public domain

*** Benediction** Responsive, led by Rev. Marchbanks

*** Sharing the Peace of Christ** Rev. Marchbanks

*** Postlude** "A Place at the Table" Cina Crisara, piano

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** You are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

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UMH denotes "United Methodist Hymnal".
TFWS denotes "The Faith We Sing" hymnal.

Sanctuary Flowers

Due to the solemnity of the Lenten season,
we refrain from placing flowers in the sanctuary.

To sign up to provide sanctuary flowers
for Sundays throughout the year,
please email Rebecca Witte at
rebecca@stjohnsaustin.org.

We are creating a community …

Access Friendship Book, Guest Form, and More

Scan this QR Code for links to the Friendship Book and Guest Form, prayer requests, giving online, bulletin, newsletter, and website. You can get to the same links by going to stjohnsaustin.org/connect.

Easter Lily Sales Continue

Easter lilies, which can be donated in memory or in honor of loved ones, will be on sale today through Sun, Mar 29. The cost is $15 each. Sunday mornings there will be a table in the Gallery for in-person orders, or order online at bit.ly/sjeasterlilies2026. You can also order by calling the church office (Mon - Thu). Please consider donating your lily to the Congregational Care team, who will deliver it to a homebound member on Easter Sunday.

High School Mission Trip Fundraiser Through March

This summer our high school students will travel to Arizona for a service-learning experience. They are selling "stocks" in the Gallery with a suggested donation of $10 to help fund the trip. Buy stock online at onrealm.org/stjohnsaustin/-/form/give/church, selecting "High School Mission Trip" from the dropdown menu. All stockholders are invited to a Stockholders Breakfast Jul 19 at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall, where youth will share their trip experiences.

How to End Christian Nationalism Discussion, Mar 23

Join us Mon, Mar 23, at noon and 6:30 p.m., online and in person, to discuss the book *How to End Christian Nationalism*, led by Shelley Walters and Luann Toney. The discussion will prepare you for the presentation by the book's author, Amanda Tyler, at Saint John's on Sat, Apr 11. The book is available in stores and online. The newsletter has more details, including how to sign up. Questions? Contact Shelley Walters at shelley@stjohnsaustin.org.

Family Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt, Mar 29, Noon

Saint John's Children and Family Ministries invites all to a Family Lunch and Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, March 29. After the 11 a.m. service concludes, we'll enjoy pizza lunch in the Great Hall while our Youth Group hides eggs downstairs. You won't want to miss the fun! Questions? Email Izzy at izzy@stjohnsaustin.org.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday, Apr 2, 7 p.m. - Join us upstairs in the Great Hall as we extend the table to our own upper room for worship and Communion together. All ages welcome. To participate remotely, join us at our online table at bit.ly/saintjohnsclass.

Good Friday, Apr 3, noon and 7 p.m.
At noon, a dramatic reading of the Passion story by members of our senior adult ministry offers a stark reminder of Jesus' sacrifice. *At 7 p.m.*, the Chancel Choir offers musical responses to the reading of the Passion of Jesus scriptures. Service is livestreamed.

Easter Sunday, Apr 5, 7 a.m. (Youth Sunrise Service), 9, 10:15, and 11:30 a.m. - Celebrate the Resurrection with us! Hilary shares a message on Awe with scripture from John 20:1-18. The 11:30 a.m. service will be livestreamed.

Ways to Give

We offer many ways to give to support Saint John's.

1. Text "SJUMC" to 73256 and follow the prompts.
2. Visit stjohnsaustin.org/giving to make an online donation using a credit/debit card, or bank draft.
3. Church members may log on to their mySaintJohn's account via the web or by the Realm Connect app.
4. Leave a donation in an offering plate as it is passed or in the offering box located in the Gallery, or mail a check.

Participating in Worship Today

Rev. Hilary Marchbanks, Senior Pastor
Rev. Randy Knighten, Outreach Ministries Pastor
Cina Crisara, Director of Music, Pianist
Mary Foster, Worship Arts Coordinator
Gary James, Sound Technician
Izzy Lopez, Children and Youth Coordinator
Katie McKenna, Director of Communications
Angela Russell, Liturgist
John Thomason, Bulletin Designer
Shelley Walters, Director of Faith Development
Rebecca Witte, Director of Connections

Quartet

Jackie Coleman, Dylan Graves, Andy Smith, Kaylie Warfield

Connect Team

Tricia Hallock (9:00)
Kathleen Harrington (11:00)

Liturgy Notes

The Greeting is from Psalm 36.

Saint John's
United Methodist Church
2140 Allandale Road (512) 452-5737
Austin, Texas 78756 stjohnsaustin.org

For more information about classes and activities at Saint John's, see our newsletter at stjohnsaustin.org/newsletter.

Our Mission

We are creating a community where God's love changes people and God's people change the world.

Saint John's
United Methodist Church

At Saint John's United Methodist Church we affirm that all persons are of sacred worth, and we welcome everyone, without exception, to participate fully in the church's life and ministry.

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026

Difficulty hearing in the Sanctuary? Please ask an usher for a listening device or see the pew card for information about using the ListenWIFI phone app.

Gathering Music Cina Crisara, piano

"As the Deer""

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Welcome Rev. Randy Knighten

Introit "Here I Am to Worship" Quartet

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore you,
Hope of a life spent with you.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God!
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me!

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