

*** Greeting** Responsive, led by Katie McKenna
The Holy One does great things for us! Like water in the wilderness and rivers in the desert,
God meets us in times of trial.
Like the companionship of our closest friends,
God goes alongside us.
Like the satisfaction that comes after feasting at table,
God nourishes us on the journey. With joy, let us seek the way of Love, trusting in the promises of God.

*** Opening Hymn** All
“Morning Has Broken” UMH 145
(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

Words: Eleanor Farjeon; Music: Traditional Gaelic melody; Arr. Cat Stevens
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Morning Prayer All, led by Katie McKenna
Loving God, you are the creator of all things new. By the power of your work with us, let us be artists of your kingdom — painting justice where there has been harm, coloring compassion where there has been fear, and layering the wisdom of our community together to best serve the world. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Children’s Time Izzy Lopez
After Children’s Time, children age 4 – 3rd grade are invited to go to Room 103 while children 4th – 5th grade are invited to stay in the Sanctuary and follow along with their activity-filled bulletin.

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.

Song for Illumination All
“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

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Words of Life Isaiah 65:17-25 Katie McKenna

Message for Today Rev. Hilary Marchbanks
“God’s Recreation”

*** Response** All
“The First Song of Isaiah” TFWS 2030 Refrain, v1, Refrain
(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

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Offertory Prayer All, led by Katie McKenna
Holy God, one of our most sacred callings is to simply meet each other in the midst of our joys and pain. We find your grace moving among us when we support one another, advocate for one another, feed and delight and love one another. In a spirit of care for this church family and all our neighbors with whom our lives are intertwined, we bring our gifts and offerings to you. Amen.

Offertory “Simple Gifts” JOY Singers

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free,
'Tis a gift to come down where we ought to be.
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn, will be our delight.
'Til by turning, turning, turning we come around right.

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*** Song of Thanks** All
“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 94
(Lyrics are on the screen and in your hymnal.)

UMH 94
Thomas Ken, Gilbert H. Vieira; Music: © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House
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Sacrament of Baptism (9:00) Izzy Lopez,
Rev. Randy Knighten, and Rev. Hilary Marchbanks
Eleanor "Nora" Anne Schulz
Charles Michael Schulz
Douglas Schulz and Sara Schulz, parents

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

*** Sending Hymn** “Come, Let Us Dream” All
(Lyrics are on the screen.)

Worship & Song #3157
Words: John Middleton © 2004 John Middleton; Published by The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship
Music: English folk melody; harm. by Dean McIntyre; © The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church

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

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

*** Postlude** “Come, Let Us Dream” Ed Snouffer, piano

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Words: John Middleton © 2004 John Middleton; Published by The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship
Music: English folk melody; harm. by Dean McIntyre; © The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church

** 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
This week's flowers are given by Donald Smith and Mary Kennedy-Smith celebrating their birth-a-versary.
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.

Beloved Blueprints Skills and Interests Survey

Last month, a survey was mailed out to our congregation. In the survey, we ask members to prayerfully consider which of their skills and interests might be valuable to our Saint John's community. Survey cards can be filled out and returned to the church office or placed in a basket outside the sanctuary doors. You can also fill out the survey online at bit.ly/belovedblueprints. Next Sun, Nov 23, during worship we will consecrate the completed surveys.

Saint John's Thanksgiving Offering

A Thanksgiving offering to the church is an opportunity to give thanks for the abundant gifts we receive in community together. We rely on end-of-the-year special offerings to complete our annual budget. Visit bit.ly/sjthanks2025 to give a special Thanksgiving offering that goes toward the ministries and missions of Saint John's.

Poinsettia Sales Start This Sunday!

It's time to order poinsettias! These traditional Christmas flowers may be ordered in honor or in memory of loved ones, to be used either to decorate our church during Advent, or by our Congregational Care team as gifts for homebound members. You may place your orders beginning today through Sun, Dec 7, in the gallery or online at bit.ly/sjpoinsettias2025. The cost is \$12 each. Poinsettias may also be purchased for personal use. **The deadline for personal orders is Mon, Dec 1.**

Tidings of Joy Concert and Bake Sale, Thu, Dec 4

The Holiday Bake Sale, which benefits the mission and service work of our Risk-Taking Mission and Service Committee, will open in the Great Hall, Dec 4 at 4 p.m. and again after the Tidings of Joy Concert. *To sign up to contribute goodies for the Bake Sale, visit bit.ly/sjbakesale.* **The Tidings of Joy Concert** begins at 6:30 p.m. on Dec 4. This longstanding Saint John's tradition is filled with Christmas singalong classics and features several of Saint John's talented musical groups.

Staying Grounded in the Wilderness, Sat, Dec 6

In a world that feels like wilderness – uncertain and shifting – how do we stay grounded when the path ahead feels unclear? On Sat, Dec 6, 9 a.m. – noon, join Rev. Beth Richardson, Dean Emeritus of The Upper Room Chapel and former Director of Prayer and Worship Life, for a workshop on *Staying Grounded in the Wilderness*. An artist, writer, out gay woman, and retired UMC elder, she has embodied what it means to sit in discomfort, persist in hope, and courageously swim against the current. Together, we'll explore how to remain rooted in faith and love, even in wilderness times. Register at bit.ly/groundedinthewilderness.

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
Mary Foster, Worship Arts Coordinator
Gary James, Sound Technician
Ridley Marchbanks, Projections Coordinator
Shelley Walters, Livestream Coordinator (11:00)
Izzy Lopez, Children and Youth Coordinator
Katie McKenna, Director of Communications and Liturgist
Ed Snouffer, Pianist
John Thomason, Bulletin Designer
Shelley Walters, Director of Faith Development
Rebecca Witte, Director of Connections

Connect Team

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

Liturgy Notes

The Greeting and Offertory Prayer are adapted from Rev. M. Jade Kaiser of *enfleshed*.



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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.



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost November 16, 2025

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 Ed Snouffer, piano
"Tis the Gift to Be Simple"

Music: Quaker Melody
Public domain

Welcome Rev. Randy Knighten

Introit "We Gather Together" JOY Singers
We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to this name; he forgets not his own.

Words: *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*; trans. by Theodore Baker
Music: 16th Century Dutch melody; arr. by Edward Kremser
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