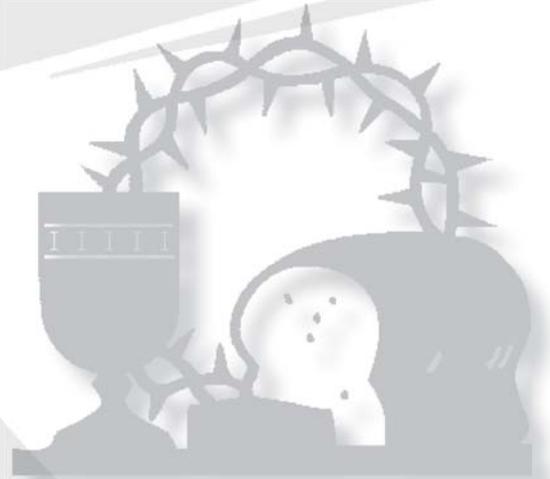


*"Take and eat; this is my body"*

Matthew 26:26



Welcome to



**"The Church on the Corner  
Whose Cornerstone is Christ"**

*We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word, preaching salvation through believing in Christ as Savior. We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.*

## Welcome to our Worship of God! Maundy Thursday Worship

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (p. 605)

Prelude – for quiet preparation and reflection

“Jesus Paid It All/Lamb of God”

†Call to Worship (L–Leader; *P–People*)

L: We gather in remembrance. We remember a night from long, long ago; a night in which events culminated with Peter disowning Jesus.

**P: *It began with a plot against Jesus, a plot hastened by the betrayal of Judas; it ended with the disciples falling away, leaving Jesus alone before his accusers.***

L: It included a celebration of the Passover, recalling the Israelites exodus from Egypt; with an awareness of God’s presence throughout their history, yet they fell away.

**P: *There was the humble washing of feet, an act by which Jesus set the example to do for one another what Jesus has done for each of us – to serve one another.***

L: Prior to his arrest in the dark of night, Jesus prayed at Gethsemane, praying for his Father’s will, leaving us with the prayerful example: “not as I will, but as you will.”

**P: *As I remember that night in our worship on this night, I praise God for His unfailing love of me, even through the times when I have denied Him, or when I have chosen my will over His, I am aware of God’s care for me, so I come to worship my Lord.***

L: We gather in remembrance. May we remember the love of our Lord, the devotion of our Lord, the last supper of our Lord. Christ gave himself that we would have life, so let us worship with joy and celebration in our hearts, as we remember.

†Opening Hymn – #206

“There is a Redeemer”

†Unison Prayer of Invocation: *Lord Jesus, a difficult part of that night was the betrayal by one of your disciples. We may not understand his reasons, nor his ending his life, but we can understand his remorse, his awareness of his sin. I come before you, confessing my own sin, offering my remorse, seeking your forgiveness and pledging myself to your will for my life. Help me tonight; help me to understand the depth of your sacrifice, that I will be strengthened and renewed in my devotion to you. In your name, we pray. Amen.*

†Words of Assurance: *May the words of Matthew 26:28 fill me with assurance: “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” By his shed blood, and through our confession of Jesus as Lord, our sins are forgiven, praise be to God. Amen, and Amen!*

†Hymn Response – #588

“We Have Come into His House”

Special Music

Lynne Stuckey

“Thy Will”

Prayer of Dedication and Evening Offering

Offertory

“You Are My King (Amazing Love)”

Reading from God’s Word

Mark 14:32-50 (p.1008)

Sermon

“Trusting in God’s Will”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation, Words of Institution and Prayer of Consecration

Communion Hymn – #322

“In Remembrance”

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Blessing

†Closing Hymn – #321

“According to Thy Gracious Word”

Benediction

Stripping of the Sanctuary

†Depart in Silent Meditation

 **Welcome . . .**

### **Guests and Visitors**

Welcome to our worship of God! Please take a moment to complete one of the info cards in the pew rack at each end of the pew and drop it in the offering plate once it is passed down the aisle in the service. We hope you will find our service to be a meaningful time of worship and that you will worship with us again. Learn more about us by visiting our Welcome Table at the south end of our building or our website at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

### **Mother’s Room / Diaper Changing Station / Nursery Care**

We have a Mother’s Room located near our sanctuary – just ask an usher for location. A diaper changing station is in our nursery room just down the hallway from our sanctuary.

**Large Print Bulletins** are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex.

**Hearing Assistance** is provided through our loop system for hearing aids with a “t” switch position.

**THE LAST SUPPER** is remembered not as the Jewish Passover, but as the Lord’s Supper into which Jesus transformed it for his disciples. Instead of celebrating the escape from slavery in Egypt it became a celebration of his passing over from death to life in which his followers share. “Maundy” is the English form of the Latin word “mandatum” meaning “commandment.” This refers to Jesus’ new commandment “...that you love one another. Just as I have loved you...”

**WELCOME TO ST. JOHN’S!** Our Communion Table is open to all who confess their sins and accept Christ as Lord and Savior. Juice is served in the trays of the cup.

**OUR LOOSE OFFERINGS and LENTEN COIN FOLDERS** support the ministries of the Arolé’s in India and Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**The Stripping of the Sanctuary** – our service for Maundy Thursday concludes with the stripping of the sanctuary, which is done in silence and in an unhurried, orderly fashion. The practice dates from the seventh century and is a ceremonial custom. In silence and in shadows, communion vessels, table cloths, pulpit and lectern hangings, banners, candles and other liturgical objects are sensitively removed, thus dramatizing the desolation, abandonment and darkness of the passion and death of our Lord. The sanctuary remains bare until the beginnings of the Easter celebration. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors.

**Worship Notes** – In our worship tonight, as we recall the emotions and events of the night in which Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, may you experience a deeper understanding of Jesus' love for you. As you hear the Word, listen to the special music, and take note of the meditation, may you jot down thoughts and notes that strike you in this service:

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**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:**

Acolyte: Hailey Wooley

Accompanist: Lynne Christman

Sound Tech: James Grime

Head Usher: Greg Walker

Song Leader: Ed Ruffer

Video Tech: Dean Sauder

Ushers: Ben & Sue Buehrer; Dale & Ann Grime

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**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

Friday – GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 pm Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday – EASTER SUNDAY

6:15 am SYF prepares Easter Breakfast

7:00 am Sunrise Worship Service

8:00 am Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall

8:45 am Easter Egg Hunt (JYF hosting) - In the Chapel

9:15 am Confirmation/Sunday School/Faith Village

10:30 am Easter Worship in the Sanctuary

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**ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

700 S. Defiance Street • Archbold, OH 43502

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Associate Pastor Rev. Alex Young (Cell 330-206-8762)

Administrative Assistant Kelly Stahl ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org))

LOGOS Director Kim M. Walker ([gkwalker@rtccexpress.net](mailto:gkwalker@rtccexpress.net))

Preschool Administrator Sue MacDonald ([macfamily5@roadrunner.com](mailto:macfamily5@roadrunner.com))