



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"

Come **H**ear the **R**eason we're **I**nspired to **S**erve **T**ogether



**Pictured above: Ryan Christman, who celebrates his 30th birthday tomorrow (left);
Joanna Young, who is two today! (right)*

*We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word,
preaching salvation through believing in Christ as our 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!
First Sunday of the New Year**

Ringling of the Tower Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Matthew 2:1-12

Prelude

“Three Wise Men”

†Hymn

#166, “We Three Kings”

†The Apostles’ Creed

†The Gloria Patri

Children’s Message

“His Star”

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:1-13

Sermon

“Revelation Without Boundaries”

Sacrament of Communion

Communion Hymn - #342, “Just As I Am”

†Hymn

#163, “As with Gladness Men of Old

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#138, refrain, “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

†Postlude

“Into My Heart”

Scripture Readings

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ²“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” ³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’” ⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” ⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasurers and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Ephesians 3:1-13

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — ²Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. ⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. ⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all God’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. ¹³I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

Sermon Notes

Sermon "Revelation Without Boundaries"

Scriptures Ephesians 3:1-13



Adoration of the Magi from a 4th Century stone panel. Jesus is depicted as a young boy and the magi are not elaborately dressed, as they come to worship him.

Matthew informs us that the Magi were from the East, thus the three are not Jews, but Gentile - as they seek Jesus to worship him, they symbolically proclaim that Jesus is the Messiah of all peoples. Jesus Christ calls us to seek unity and not division. Can you see all people as children of God?

Verse 1 - "...I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus..." What does it mean to be a prisoner of Christ?

Verses 2-6 - words of a Jewish man, a Pharisee (Acts 23:6), a former persecutor of Christians - how is it possible that God called Paul as an apostle? How did the disciples come to accept him? How did they overcome their knowledge and fear of him?

Verses 7-11 - so many special phrases to consider:

"servant of this gospel"

"less than the least"

"to make plain" (no "ifs", "ands" or "buts)

"the manifold witness of God"

"gift of God's grace given me"

"the unsearchable riches of Christ"

"through the church"

Verse 12 - "In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence."

Congregational Prayer

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace. Give to the people of this land a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

- ◆ 2021 Offering Envelops are available for pickup at a table in the narthex sorted in alphabetical order by last name.
- ◆ The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place both in-person and virtually on Sunday, January 17th at 11:00AM. Details for those attending virtually will be available within the week.
- ◆ Individuals with hearing aids - we need your input! As we explore upgrades to the audio system, we need to know if you're satisfied with the current hearing loop ("loop system") or if you're making use of new technology with a Bluetooth app. Please share your preference with the church office or one of the pastors. Thank you!

Discovery Daily Devotional Guides

Discover Daily Devotional Guides are available in the hallway literature rack in the narthex (suggested donation \$6 each). You can also access the guide online at <https://scriptureunion.org/discovery/>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

January 3 – Beloved Home.....	Psalm 84
January 4 – Comings and Goings.....	1 John 2:15-27
January 5 – Family Likeness.....	1 John 2:28-3:10
January 6 – The L-Shaped Life.....	1 John 3:11-24
January 7 – Don't Believe Everything!.....	1 John 4:1-6
January 8 – Such Love.....	1 John 4:7-21
January 9 – The Life of God in Us.....	1 John 5:1-12

Next Sunday, January 10, 2021

Sermon - And so, the Holy Spirit

Scriptures - Psalm 29, Mark 1:4-11, Acts 19:1-7

Welcome!

Guests and Visitors

Welcome to SJCC! We are so glad you have chosen to join us as we worship the Lord together. We hope you feel God's love in a new, refreshing way. You can learn more about our church by visiting the "New to SJCC" page on our website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org/newtosjcc or by picking up a copy of "Getting to Know St. John's Christian Church: Visitor Brochure" at the literature rack near the office.

Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Station/Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located near our sanctuary, currently limited to one family at a time. Nursery care for infants and pre-kindergarten children is currently suspended. A diaper changing station is located in the Mother's Room. We kindly ask you to sanitize items after use (i.e. changing pad, toys, etc.) using the wipes provided as a respectful gesture to other families with small children in need of the room.

Children's and Large Print Bulletins are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex.

Hearing Assistance is provided by our system for hearing aids with a "loop system" switch position.

Week of January 3 at St. John's Christian Church

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	B.A.S.I.C./Forerunners, Women's Class
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	4:00PM	Christmas "Undecorating"
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
Sat	7:40AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast
	9:00AM	Visitation in memory of Marvin Fish
	11:00AM	Memorial Service in memory of Marvin Fish
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	B.A.S.I.C./Forerunners, Women's Class
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

January Mission-A-Month: Emergency Cleanup Kits

Our January Mission-A-Month works in cooperation with Church World Service to provide Emergency Cleanup Buckets and Kits for families and communities affected by natural disasters such as tornadoes and flooding. Kits are filled with items like cleaning towels, heavy-duty gloves, sponges, laundry detergent, dish soap, and more. Donations can be made through the church office or through your weekly offering envelope.

Health and Safety Guidelines

We encourage everyone to abide by these hygiene and safety practices:

- ◆ Wear a facial covering when in the building, unless you meet one of the exemptions.
- ◆ Sanitize/wash hands frequently and cover coughs and sneezes.
- ◆ Stay home if you are sick, not feeling well, or live with or care for someone who is sick or not feeling well.
- ◆ Maintain 6' social distancing, including in the pews. Be mindful of people around you.
- ◆ Individuals and families seated in the back of the sanctuary should exit first.
- ◆ Offerings will be received in plates at the sanctuary doors. They can also be mailed to/dropped off at the church office or given online at stjohnschristianchurch.breezechms.com.

Distance Worship

We continue to offer distance worship options. Join us on Sunday mornings at 8:30AM on 96.1 WMTR to listen to last week's worship service. Our 10:30AM worship service is streamed via YouTube Live, which can be accessed on the St. John's Christian Church website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org.

Today's Worship Servants

Accompanist	(Both) Buffy Riley	
Song Leader	(Both) David Stuckey	
Lay Readers	(8:00AM) Joshua Reeb	(10:30AM) Avery Roth
Easy Worship	(Both) Brian Roth	
Sound Tech	(8:00AM) Kelly Ducey	(10:30AM) James Grime
Live Stream Tech	(10:30AM) Jocelyn Walker	
Ushers	(8:00AM) Jim Grieser	(10:30AM) Steve Walker

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Carol DeVries and family, upon Bob's death Thursday morning at their home. Bob was 74 years of age, and he was thankful for each day of life following his God-ordained extension of life after his near-death experience in August of 2018.
- ◆ Norma Fish and family as they prepare for services in memory of Marvin. Services will be on January 9th - visiting with family from 9am to 10:30am and a memorial service at 11am for family and close friends.
- ◆ Kenny Walker IV (teenage son of Kenny and Amanda) and his family, as Kenny is scheduled for a very significant surgery on January 28th in Cincinnati. The surgery involves the removal of his pancreas, spleen, gall bladder and appendix. Following the surgery, Kenny will be hospitalized for two weeks and then he and his mother will be staying in Cincinnati until March 11th for follow up care.
- ◆ Kevin and Angie Neuenschwander, who are continuing to deal with illness due to COVID-19.
- ◆ Larry Woolace, who continues to receive monthly treatments for his prostate cancer.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Fort Campbell, KY (Army) Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ Kali Collins, Washington, DC (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Kohl Collins, Ft. Myers, VA (Army) (Grandson of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Kyle Ducey, Suffolk, VA (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy)
- ◆ Brayden Hall, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO (Ohio Army Nat. Guard) (Son of Vond & Mary)
- ◆ Jared Kuntz, Washington, DC (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Eric Maag, Port Clinton, OH (Coast Guard) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)
- ◆ Shayne & Taylor Pitts, Albuquerque, NM (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ David Richardson, Okinawa, Japan (Marines) (Son of Shannon and Yesi)
- ◆ Joshua Richardson, Kaneohe, HI (Marines) (Son of Shannon and Yesi)
- ◆ Steve Schink, Chesterfield, MI (Coast Guard) (Son-in-law of Ed and Julie Ruffer)

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, Ohio 43502

419-446-2545 † www.stjohnsarchbold.org

Sunday Worship at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Pastor - Rev. Erich Christman (Cell: 419-551-0401)

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

Admin. Assist. - Jocelyn Walker (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)