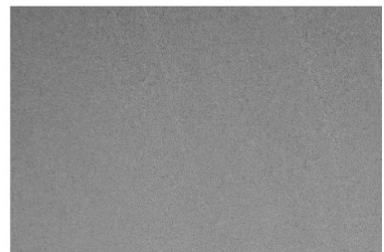
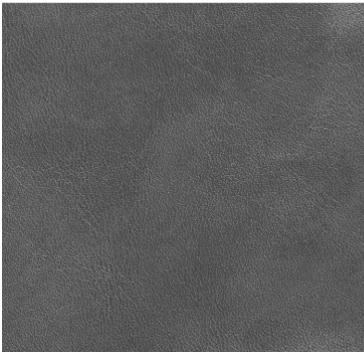




# Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



**Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together**

*Pictured above: JoAnn Short (top left),  
Denny Hornish (bottom center), and Kenny Walker (top right).*

# Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

---

## 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 scanning the QR code, by visiting the "New to SJCC" page on our website at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org/newtosjcc](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org/newtosjcc), or by picking up a copy of "Getting to Know St. John's Christian Church: Visitor Brochure" at one of the literature racks.



## Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Stations/Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located outside of the sanctuary for nursing mothers and/or mothers with young children. Nursery care is offered during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for infants and pre-kindergarten children. Diaper changing stations are located in both the Mother's Room and Nursery. Please ask an usher for locations if needed.

**Children's Busy Bags** are located in the sanctuary narthex for children ages one-year to third grade. Bags are marked by age (**Pink** = Ages 1-2; **Green** = Ages 3-5; **Yellow** = Grades K-3). Please be sure to return bags at the end of our service today. If you would like to mark a bag specifically for your child(ren) each week, please contact the church office.

## Give & Take Board

Do you need a little peace in your day? Confidence? What about self-control? Are you in need of a spiritual pick-me-up? Could you use a quick bit of kindness after a long week? Or do you have these things to spare? Then stop by the Give and Take Board outside of the Preschool Room! Give what you can and take what you need - you just might feel or fill someone's heart with the love of God and make their week brighter!

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

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



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stjohnschurcharchbold](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnschurcharchbold),  
Instagram at @stjohnsarchbold and YouTube ("St. John's Christian Church").

**Welcome to our Worship of God  
Second Sunday of Advent**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*"God Is with Us"*

*A time to center our thoughts, centering on Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and our worship of him.*

Scripture

Malachi 3:1-4 (pg. 950), Luke 1:67-79 (pg. 1014)

Prayer of Invocation

The Nativity Scene - The Sheep

Carol Response

#157, v.2, "Away in a Manger"

†Call to Worship (L - Leader; P - People)

L: A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

**P: *Make God's paths straight.***

L: Every valley will be filled, and every mountain will be leveled.

**P: *The crooked will be made straight.***

L: The rough and rocky ways will be smoothed.

**P: *All will see the salvation of God.***

L: See the light from on high. The dawn is breaking.

**P: *The Lord is coming! The Lord is coming!***

†Hymn

#117, "We Come, O Christ, to You"

Children's Message: The Advent Wreath - The Candle of Peace

**Cong: *With John the Baptist, we cry out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"***

Message

**Cong: *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near, the Lord's peace be with you.***

Carol Response

#123, v. 2, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

†Carol

#128, "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 (pg. 1145)

Sermon

"People of Peace"

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

†Carol

#133, "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#127, v. 2, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

†Postlude

## Scripture Readings

---

**Malachi 3:1-4** "See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, <sup>4</sup> and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

**Luke 1:67-79** His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: <sup>68</sup> "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. <sup>69</sup> He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David <sup>70</sup> (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), <sup>71</sup> salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us-- <sup>72</sup> to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup> the oath he swore to our father Abraham: <sup>74</sup> to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear <sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup> And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, <sup>77</sup> to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven <sup>79</sup> to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: <sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## Next Sunday, December 12th, 2021: Third Sunday of Advent

---

The Candle of Joy

Scriptures - Jeremiah 33:1-9

Sermon - "Genuine Truth"

10:30am Special Music - "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" - Norm Fether

## Sermon Notes

---

Sermon - "People of Peace"

Scripture Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

## Congregational Prayer

---

Lord, Zechariah's words of prophecy concerning his son, John, and the messiah display your blessing of peace and restoration. I offer my own praise and worship to you, Mighty God, for your handiwork in my life is both evident and vibrant. Lord, you know your creation is in turmoil, sin continues to escalate. In this our prayer, as we pray for the second coming of Christ so that peace will reign, we pray for the softening of people's hearts, that this Advent season would be one of true preparation, true confession, true repentance - for your glory and people's peace. Continue to work and reveal yourself amongst us, we pray. Amen.

## December Mission-A-Month: Crossroads

---

For more than 134 years, Crossroad Child & Family Services in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has focused on the needs of children and families who have few alternatives. Today, they work with emotionally troubled children other providers have chosen not to work with, or have failed to help. Your prayers and generous financial support truly helps change the futures of young people, and the Crossroad Board of Directors and staff send their thanks for our partnership in helping these vulnerable children!

## Today's Worship Servants

---

Accompanist	(Both) Buffy Riley	
Song Leader	(Both) David Stuckey	
Lay Readers	(8:00) Joshua Reeb	(10:30) Avery Roth
Easy Worship	(Both) Brian Roth	
Sound	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream Tech	(10:30) Ryan Christman	
Acolytes	(8:00) Kennedy Hurst	(10:30) Avery Roth
8:00 Ushers	Gary & Judy Sears	

## Announcements

---

- ◆ **Senior Christmas Dinner** - The Fellowship Committee invites all seniors in the St. John's church community to the annual Senior Christmas Dinner this upcoming Thursday, December 9th at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel. A sign-up sheet is located under the Ministry Events section of the office bulletin board. We hope to see you there!
- ◆ **2021 St. John's Family Christmas Card** - The second annual St. John's family Christmas card will be released this month! Please email your family's photo to the church office by December 12th, 2021. We will post the digital copy of the completed card on the church website and Facebook page during the week of Christmas.  
Email: [office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)
- ◆ **Christmas Choir/Ensemble Practice** - a group of singers is gathering for practice on Wednesday evenings at 7pm on December 8th and 15th. A group of men and women will rehearse "Birthday of a King," to be performed on December 19th, and a women's group will rehearse "Not That Far From Bethlehem," to be performed on December 24th, Christmas Eve. Any and all singers who want to share their voices in these songs are invited to come at 7pm on the 8th!
- ◆ **Children's Christmas Program Practice** - Practices for the Christmas Eve children's program will be held on the evenings of Wednesday, December 8th, 15th, and possibly the 22nd, from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. Children unable to be present on the 24th are still invited to the practices for interaction with the Christmas story.
- ◆ **Siberian Solstice: In Concert at SJCC on the evening of Sunday, December 19, 7:00pm** - Siberian Solstice is a Trans-Siberian Orchestra Tribute featuring the presentation of the show, "The Angel's Gift." Siberian Solstice has become one of the very few enduring TSO tributes in the country through growth and hard work over the past 15 years. They perform in theaters and larger churches in northwest Ohio, northeast Indiana, and southern Michigan. The light show and video presentation augment the vocal and musical performance that brings many to return more than once a season and year after year. A free-will offering will be received for the ministry of Siberian Solstice.
- ◆ **2022 Offering Envelopes** - There are still several 2022 Offering Envelopes ready for pick-up at a table in the sanctuary narthex. If you have not had envelopes in the past and would like a set for the upcoming year, please contact the church office.
- ◆ **2021 Advent Devotional** - The 2021 Advent Devotional is available for pickup in the sanctuary narthex. A digital copy can be found on the homepage of the church website at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

## Daily Discovery Guide

---

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:

December 5 – God Takes Our Side----- Psalm 124  
December 6 – The Son of Man-----Mark 2:1-12  
December 7 – God’s Mercy----- Mark 2:13-17  
December 8 – Radical Change ----- Mark 2:18-22  
December 9 – Lord of the Sabbath ----- Mark 2:23-28  
December 10 – Love Rules? ----- Mark 3:1-6  
December 11 – Just As I Am-----Mark 3:7-19

## Week of December 5th at St. John's Christian Church

---

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School, Faith Village, Confirmation
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	2:00PM	Memorial Service in Memory of Kathryn Graber (Sanctuary)
	6:00PM	Seekers (Kuntz’s Home)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - Central Mennonite Church (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Mission Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
	6:30PM	Children’s Christmas Program Practice (Chapel)
	7:00PM	Music Practice (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	Life Planning (Gym)
Thu	5:30PM	Senior Christmas Dinner (Chapel)
Sat	7:40AM	Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Fireside Room)
	8:45AM	GIF Gals Depart (Church Lot)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School, Faith Village, Confirmation
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

## Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

---

Please pray for...

- ◆ John Graber and family upon Kathryn's entry into eternal life on Thursday morning at the age of 88. A memorial service will be held in the sanctuary at 2pm this afternoon.
- ◆ Paul and Joan Lovejoy upon the death of their son, John, on November 27th at the age of 56. Services were held on December 3rd.
- ◆ Gretchen Heer, who is now a patient at Rupp Rehab as she recovers from injuries sustained in a car accident.
- ◆ Ann Grime, who returned home on Tuesday and remains on oxygen as she continues to recover from the virus.
- ◆ Matt Pardi, who remains hospitalized in serious condition due to Covid.
- ◆ Leah Nafziger, who is working through vestibular therapy through the Montpelier Rehab Center.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Oak Grove, 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, Newton Falls, OH, attending Kent State (OANG) (Son of Vond & Mary)
- ◆ MAJ Jared Kuntz, Washington, DC (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Eric Maag, Port Clinton, OH (Coast Guard) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)
- ◆ Taylor Pitts, Albuquerque, NM (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Shayne Pitts has been deployed to Quatar (Air Force) (Husband of Taylor)
- ◆ 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](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)

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

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

Admin. Assist. - Jocelyn Walker ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org))

*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.*