



# Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



"Joy is a net of  
love by which you  
can catch souls"  
-Mother Teresa

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

*Pictured above: SJCC children's and youth groups have had a wonderful time fellowshiping and laughing alongside each other this Advent and Christmas season!*

# Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

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## 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  
Third Sunday of Advent**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*"Sing Noel, Noel"*

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

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation Zephaniah 3:14-20 (pg. 935), Isaiah 12:2-6 (pg. 687)

The Nativity Scene - The Angel and the Shepherd

Carol Response

#157, v.1, "Away in a Manger"

†Advent Litany (L - Leader; P - People)

L: O world, thirst, and feel your hunger, *P: For the realm of God is near!*

L: Blessed are you who thirst for righteousness *P: For soon you shall be satisfied:*

L: Like the deer that longs for flowing streams, *P: And the desert that hopes for cooling rains,*

L: Your soul shall finally drink of God, *P: The spring of living water.*

L: Blessed are you who hunger for goodness, *P: For soon you shall be satisfied:*

L: Manna from heaven shall descend upon us, *P: And all shall partake of the bread of life;*

L: The nations shall break the loaf together, *P: Falling down upon their knees.*

L: O world, thirst, and feel your hunger! *P: The realm of God is near!*

†Carol

#144, "How Great Our Joy!"

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

*Congregation: With Mary, the mother of Jesus, we rejoice, for the Mighty One has done great things for us.*

Message

*Congregation: How holy is God's name!*

Carol Response

#123, v. 3, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:1-9 (pg. 786)

Special Music - Norm Fether

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

Sermon

"Genuine Truth"

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Bring A Torch Jeannette, Isabella"

†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

†Carol

#141, "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#127, v. 4, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

†Postlude

## Scripture Readings

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**Zephaniah 3:14-20** Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The Lord has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. <sup>16</sup> On that day they will say to Jerusalem, "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. <sup>17</sup> The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing." <sup>18</sup> "The sorrows for the appointed feasts I will remove from you; they are a burden and a reproach to you. <sup>19</sup> At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you; I will rescue the lame and gather those who have been scattered. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they were put to shame. <sup>20</sup> At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes," says the Lord.

**Isaiah 12:2-6** Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." <sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup> In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup> Sing to

the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. <sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

**Jeremiah 33:1-9** While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the Lord came to him a second time: <sup>2</sup> "This is what the Lord says, he who made the earth, the Lord who formed it and established it -- the Lord is his name: <sup>3</sup> 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.' <sup>4</sup> For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the houses in this city and the royal palaces of Judah that have been torn down to be used against the siege ramps and the sword <sup>5</sup> in the fight with the Babylonians: 'They will be filled with the dead bodies of the men I will slay in my anger and wrath. I will hide my face from this city because of all its wickedness. <sup>6</sup> "Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. <sup>7</sup> I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before. <sup>8</sup> I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me. <sup>9</sup> Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before all nations on earth that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it.'

## Sermon Notes

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Sermon - "Genuine Truth"

Scripture Reading - Jeremiah 33:1-9

## Congregational Prayer

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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.

## Today's Worship Servants

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Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Song Leader	(Both) Elaine Winzeler	
Easy Worship	(Both) Mark Nofziger	
Sound	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream Tech	(10:30) Jocelyn Walker	
Acolytes	(8:00) Courtney Stuckey	(10:30) Emma Krukowski
8:00 Ushers	Doug and Nancy Rupp	
Head Usher	Dave Miller	

## Announcements

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- ◆ **Poinsettia Delivery** - Poinsettias will be available for pickup this upcoming Friday, December 17th after 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel.
  - ◆ **Siberian Solstice: In Concert at SJCC next Sunday, December 19, 7:00pm** - Siberian Solstice is a Trans-Siberian Orchestra Tribute featuring the presentation of the show, "The Angel's Gift." 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.
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- ◆ **2021 St. John's Family Christmas Card** - If your family would like to be on this year's St. John's Family Christmas Card, please send your photo to the church office by this upcoming Tuesday, December 14th at the latest. The photo will be posted to the church's website and shared on social media the week of Christmas.  
Email: [office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org) | Text Photos to 419-575-4218
  - ◆ **Christmas Choir/Ensemble Practice** - A group of singers is gathering for another practice on Wednesday, December 15th at 7pm . 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, even if you missed last week's practice!
  - ◆ **Children's Christmas Program Practice** - Practices for the Christmas Eve children's program will be held on Wednesday, December 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.
  - ◆ **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.

## Next Sunday, December 19th, 2021: Fourth Sunday of Advent

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The Candle of Love

Scriptures - Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon - "Love: Turning the Other Cheek"

10:30am Special Music - "Sometimes Alleluia," Scott Reeb; and

"Birthday of a King," Men's and Women's Ensemble

## Daily Discovery Guide

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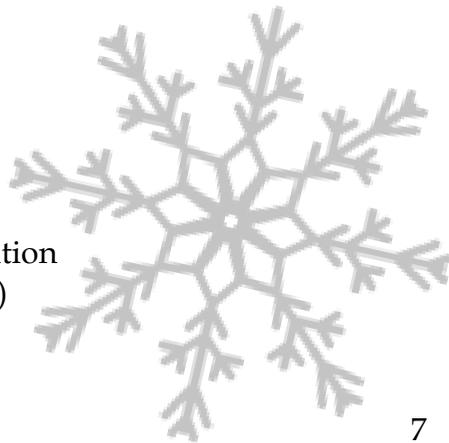
Discover Daily Devotional Guides are available in the hallway literature rack in the narthex (suggested donation \$6 each). You can also access the guide online at <https://scriptureunion.org/discovery/>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

December 12 – Pushed too Far? -----Psalm 125  
December 13 – Letting Heaven In-----Mark 3:20-35  
December 14 – Seeing Reason-----Isaiah 1:1-20  
December 15 – Leaders We Deserve ----- Isaiah 1:21-31  
December 16 – The View From the Top -----Isaiah 2:1-5  
December 17 – Shaking the Earth----- Isaiah 2:6-22  
December 18 – Righteous Judgement?-----Isaiah 3:13-4:1

## Week of December 12th at St. John's Christian Church

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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)
Mon	6:30PM	Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Search Committee (Chapel)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - SJCC (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Property Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
	6:30PM	Children's Christmas Program Practice - PreK - K (Preschool Room)
	6:30PM	Children's Christmas Program Practice - Grades 1 - 6 (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	Music Practice (Chapel)
Thu	6:00PM	Girl Scouts (Chapel)
	7:00PM	Audit Committee (Fireside Room)
Fri	5:00PM	Poinsettia Pickup Begins (Chapel)
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)
	7:00PM	Siberian Solstice Concert (Sanctuary)



## Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

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Please pray for...

- ◆ Denny Hornish, who is recovering at home from surgery to remove his gall bladder.
- ◆ Leah Nafziger, who spent a few days at Toledo Children's Hospital undergoing further testing as she experienced a further health issue on Tuesday.
- ◆ Callie Ruffer, three year old daughter of Cameron and Kristen, and granddaughter of Ed & Julie, who remains hospitalized in Cincinnati. Medications are working to clear the clots from the veins but there is more healing that needs to occur.
- ◆ Gretchen Heer, who continues in therapy Rupp Rehab.
- ◆ Ann Grime, who continues to recover from the virus.
- ◆ Matt Pardi, as he remains hospitalized in serious condition due to Covid.

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 Qatar (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.*