

8:00 AM



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



*May we love
each other
not only at
Christmas,
but all year.*

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together

*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! 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, 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,
Instagram at @stjohnsarchbold and YouTube ("St. John's Christian Church").

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

Welcome

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation Micah 5:2-5a (pg. 922), Luke 1:46-55 (pg. 1013)

Prelude - Buffy Riley and Anna Yoder "Helpless and Hungry"

The Nativity Scene - Mary & Joseph

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

†Carols of Worship #131, "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

#137, "What Child Is This?"

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

Congregation: *With Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, we tell the story of Jesus, the child of Bethlehem.*

Message

Congregation: *Jesus, the child of Bethlehem, who came to save us, and is coming again in glory.*

Carol Response #123, v. 4, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

Christmas Carol Sing (verses from carols below)

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

O Come All Ye Faithful

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Silent Night

We Three Kings

Scripture Reading Matthew 5:38-48 (pg. 959)

Sermon "Love: Turning the Other Cheek"

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Silent Night"

†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

†Carol #138, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song #127, v. 2, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

†Postlude "Joy to the World"

Scripture Readings

Micah 5:2-5 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." ³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. ⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵ And he will be their peace.

Luke 1:46-55 And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me-- holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers."

Matthew 5:38-48 "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' ³⁹ But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. ⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Congregational Prayer

Thank you, God, for your love. Thank you that you love us so much that you sent your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to love one another, the people we know and the people we see and meet everywhere we go. Amen.

Sermon Notes

Sermon - "Love: Turning the Other Cheek"

Scripture Reading - Matthew 5:38-48

Christmas Week Worship Services

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | Friday, December 24 @ 7:00pm

SJCC Sanctuary and YouTube Live

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96

Message: "Children Learn What They Live"

Children's Program: "The Christmas Nativity"

Women's Ensemble Performance: "Not That Far From Bethlehem"

Special Music: "Mary, Did You Know?" Joshua Reeb

Christmas Morning Worship | Saturday, December 25 @ 10:00am

SJCC Sanctuary

An informal service of peace and joy!

Memorial Sunday Observance | Sunday, December 26 @ 8:00am and 10:30am

SJCC Sanctuary and YouTube Live (10:30 only)

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52, Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon: "Have We Been Obedient?"

Announcements

- ◆ **Poinsettia Pickup** - Poinsettias are available for pickup in the Chapel!
- ◆ **Siberian Solstice: In Concert at SJCC tonight at 7:00pm** - Join us in the Sanctuary this evening as Siberian Solstice performs "The Angel's Gift." Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and a freewill offering will be accepted to support the ministry of Siberian Solstice.
- ◆ **Community Meal Schedule** - Churches, community organizations, and Archbold Schools have provided weekly meals since September 14th, with plenty of volunteers from the host meal team and from SJCC each week. SJCC will be providing the meals on December 21st and January 11th, so we are in need of volunteers from the church to help with prep, serving, and cleanup. People interested in helping are asked to contact Pastor Erich - 419-551-0401. Thank you!

Week of December 19th 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)
	7:00PM	Siberian Solstice Concert (Sanctuary)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Church Office Closed)
	5:45PM	Spiritual Council (Fireside Room)
	6:30PM	Consistory Meal (Gym)
	7:30PM	Consistory (Chapel)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - SJCC (Parish Hall)
Wed	7:00PM	Women's Ensemble Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Fri	12:00PM	Church Office Closed
	6:30PM	Children Arrive for Costumes (Youth Room)
	7:00PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
Sat	10:00AM	Christmas Morning Worship (Sanctuary)
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)

Joy to the World! The Lord is come!

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 19 – Reaping the Rewards ----- Psalm 126
December 20 – Promised Glory -----Isaiah 4:2-6
December 21 – Sour Grapes -----Isaiah 5:1-7
December 22 – The “But” of God-----Isaiah 6
December 23 – Misplaced Fear----- Isaiah 7:1-17
December 24 – I Will Wait-----Isaiah 8
December 25 – The Day of “Nevertheless” -----Isaiah 9:1-7

December Mission-A-Month: Crossroads

For more than 138 years, Crossroad Child & Family Services in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has focused on the needs of children and families who have few alternatives. Prayers and generous financial support truly help change the futures of the children and families served by Crossroad!

Today's Worship Servants

Accompanist - Buffy Riley	Easy Worship - Tom Hines
Song Leader - Andrew Rohrs	Sound - James Grime
Ushers - Doug and Nancy Rupp	Acolyte - Cagnee Grime

Consistory Contact Information

President Gary Frazier (419-654-3133)

Elders Ryan Christman (419-551-2124), Jon Lindsay (419-445-4504), Todd Nafziger (419-906-7343), Betsy Redd (419-551-1843), Brad Roth (419-906-0408), David Stuckey (419-446-4686)

Deacons/ Deaconesses Tim Beck (419-267-5634), Jim Grieser (567-239-5876), Mindy Gruenhagen (mindygruenhagen@gmail.com), Keith Kern (419-572-1984), Jan Lindsay (419-445-4504), Crissi Stuckey (419-551-1146), Karen Walker (419-572-0834), Missy Warncke (419-551-4676), Bruce Wooley (419-572-6678)

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Jodi Beltz, who is recovering from outpatient surgery on her left ankle.
- ◆ Leah Nafziger, who is home, back to school, and awaits further medical follow up.
- ◆ Callie Ruffer, daughter of Cameron and Kristen, who remains hospitalized in Cincinnati, asking prayers for balance of her fluids, eating well, and for her oxygen levels.
- ◆ Ann Grime, as she continues to recover at home from the virus.
- ◆ Gretchen Heer, as she continues in therapy Rupp Rehab.
- ◆ Denny Hornish, who is recovering at home from surgery to remove his gall bladder.
- ◆ Matt Pardi, who 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

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)