

DECEMBER 4, 2022 | 8:00AM



# Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



*"This peace beyond all knowing  
Within our hearts is glowing"*

*We Light the Advent Candle  
Verse 2*

**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 refreshing way. Please let one of our ushers know you're new (*they may have already noticed your new face!*) so they can give you a welcome bag filled with helpful information about our church. Or you can scan the QR code to the right with your phone's camera to learn more about who we are as a congregation.



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

Nursery Care is offered during the 10:30AM service and we are always looking for new volunteers to help with this ministry! People interested in helping can contact the church office. We also have a Mother's Room located outside of the sanctuary for nursing mothers and/or mothers with young infants and toddlers. Diaper changing stations are located in both the Mother's Room and the Nursery. An usher will gladly direct you 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.



## WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP OF GOD!

Ringing of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Isaiah 11:1-10 (pg. 686)

The Nativity Scene

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

†Opening Hymn

#124, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

The Advent Wreath - The Candle of Peace

v.2, "We Light the Advent Candle"

†Hymn

#133, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

†Passing of the Peace of Jesus Christ

Scripture Reading for the Second Sunday of Advent

Romans 15:4-13 (pg. 1125)

Children's Message

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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:1-12 (pg. 957)

Sermon

"Preparation Time"

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

†Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

†Closing Hymn

#147, "Silent Night"

†Spoken Benediction

†Postlude

## SCRIPTURE READING

---

**Isaiah 11:1-10** A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup> The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord - <sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. <sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. <sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

**Romans 15:4-13** <sup>4</sup> For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs <sup>9</sup> so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: "Therefore I will praise you among the

Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name." <sup>10</sup>Again, it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." <sup>11</sup>And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples." <sup>12</sup>And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him." <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Matthew 3:1-12** In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea <sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." <sup>3</sup> This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" <sup>4</sup> John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup> Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

### TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

---

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Accompanist         | Buffy Riley       |
| Song/Worship Leader | David Stuckey     |
| Lay Reader          | Joshua Reeb       |
| Acolyte             | Courtney Stuckey  |
| Easy Worship        | Brian Roth        |
| Sound Tech          | Kelly Ducey       |
| Ushers              | Doug & Nancy Rupp |

### DECEMBER MISSION-A-MONTH: CROSSROAD CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

---

Since 1883, Crossroad Child & Family Services in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has been dedicated to the mission of creating promising futures for children and families. Today, our family directed programs focus on providing behavioral health treatment, education programs, and support services tailored to client needs and strengths. Crossroads has worked with thousands of young people and families over the years to help them learn, change, and thrive. Your prayers and generous financial support truly helps change the futures of young people.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

- ♦ **Family Night** - A family night will be held here in the church on Sunday, December 11th at 4:00PM in the Parish Hall. Escape the chilly weather with an (indoor) outdoor camping experience and movie night! The hall will be decorated like a forest and the evening will feature camping games, pizza and popcorn, and the nativity movie, "The Star" underneath the stars! Come in your pajamas if you wish, bring your friends, camping chairs or a sleeping bag, and join in an evening of fellowship and fun outside of the cold!

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM INFORMATION

---

### Children's Christmas Program - Rehearsals

The Children's Christmas program returns this year on Sunday, December 18th during our 10:30AM service of worship! Any and all children are invited to participate in rehearsals and during worship on December 18th; however, please be sure to let Pastor Erich know if your child will not be here for worship on December 18th. Rehearsal information for the two age groups are below:

#### Preschool - Kindergarten

Rehearsals will be held during the Sunday school hour on December 11th & 18th at 9:15AM in the Preschool Classroom.

#### 1st - 6th Grade

Rehearsals will be held the next two Wednesday evenings (12/7, 12/11) at 6:30PM in the Sanctuary; and on December 18th at 9:15AM in the Sanctuary.

### WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lisa M. Clark | Henry V. Gerlke

We light the Advent candle  
And thank the Lord for rest  
With peace we know that Jesus  
Has come to be our guest  
This peace beyond all knowing  
Within our hearts is glowing  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

## DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

---

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:

Dec 4 The King is Coming ----- Psalm 24  
Dec 5 An Unchanging God ----- Malachi 3:6-18  
Dec 6 Frolic like Calves ----- Malachi 4:1-6  
Dec 7 Always Thankful ----- Colossians 1:1-8  
Dec 8 A Life Worthy ----- Colossians 1:9-14  
Dec 9 It's All About Jesus ----- Colossians 1:15-23  
Dec 10 All the Treasures ----- Colossians 1:24 - 2:5

## WEEK OF DECEMBER 4TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

---

Sun 8:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)  
8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)  
9:15AM Children's Advent Celebration/Confirmation/Sunday School  
10:30AM Sermon in Music Service of Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)  
6:00PM Seekers (Kuntz's Home)

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 Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
7:00PM SYF (Youth Room)

Thu 5:30PM Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner (Parish Hall)

Sat 7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fireside Room)

Sun 8:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)  
8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)  
9:15AM Faith Village/Confirmation/Sunday School  
10:30AM Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)  
4:00PM Family Night "Under the Stars"

## NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2022 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - JOY

---

Sermon - "Jesus is the One"

Scripture Readings - Matthew 11:2-11; James 5:7-11

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

---

Come, Lord Jesus! Bring everlasting peace into our lives through Your forgiveness and salvation. May all our sufferings, sins, and doubts trouble us no longer, for we find our anchor in You. Amen.

## PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

---

Please pray for...

- ◆ The family of Wayne Spiess, who entered eternal life on 11/27 at the age of 97.
- ◆ Larry Miller, Dorothy's son, who sustained serious injuries in a car accident on 11/21.
- ◆ Dale Grime, recovering from double hernia surgery on 11/28.
- ◆ Leah Nafziger, as she continues in treatment to address her chronic headaches.
- ◆ Phyllis Miller, who has been moved to Fairlawn.
- ◆ Lynne Christman, as she continues to go through weekly chemo treatments.
- ◆ Jack Hurst, who had shoulder surgery on November 7th.
- ◆ Jodi Beltz, who continues to be limited in movement due to fractures in her left leg, but has been improving week by week.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Deployed, Jordan (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ Kali Collins, Destin, FL (Air Force) (Granddaughter 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, South Korea (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Taylor Pitts, Dayton, OH (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Shayne Pitts, Dayton, OH (Air Force) (Husband of Taylor)
- ◆ Steve Schink, Chesterfield, MI (Coast Guard) (Son-in-law of Ed and Julie Ruffer)

*All are invited to join us again at 10:30AM for the Sermon in Music, featuring the St. John's Chancel Choir & a Special Music performance of "Mary Did You Know?" by Norm Fether & Brooks Richer.*

### **ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, Ohio 43502  
419-446-2545 † [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)

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

Pastor of Music & Worship - Rev. Ryan Volkman (Cell: 325-213-0671)

Administrative Assistant - Jocelyn Walker ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org))