

JANUARY 1, 2023 | 8:00AM & 10:30AM



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



Children's
Christmas
Program
12/18



Happy 90th
Birthday,
Phyllis Miller!
12/28

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!

Ringling of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

Prelude

“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer

Isaiah 60:1-6 (pg. 738)

†Call to Worship

L: Congregation, what is your source of comfort and encouragement?

P: Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

L: With joy receive these words of greeting from God: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. (Gal. 1:3,4)

P: Amen!

L: Praise, O children of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.

P: We love you, Lord, for you hear our voices; you hear our cry for mercy.

L: How can we repay the Lord for all his goodness to us?

P: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. We will fulfill our vows to the Lord, in the presence of all his people. (Psalm 116:13-14)

†Hymn

#97, “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

†Unison Prayer of Confession: ***Lord of Lords, Light of Lights, we confess that though you call us to display your light in this world by loving one another, we often chose to walk in darkness, ignoring the needs of others, and living in selfishness instead of love. What’s more, instead of living in love and gratitude for you, our Most Merciful Heavenly Father, we neglect our duty to worship you with all our heart, strength, and soul, and fail to praise you as the source of every good thing we have. Forgive us Father, and grant your Spirit of love to live in our hearts that we might be renewed in love for you and our fellow man. Amen.***

†Words of Assurance: Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for him.” (Lamentations 3:22-24)

†Hymn Response

#52, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Message

Prayer for the New Year and The Lord’s Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12 (pg. 956)

Sermon

“The Magi aka Pagan Space Wizards: The Least-Likely Guests”

†Hymn

“He Is Exalted” (insert)

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings of Gratitude

Offertory

“We Three Kings”

†The Doxology (Gloria Patri #623) and Prayer of Dedication

†Hymn

“We Fall Down” (insert)

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#567, “Another Year Is Dawning”

†Postlude

“Joy to the World”

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. ² See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. ⁶ Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

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 ² and asked, "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." ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When 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.' " ⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He 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." ⁹ After 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. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Dear God, thank You that You make all things new. Thank You for all that You've allowed into our lives this past year: the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need You and rely on Your presence filling us every single day. We pray for Your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that You will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire You above all else. We ask that You will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that You would help us release our grip on the things to which You've said 'no,' 'not yet,' or 'wait.' We ask for help to pursue You first, above every dream and desire within our hearts. Amen.

FIRST QUARTER SERMON SERIES

Pastor Erich has outlined a three-month sermon series from January 8th through March 26th. There is a two-fold purpose of the series, presented by these two questions: 1) What does the Bible teach about the belief, and 2) How can we positively interact with a person who has no knowledge or understanding of the belief, or who takes exception to the belief?

In addition to the teaching sermons each week, Pastor Erich would like to offer a group discussion time after each week's sermon. Anyone interested in exploring this discussion time option may express their interest to Pastor Erich – in person, via phone, text or email.

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2022

Memorial Sunday Observance | Sacrament of Communion

Scripture: Mathew 28:19, 1 John 1:1-4, 2 Corinthians 13:14

Sermon: "God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit"

(10:30AM) SJCC Chancel Choir: "Let Light Shine Out of Darkness"

Topic: God is one being in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, & God the Holy Spirit.

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:

Jan 1 Reason to Believe ----- Psalm 27
Jan 2 The Ties That Bind ----- Matthew 19:1-12
Jan 3 Human Touch ----- Matthew 19:13-15
Jan 4 Hungry Heart ----- Matthew 19:16-30
Jan 5 My Beautiful Reward ----- Matthew 20:1-16
Jan 6 High Hopes----- Matthew 20:17-28
Jan 7 Eyes on the Prize ----- Matthew 20:29-34

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **GIF Gals** - The first GIF Gals event of 2023 is scheduled for January 22nd after church here in the building (exact location TBD). We will have pizza and watch the movie, “We Bought a Zoo” and will talk about our plans for the new year. A sign-up sheet is located on the office bulletin board.
- ◆ **Christmas “Undecorating”** - We will take down Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 7th, beginning at 9:00AM. Any and all are welcome to join!

WEEK OF JANUARY 1ST AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	4:00PM	Visitation & Services for Toni Vajen (Parish Hall)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	7:30PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
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)

JANUARY MISSION-A-MONTH: EMERGENCY CLEANUP BUCKETS

Hurricanes, floods and other disasters are happening more frequently, so when our neighbors around the world experience these unforeseen circumstances, we can help make the road to recovery easier with CWS Cleanup Buckets. These buckets are full of essential home recovery supplies that are needed after a disaster strikes. To give to our Mission-A-Month, simply write “MAM” or “CWS Kits” on Line 11 of your offering envelope, or select “Church World Service” in the “Give to” drop-down menu through Breeze’s online giving platform. For more information on CWS, visit <https://cwsglobal.org/>. For every \$75 collected this month, Church World Service will fill a five-gallon bucket with the following items to help a household in need:

- ◆ One 4-8oz. pump spray air freshener
- ◆ Five scouring pads; seven sponges, including one large; and one scrub brush
- ◆ 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose dry cleaning towels
- ◆ One 32-64oz. or two 25oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- ◆ One 16-34oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- ◆ One 12-40oz. bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water
- ◆ One package of 36-50 clothespins
- ◆ One 50-100ft. clothesline
- ◆ Five dust masks
- ◆ Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves and one pair of work gloves
- ◆ 20-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll
- ◆ One 6-9oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Buffy Riley	
Song Leader	(Both) Pastor Ryan Volkman	
Worship Leader	(Both) David Stuckey	
Lay Readers	(10:30) Aimee Roth	
Acolytes	(8:00) Courtney Stuckey	(10:30) Molly Rutledge
Easy Worship	(10:30) Brian Roth	
Sound Tech	(10:30) James Grime	
Live Stream	(10:30) Kelly Ducey	
8:00 Usher	Jim Grieser	
Head Usher	Greg Walker	
10:30 Ushers	Tom & Laura Johnson, Todd & Jill Nafziger	

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY - JANUARY 15TH

This year's Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 15th, 2023. As with years past, we'll follow a special schedule on this particular Sunday:

- 9:00AM Confirmation, Faith Village and Sunday School
- 10:00AM Worship Service (Sanctuary & YouTube Live)
- 11:15AM Annual Meeting (Sanctuary & Zoom)
- 12:30PM Annual Meeting Luncheon (Served by SYF)

Annual Meeting Information Packets will be available by Sunday, January 8th, both in print and online.

The nomination ballot, as of December 28th, consists of the following nominees:

- ◆ Congregational President – Linda Heer (2nd Term) and Eric Nafziger
- ◆ Congregational Secretary – Lynne Roth (2nd Term)
- ◆ Elder – Joyce Kinsman, Jill Nafziger
Calls are still being made for three more nominees
- ◆ Deacon/Deaconess – Sarah Kinsman, Darlene Steiner, Kenny Walker III
Calls are still being made for three more nominees

The Nomination Committee, the Spiritual Council, continues to seek further nominees to fill out the slate.

Zoom Information:

Topic: Annual Congregational Meeting

Time: Jan 15, 2023 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84825586978?pwd=SThqck9ORCtBRVJ1bXNweDBhZmFEQT09>

Meeting ID: 848 2558 6978

Passcode: 20sjcc23

He Is Exalted

Words and Music by
Twila Paris

VERSE

F F/A B \flat B \flat /C C 7

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high, I will praise Him.

5

F F/A B \flat C/B \flat B \flat /C C D sus

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name!

CHORUS

10 D Gm Dm/F C/E C F Am B \flat F/A

He is the Lord, for - ev - er His truth shall reign.

15 Gm Dm/F C/E C F Am B \flat F/A

Heav - en and earth re - joice in His ho - ly name.

19 Gm B \flat /F E \flat B \flat /C F

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high!

CCLI Song # 17827

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We Fall Down

Words and Music by
Chris Tomlin

VERSE

E B C#m7 A



We fall _ down, _ we lay our _ crowns _ at the feet _ of Je -

4

F#m E B C#m7



- sus, _ the great - ness _ of _ mer - cy and _ love _ at the feet .

CHORUS

7

A B E/G# Amaj7 E/G# F#m E/G#



_ of Je - sus. And we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry

11

Amaj7 E/G# F#m C#m7 B Amaj7 E/G#



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -

14

F#m E/B B7 E A/E



- ly is the Lamb.

1.	2.
E D ²	E

CCLI Song # 2437367

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PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Rosemarie Schmidt, who is in Fairlawn Haven, room #159, as she recovers from a fall.
- ◆ Phyllis Miller, who has entered into hospice care at Fairlawn.
- ◆ Renee Liechty, who is in Rupp Rehab for physical therapy following leg surgery.
- ◆ Solomon and Lisa Welch, as Solomon has been seriously ill the past number of weeks, being hospitalized for awhile.
- ◆ Leah Nafziger, as she continues in treatment to address her chronic headaches.
- ◆ Lynne Christman, as she continues with weekly chemo through January 30th.
- ◆ Morgan and Kyle Culbertson, daughter and son-in-law of Kelly and Betsy Ducey, on the birth of their son, Bennett Gabriel, on December 17th.

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)

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, Ohio 43502
419-446-2545 † 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)