

July 16, 2023 | 8:00am & 10:30am

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Church on the Corner whose Cornerstone is Christ



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.

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. We also invite you to fill out a quick survey so we can get to know you a little better. Simply scan the QR code to the right with your phone's camera while you're waiting for worship to start!



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 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.

Let's Connect!



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP OF GOD!

Ring of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles	
Prelude	“How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place”
Welcome and Announcements	
Opening Prayer	
†Opening Scripture	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40 (pg. 969)
†Opening Praise	#338, “At Calvary”
†Passing the Peace of Jesus Christ	
Children’s Message	
Sermon Scripture	1 Thessalonians 2 (pg. 1172)
Sermon	“God Is the Witness”
Prayer of the Church and The Lord’s Prayer (<i>debts/debtors</i>)	
Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings & Prayer of Dedication	
Offertory	“Praise the Lord”
Second Offering - Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign	
†Apostles’ Creed (back cover of red hymnal)	
†Hymn of Preparation	#330, “Only Trust Him”
Sacrament of Communion	
Words of Invitation, Confession and Assurance	
Hymn - #51, v. 1, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"	
Words of Institution and Sharing of the Elements	
Communion Blessing	
†Closing Hymn	#335, “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”
†Spoken Benediction	
†Benediction in Song	#606, “Grace, Love, and Fellowship”
†Postlude	

WE PRACTICE OPEN COMMUNION

All adults and older youth who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune.

- ◆ Grape juice is served in the trays of the cup
- ◆ At 8:00AM worship, communicants will be invited to come forward in groups
- ◆ At 10:30AM worship, communicants will be served in the pews, partaking at one time

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40 – Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' ²⁸"'An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' ²⁹"'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'" ³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. ⁴⁰"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.

1 Thessalonians 2 - You know, brothers, that our visit to you was not a failure. ² We had previously suffered and been insulted in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in spite of strong opposition. ³ For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴ On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed- -God is our witness. ⁶ We were not looking

for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. ⁷ As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children. ⁸ We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. ⁹ Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. ¹¹For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, ¹²encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory. ¹³And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe. ¹⁴For you, brothers, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own countrymen the same things those churches suffered from the Jews, ¹⁵who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to all men ¹⁶in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last. ¹⁷But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. ¹⁸For we wanted to come to you-- certainly I, Paul, did, again and again-- but Satan stopped us. ¹⁹For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? ²⁰Indeed, you are our glory and joy.

SERMON NOTES

Sermon: "God Is the Witness"

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Heavenly Father, bring peace to my mind and my heart as I struggle through discontent. Help me to count my blessings and find rest in you. I take hold of the promises in your word when you say, "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you." Help me to live in the light of those words, Lord, with the confidence that you have not left my side and you never will. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Book Bag Bash** - The annual Book Bag Bash will take place on Sunday, August 6th from 4:00 - 6:00PM here in the gym. Any and all K-12 students in the Archbold community are invited to come pick up a free book bag filled with school supplies. Thank you to the SJCC Evangelism Committee for organizing yet another year of this community event!
- ◆ **August 17th Senior Saints & Senior Luncheon** - Next month's Third Thursday Senior Luncheon includes a special performance by the Senior Saints at 11:00AM in the Sanctuary! The group includes 71 musicians from thirty area churches. We've invited the Senior Saints to join us for our monthly luncheon after their performance. Due to this special program, we kindly ask that church members planning on staying for lunch sign up at the bulletin board no later than August 10th so that food can be ordered. We hope you'll be there!
- ◆ **Save the date for "BBFF"** - We'll kick off the new ministry year on September 10th with our annual outdoor worship followed by **Burgers, Brats, Fellowship & Fun!** More details to come!
- ◆ **Search Committee for Youth and Young Adult Staff Position** - The committee will hold their first meeting this Wednesday, July 26th. Serving on the committee are: Nici Wyse (Chairperson and Consistory Liaison), Amy Baden, Ryan Christman, Mindy Gruenhagen, Gloria Lauber, Joshua Reeb, Molly Rutledge, David Stuckey, Cayla Swisher and Pastor Erich.
- ◆ **Summer Lunch Program** - The Northwestern Community Action Commission has been serving free lunches to Archbold children from 12:00PM to 12:45PM, Monday through Friday, at the pavilion in Ruidley Park near the swimming pool. Their program will end on July 28th, and some area churches will be filling the gap from July 31 until the start of school. St. John's will be preparing and serving the meals August 7-11. Volunteers willing to help with one or more of these meals may contact the church office.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman
Song Leader	(Both) Roger Zimmerman
Worship Leader	(Both) Brad Roth
Easy Worship	(Both) Brian Roth
Sound Tech	(Both) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Ryan Christman
8:00 Usher	Judy Sears
Head Usher	Richard Spiess
10:30 Ushers	Brad & Aimee Roth, Avery Roth, Evy Roth

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:

Jul 23 Praising God in the Storm----- Psalm 55
Jul 24 Is the Sermon Done? ----- Luke 6:43-49
Jul 25 It Takes One to Know One ----- Luke 7:1-10
Jul 26 Losing Everything ----- Luke 7:11-17
Jul 27 So Who Is Jesus? ----- Luke 7:18-35
Jul 28 Forgiven Much, Love Much ----- Luke 7:36-50
Jul 29 A Good Heart Hears ----- Luke 8:1-15

WEEK OF JULY 23RD AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Safety Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	6:30PM	Search Committee (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)

JULY MISSION-A-MONTH: SHEPHERD CIRCLE

Shepherd Circle is a local mission project started by Cecily Rohrs in 2004. The purpose of this program is to mentor individuals or families who are good people that have made bad choices. Through this project, assistance is given and guidance is provided to help these people get back on their feet and once again become productive citizens and good stewards of their financial resources. To donate to Shepherd Circle this month, simply write "MAM" on Line 11 of your offering envelope or select "Shepherd Circle" in the "Give to" drop-down menu on Breeze's online giving feature.

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Jessica and Tristan Kast, daughter and son-in-law of Jon and Jan Lindsay, upon the birth of their daughter, Millie Jean, on Tuesday, July 11th.
- ◆ Stacia Suon, teenage daughter of Jason and Becky, as she had to have emergency surgery this past Tuesday. The family is praising God the situation is not life-threatening; however, there is a long road of recovery ahead . Prayers are needed that Jason and Becky can care for Stacia while tending to their other three children all while in the middle of their furlough.
- ◆ Tom & Megan L., as they continue to be in prayer and discernment over a treatment plan for the herniated discs in Megan’s back. After last weekend, they are feeling peace about traveling to talk to a surgeon so now they must decide where to go and what surgeon to consult with.
- ◆ Chloe Merillat, as she is coping with pain in her feet due to medication; however, it has not stopped her from serving at Miracle Camp this summer.
- ◆ Monte Woolace, as the surgery for the cancer has been postponed until sometime in August.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Oak Grove, KY (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ Kali Collins, Destin, FL (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Kyle Ducey, San Antonio, TX (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

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