

December 24, 2023 | Christmas Eve | 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!



Nursery Care/Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Stations



Nursery Care is offered during 10:30AM service for children ages four months through preschool across from the church office. Parents can register children for Nursery Care online at www.stjohnsarchbold.org/nursery or by scanning the QR code to the left before checking into the nursery for the first time. 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!
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - CHRISTMAS EVE

Ringing of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Jocelyn Walker "Be Born in Me"

Scripture Reading and Prayer Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (p. 587)

The Nativity Scene – Mary and Joseph

Carol Response #147, v.1, "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

†Call to Worship (L - Leader, **P - People**)

L: The Advent season is a time when the light of the Lord radiates throughout the world.

P: In as much as we can, let us be bright lights of your love and grace, Lord.

L: Amid the wrappings and writings, the carols and glad gatherings,

P: We prepare ourselves for the One who reveals the Lord's ways everyday.

†Carol #137, "What Child Is This?"

The Advent Wreath – The Candle of The Virgin Birth (8:00) Dale & Ann Grime

Carol Response (10:30) The Krukowski Family
v. 1-4, "Christmas is Coming" (Insert)

Children's Message

(10:30) Chancel Choir "Tiny King"

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

†Carol #143, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38 (p. 1012), Romans 16:25-27 (p. 1126)

Sermon "The Gospel Account"

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Away In a Manger/Birthday of a King"

Second Offering: Imagine Your Faith Building Capital Campaign

†Carol #125, "Joy to the World!"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song #123, v. 4, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

†Postlude

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 89:1-4 I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. ² I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself. ³ You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, ⁴ 'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'"

Psalm 89:19-26 Once you spoke in a vision, to your faithful people you said: "I have bestowed strength on a warrior; I have exalted a young man from among the people. ²⁰ I have found David my servant; with my sacred oil I have anointed him. ²¹ My hand will sustain him; surely my arm will strengthen him. ²² No enemy will subject him to tribute; no wicked man will oppress him. ²³ I will crush his foes before him and strike down his adversaries. ²⁴ My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted. ²⁵ I will set his hand over the sea, his right hand over the rivers. ²⁶ He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing is impossible with God." ³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Romans 16:25-27 Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him -- ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Christmas Is Coming

Words and Music by
John L. Bell

C Dm/C G/C C Dm7 C/E G7 Am Em/G

"Christ - mas is com - ing." The Church is glad to sing and let the Ad - vent

Dm/F G C F/G C Am F⁷/A Em/G

can - dles bright - ly burn in a ring.

1. The first is for God's prom - ise to
2. The sec - ond for the proph - ets, who
3. The third is for the Bap - tist, who
4. The fourth is for the Vir - gin, who
5. At last we light the can - dle kept

F G/F C/E Dm7 C/E F Dm7

put the wrong things right, and bring to earth's dark - ness the hope of love and
said that Christ would come with good news for man - y and an - gry words for
cried: "Pre - pare the way. Be read - y for Je - sus, both this and ev - 'ry
moth - ered God's own son and sang how God's jus - tice was meant for ev - 'ry -
new for Christ - mas day. This shines bright for Je - sus, new - born, and here to

1, 2, 3, 4

5

G7sus G7 G7sus G7 C Dm/C G/C C Dm7 C/E G7 Am Em/G

light. stay. Christ is a - mong us. The can - dles in the ring re - mind us that our
some.
day."

one.

Dm/F G C F/G C

Sav - iour will light up ev - 'ry - thing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** - “Follow the lights” outside of the church to our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service tonight at 7:00PM in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **Christmas Caroling at Fairlawn Haven** - We will have a simple service of worship tomorrow morning followed by Christmas Caroling at Fairlawn Haven! Gather inside the Lutz Rd. entrance that is east of the chapel entrance at 11:45AM. Carolers will walk the halls and sing for the residents for about a half hour (song sheets will be available). Masks will be available at the front desk if anyone would want one, but they are not required.
- ◆ **Christmas “Un-Decorating”** - We will need a handful of volunteers to help take down and store Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 6th beginning at 9:00AM. There will be some heavy lifting involved; however, there will be tasks for all ages and abilities! Please let Pastor Erich or Jocelyn know if you’re available to help.
- ◆ **Kajiado Children’s Home 2024 Mission Trip** - The Mission Committee is working to send a team to Kajiado Children’s Home in June of 2024. Potential dates are June 6 to 13; June 12 to 22 and June 21 to 30. Potential costs of the trip, all inclusive, would be about \$4,000. This estimate includes the international flight cost. Anyone with questions may contact Missy Warncke or Nancy Rupp, chair and vice-chair of the Mission Committee. Applications for the trip are due by February 16, 2024 and can be picked up in the church office.
- ◆ **Toledo Walleye Faith & Family Night** - Faith & Family Night with the Toledo Walleye is scheduled for February 4th, 2024! The game begins at 5:15PM that evening and will include a pre-game worship and Q&A with the players and team chaplain like last year. We’ll have additional details about exact times and prices in the coming weeks, but we need to reserve our tickets soon. Please sign up on the office bulletin board no later than December 31st.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Song Leader	(Both) Roger Zimmerman	
Acolyte	(8:00) Camryn Stuckey	(10:30) Ethan Krukowski
Easy Worship	(Both) Kelly Ducey	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Jenna Stuckey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Cayla Swisher	
Nursery Care	(10:30) Brooke Hines & Emily Hines	
8:00 Ushers	Doug & Nancy Rupp	
10:30 Head Usher	Brad Roth	
10:30 Ushers	Richard Spiess, Aimee Roth, Adam Walker, Karen Walker	

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 24 Stand Firm ----- Philippians 1:27-2:4
Dec 25 A Servant Prince ----- Philippians 2:5-11
Dec 26 Starlight----- Philippians 2:12-18
Dec 27 My Friends ----- Philippians 2:19-30
Dec 28 Leaving the Past Behind----- Philippians 3:1-11
Dec 29 Run the Race ----- Philippians 3:12-4:1
Dec 30 Co-Workers in Disarray ----- Philippians 4:2-9

WEEK OF DEC. 24TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun 8:00AM Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary)
 8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
 9:15AM Adult Sunday School Classes
 10:30AM Christmas Eve Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
 7:00PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

Mon *Church Office Closed*
 10:30AM Christmas Morning Worship (Sanctuary)
 11:45AM Christmas Caroling (Fairlawn Haven)

Tue *Church Office Closed*

Thu 4:00PM Mission Committee (Fireside Room)

Sun 8:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)
 8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
 9:15AM Adult Sunday School Classes
 10:30AM Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Lord of Light and Love, how thankful I am to be filled with your light. I pray for your light to radiate throughout the world. Shine your light through me into others. Fill me with your light as though I were a lighthouse on the shore. Use me to guide others and to keep them away from dangerous shores and shifting currents. Set us all aflame with your light as though we were candles. Enable us to burn steadily with your Spirit to shove aside all forms of darkness. Thank you, Jesus, for being our light, and may we be aglow for you. In your name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ The family of Audrey Smith, as Audrey entered eternal life on 12/19 at the age of 96.
- ◆ Phyllis Swietzer, who is in hospice care at Fulton Manor; not able to have visitors.
- ◆ Jodi Beltz, recovering at home from recent extensive leg surgery.
- ◆ Jocelyn Walker, who had outpatient surgery on Friday morning.
- ◆ Monte Woolace, who continues to go through treatment for cancer.

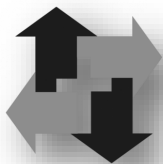
Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Oak Grove, KY (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ 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)

GIDEON CARD MINISTRY

As a way of encouraging, caring and supporting people, there are Gideon cards available in the sanctuary narthex. Card themes include: Thinking of you...Praying for You...Sympathy...In Recognition. Each card enables the sender to donate towards Gideon Bible distributions, too. As the Gideon's say, Give a Card, Send the Word, Change a Life!

DECEMBER MISSION-A-MONTH:



CROSSROAD
Child & Family Services

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