



December 8, 2024 | Sermon in Music | 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**

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*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.*

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# Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

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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 our 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](http://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!



## SCRIPTURE READING

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**Psalm 89:1-8** I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. <sup>2</sup> I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself. <sup>3</sup> You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, <sup>4</sup> 'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'" <sup>5</sup> The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. <sup>6</sup> For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord? Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings? <sup>7</sup> In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; he is more awesome than all who surround him. <sup>8</sup> O Lord God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you.



**Congregational Prayer:** O Lord God, may the wondrous sounds of our worship music bring glory and honor to Your Name, O Most High! May the lyrics of the songs and words of the Bible speak to my heart as I seek Your peace. Thank you, Lord, for drawing me to You, that I would be faithful in my worship and service, shining Your light for the blessing of others, introducing them to the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ. In His name, Amen.

**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP OF GOD!**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ SERMON IN MUSIC**

Ringing of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

“A Christmas Herald” arranged by Buffy Riley Adult Bell Choir  
Jane Pearl Buckenmeyer, Keira Christman, Lynne Christman, Ryan Christman,  
Ann Fether, Gloria Lauber, Lynne Ries, Aimee Roth, Darlene Steiner, David Stuckey

Welcome

Mission-A-Month Moment Crossroad Child & Family Services

Scripture and Prayer Psalm 89:1-8 (pg. 587)

The Nativity Scene – The Sheep

Carol Response insert, “The Friendly Beasts”

“O Come All You Unfaithful” Sarah Kinsman, soloist; Brooks Richer, Guitarist

“Noel” Buffy Riley

† Congregational Carol insert, “Christ is Born in Bethlehem”

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – The Candle of Peace

Bryson, Caitie, Alexa, Dawsyn Martinez, and Izaiah Sanchez

Carol Response insert, verses 1 & 2, “The Advent Candles”

“The Manger” Jim McCurdy & Mike McRobbie

“Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)” Raegan Rutledge

“A Cradle in Bethlehem” Scott & Joshua Reeb

“Messiah” Molly Rutledge

“Joseph’s Song” Norm Fether, soloist; Brooks Richer, Guitarist

† Congregational Carol #132, “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Trumpets: Matt Hines and Anna Yoder

Children’s Message

“The Birthday of a King” Jane Pearl Buckenmeyer

“The Star and the Wise Men” Raegan Rutledge, soloist, with Men’s Ensemble  
Norm Fether, Jim Grieser, Dale Grime, Todd Nafziger, Andrew Rohrs,  
Richard Spiess, David Stuckey, Adam Swisher, Bruce Wooley, Roger Zimmerman

“Here With Us” Jocelyn Walker, soloist; Lynne Christman, Organist

† Congregational Carol #125, vs. 1-3, “Joy to the World!”  
Trumpets: Matt Hines and Anna Yoder

“O Holy Night” Adam Swisher

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” Adult Bell Choir

“A Hallelujah Christmas” Mixed Quartet  
Norm Fether, Buffy Riley, Jocelyn Walker, Bruce Wooley

† Benediction

† Benediction Carol #125, v. 4, “Joy to the World!”

† Exit Offering

(Transition to Congregational Meeting)

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### **The Advent Candles**

(Tune: Away in the Manger)

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
A candle of Hope in December’s dark night,  
While angels sing blessings from heav’ns starry sky,  
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

A candle is burning, a candle of Peace,  
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.  
For Jesus is coming to show us the way,  
A message of Peace humbly laid in the hay.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- ◆ **Fulton County Christmas Cheer - Today**, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the last day to bring your Christmas Cheer Tree items to the church. Thank you for helping to touch the lives of people throughout all of Fulton County.
- ◆ **Siberian Solstice Concert - Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>**, at St. Caspar Catholic Church. The Trans-Siberian Orchestra-inspired performance of “An Angel’s Gift” will be presented at 7PM in the St. Caspar’s Parish Life Center, 1205 North Shoop Avenue in Wauseon. The only cost is a freewill offering for the band. You are also invited to bring a non-perishable, unexpired item for the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s food pantry at St. Caspar. All are welcome!
- ◆ **Women’s Christmas Movie Night: “Mary”** - Women in the congregation are invited to join us at the church on **Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM** in the chapel for a special screening of the new Netflix original movie, “Mary.” *“Journey back in time to experience the story of the Nativity from a fresh perspective: through the eyes of Mary of Nazareth, the mother of Jesus Christ. Directed by D.J. Caruso and written by Timothy Michael Hayes, this uplifting biblical epic follows Mary, Joseph, and their newborn son, Jesus, as they flee the relentless pursuit of King Herod, portrayed by two-time Academy Award winner Anthony Hopkins”* (Netflix, 2024). “Mary” was crafted by the help of biblical, religious and historical scholars and is said to be a coming-of-age biblical epic told through the eyes of the young mother. We ask that you please bring \$5 to offset the cost of pizza and salad for dinner.
- ◆ **Senior Citizen’s Dinner** - The Fellowship Committee invites all senior citizens to the annual Senior Dinner on **Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30PM** in the Parish Hall. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board.
- ◆ **God Winks Devotional: Christmas Collection** - There is a collection basket in the sanctuary narthex. We are collecting them between now and Christmas to distribute locally to medical waiting rooms, rehab facilities, dialysis centers, and cancer treatment centers.
- ◆ **Adult Small Group** - Wednesday Evenings - Commencing on **Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7PM**, Pastor Erich will lead an adult small group study on the subject of discipleship. This small group study will go until February 26<sup>th</sup>, the Wednesday before Ash Wednesday. The study will make use of a participant guide, “The Way: Discovering Christ’s Path of Discipleship.” Study sessions will be an hour in length. People interested in the study are asked to sign up on the hallway bulletin board so guides can be ordered and a suitable room can be reserved.
- ◆ **Fresh Coffee Available in the Kitchen** - Pots of coffee, both caffeinated and de-caffeinated, are available on the kitchen counter for people to help themselves. The Building Committee is pursuing a new beverage area and set-up that may be located in the parlor after the new ceiling and flooring is complete.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- ◆ **Sunday Lunch with the Pastor** - Want to know more about the theology and current ministries of St. John's Christian Church? Then this time of lunch and conversation is for you! Pastor Erich and Lynne will host the lunch in the Fireside Room following the 10:30AM service on **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**. It will be an informal time of getting acquainted with each other and with the church. People interested in attending are asked to: 1) speak with Pastor Erich, 2) email him ([pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org)), or 3) text him (419-551-0401).
- ◆ **College Student Funding for Kajiado Children's Home Mission Trip** - The Mission Committee has allocated \$5,000 in the 2025 Mission Budget to help send up to two college students on the upcoming mission trip to Kajiado Children's Home from May 27 - June 6, 2025. These funds are pending approval of the Annual Congregational Meeting in January 2025. If two students are selected, the amount will be evenly divided at \$2,500 each. If one student is selected, the student will receive the full \$5,000. This funding is designed to provide college students with a global mission experience backed by the financial and prayer support of their home church. Interested applicants should email Jocelyn at [jwalker@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:jwalker@stjohnsarchbold.org). **Applications are due by January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**
- ◆ **The Fellowship Committee** is considering starting up group meals. This would be an opportunity for families/individuals at SJCC to be paired with other families/individuals they may not normally have the opportunity to fellowship with. This would be a great opportunity to branch out and get to know new people in your church family. The specific details will be worked out based on interest and will not officially start until January or February of next year. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway to express interest.
- ◆ **2025 Offering Envelopes** - Please check the table in the sanctuary narthex even if you have not had boxes in the past. All active givers should have boxes assigned, unless you give online. If you don't see your name, please let Gloria in the church office know.
- ◆ **Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County, Ohio (HFHFCO)** has scheduled work days for Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>. Either visit <https://habitatfco.org/how-to-get-involved/volunteer.html> or contact Pastor Erich, who serves as HFHFCO's construction manager. Scheduled work includes vinyl siding, wall insulation, and drywall hanging!

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## 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, the family directed programs focus on providing behavioral health treatment, education programs, and support services tailored to client needs and strengths. The organization has worked with thousands of young people and families over the years to help them learn, change, and thrive. Crossroads thanks us for our prayers and generous financial support over the years that has truly helped in changing the futures of young people.

## Christ is Born in Bethlehem

CHARLES WESLEY

GEO. C. HUGG

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: Glo - ry to the new - born  
 2. Christ by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ the ev - er - last - ing  
 3. Hall, the heav'n - born Prince of Peace, Hall, the Sun of Right - eous -

King; . . . Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,  
 Lord; . . . Late in time be - hold him come,  
 ness! . . . Light and life to all he brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled! Joy - ful all ye  
 Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the  
 Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his

na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 God - head see; Hall th'in - car - nate De - i - ty: . . .  
 glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die: . . .



With th'an-gel - ic host pro - claim, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.  
 Pleased as Man with men to dwell; Je - sus our Em - man - u - el!  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

REFRAIN.

O Beth - le - hem, dear Beth - le - hem, Hark how the glad notes ring!

Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ex - alt the new - born King!

The an - gel throng his praise pro - long, Glo - ry to God they sing,

While heav'n and earth pro - claim the birth of Christ, the new - born King!

**Christ is Born in Bethlehem** – Charles Wesley penned the words to “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” in 1897. You will recognize these familiar words set to an unfamiliar, but fun tune! Let’s proclaim His birth! “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

# The Friendly Beasts

Traditional

ENGLISH, Arr. M. F. Moody

*Gently*

Je- sus our broth- er kind and good Was hum- bly born in a sta- ble rude, And the

9  
friend- ly beasts a- round him stood Je- sus our broth- er kind and good.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Friendly Beasts'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo/mood is marked 'Gently'. The lyrics are: 'Je- sus our broth- er kind and good Was hum- bly born in a sta- ble rude, And the'. The second system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: '9 friend- ly beasts a- round him stood Je- sus our broth- er kind and good.' The bass line is present in both systems.

I said the sheep with the curly horn  
I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn  
I said the sheep with the curly horn

## DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

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Dec 8 A Guidebook for the Ages----- Psalm 119:97-112  
Dec 9 The Greatest Privilege!-----1 John 1:1-4  
Dec 10 God's Cleaning Project-----1 John 1:5-2:2  
Dec 11 Living in the Light of Love-----1 John 2:3-11  
Dec 12 You Cannot Love Both-----1 John 2:12-17  
Dec 13 Real Super Christianity-----1 John 2:18-27  
Dec 14 Confident and Unashamed-----1 John 2:28-3:10

## WEEK OF DECEMBER 8TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Sun	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
	8:00AM Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:00AM Congregational Meeting (Chapel)
	9:15AM Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:30AM Sermon in Music (Sanctuary and YouTube Live) Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
Mon	6:30PM Women's Movie Night - "Mary" (Chapel)
Tue	9:15AM Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM Community Meal - (St. Martin's Lutheran) (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM Property Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	6:00PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:30PM Adult Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Thur	5:30PM Senior Citizens Dinner (Parish Hall)
Fri	4:00PM Nofziger Visitation (Chapel)
Sat	7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fireside Room)
	11:00AM Nofziger Memorial Service (Sanctuary)
Sun	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
	8:00AM Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:30AM Children's Christmas Program (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	7:00PM Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Pastor Erich and Lynne are leaving after the second congregational meeting for an overnight stay at their daughter's. He is reachable by his cell phone as needed.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

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Accompanist	Lynne Christman
Song Leader	Andrew Rohrs
Acolyte	Dawsyn Martinez
Easy Worship	Mark Nofziger
Sound Tech	James Grime
Live Stream	Ollie MacDonald
Nursery	Brooke Lerma & Emily Hines
Head Usher	Brad Roth
Ushers	Evynn Roth, Avery Roth, Brian & Trena Huffman

## PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

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Please pray for...

- ◆ Janice Nofziger and family upon the death of her husband, Burdell, who entered eternal life on December 4<sup>th</sup> at the age of 87. Visitation is Friday, from 4PM to 7PM, in the Chapel, with the Memorial Service on Saturday at 11AM in the Sanctuary, with a luncheon to follow in the Parish Hall.
- ◆ Dencel Miller, now at Fulton Manor for a time of rehab.
- ◆ Todd & Ruthann Buehrer, brother of Ben, who has started chemo treatment.
- ◆ Scott & JoAnn Short, as Scott has been diagnosed with cancer in his prostate.
- ◆ Melva Woolace, who is in rehab at Montpelier Hospital.
- ◆ Bryce Winzeler, recuperating at home from recent surgery.
- ◆ Jeff & Laura Bostelman, as radiation treatment of Jeff's cancer in the spine has ended, and chemo treatment should start in the next couple of weeks.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, as Stuart's latest scan was a good one, with progress in his treatment.

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #405
- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Louise Short, Hillside Country Living, 09876 County Road 16, Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #111

Missions/Missionaries...

- ◆ Defiance Area Youth for Christ – asking for prayer each evening at 7:59PM

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) (Grandson-in-law of Nan Neill)
- ◆ 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](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)

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

Dir. of Youth & Young Adults - Jocelyn Walker (Cell: 419-575-4218)

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