



January 26, 2025 | 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 our 10:30AM service for children ages four months through preschool in the second floor room labelled "Artisan's Tent." 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!

Enter to Worship God in the Fellowship of Others

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise." (Psalm 100:4)

Ringling of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

"To the Glory of God, and for the Calling of the Faithful to Worship." (Inscribed on the Bells)

Welcome & Announcements

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 99:1-3

Prelude

"I Will Celebrate"

"A time of centering our thoughts on our worship of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit"

† Hymns of Praise

#548, "Beyond the Sunset"
#87, "May Jesus Christ Be Praised"

† Unison Prayer of Adoration - ***Heavenly Father, Lord of All, we bow before you in deep reverence and awe, acknowledging your sovereignty and majesty over all creation. We adore you for your infinite wisdom and understanding. In your perfect knowledge, you orchestrate the intricate details of the universe, bringing order out of chaos and weaving together the tapestry of existence. Your heart is filled with unfailing love for all your children. You extend your grace and mercy, showering us with forgiveness and second chances. In Your love, we find solace, healing, and restoration. May our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving as we worship you, and you alone, O God Almighty. Amen.***

† The Gloria Patri (#623)

Children's Message

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

(10:30) Ordination and Installation of 2025 Consistory and Officers

Opening Sentences and Vows and Promises

Congregation's Pledge: ***I pledge myself to be used by God, as a part of this congregation, to be at work in our church, our community, and the world to reflect the love and grace of Jesus Christ. I will pray for these elders, deacons and deaconesses, and officers as they lead and oversee the ministry and work of St. John's. I will strive to be faithful in cooperating with the Consistory in our efforts to glorify God. In faith I pledge. Amen.***

Ordination of New Elders, Deacon and Deaconesses

Installation and Prayer

† Sermon Hymn

#52, "O God Our Help in Ages Past"

Sermon

(Selected Verses from Revelation 2 & 3)

"Seven Lessons to Learn"

Prayer of Dedication and the Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Christ in Us Be Glorified"

Second Offering – Imagine Your Faith Building Capital Campaign

† Closing Hymn

#29, "Glorify Thy Name"

† Spoken Benediction

† Benediction in Song

#206, v. 3, "There Is a Redeemer"

† Postlude

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 99:1-3 – The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake. ² Great is the Lord in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations. ³ Let them praise your great and awesome name -- he is holy.

Ephesus – 2:3-5: You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. ⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵ Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

Smyrna – 2:10: Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Pergamum – 2:14-16: Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. ¹⁵ Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore!

Thyatira – 2:24-25: Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): ²⁵ Only hold on to what you have until I come.

Sardis – 3:1-3: I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ² Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. ³ Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent.

Philadelphia – 3:10-11: Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.

Laodicea – 3:15-16, 19: ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm -- neither hot nor cold -- I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.

Congregational Prayer – Please pray the prayer of adoration included in the order of service

SERMON NOTES: "SEVEN LESSONS TO LEARN"

"Seven Lessons to Learn" – Revelation 2 & 3

Building a "Super" Christian? Not at all. Calling us to be faithful and just.

The Church in Ephesus – Christ knew they had forsaken their first love

- ◆ "Persevered and endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary."
- ◆ Deuteronomy 6:5: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. (Cited in Matthew 22, Mark 12 and Luke 10)

The Church in Smyrna – Christ knew they had suffered, and would suffer again

- ◆ "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life."
- ◆ James 1:12: "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him."

The Church in Pergamum – Christ knew they had compromised

- ◆ "Yet you remain true to my name."
- ◆ Tolerant and accepting of false doctrines and immoral living
- ◆ Recognize your ways and repent

The Church in Thyatira – Christ knew they tolerated sin

- ◆ Tolerated Jezebel, who misled and was unwilling to repent
- ◆ "Only hold on to what you have until I come."
- ◆ 1 John 5:5: "Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."

The Church in Sardis – Christ knew they were dead

- ◆ "A reputation of being alive."
- ◆ Romans 6:11: "count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."
- ◆ To know the offense of the cross – Jesus, crucified because of human sin and guilt

The Church in Philadelphia – Christ knew they had little strength

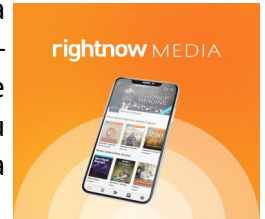
- ◆ Keep the command to "endure patiently"
- ◆ Hebrews 6:12: "We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised."

The Church in Laodicea – Christ knew they were neither hot nor cold, but lukewarm

- ◆ To be "spit out" of his mouth – distasteful – lack of zeal or usefulness
- ◆ 1 Thessalonians 5:9: "For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **SYF Super Bowl Sub Sale**- Senior Youth Fellowship will once again hold their annual Sub Sale Fundraiser on **February 9th**! High schoolers will be preparing turkey, ham, and roast beef subs with cheese and lettuce. Each sub will be served with a cookie, bag of chips, and pickle spear, as well as condiment packets. We will have an SYF Youth taking pre-orders in the sanctuary narthex before and after both services of worship on 1/26 and 2/2. We simply ask for a freewill donation to help support our senior high youth ministries, which can be given at the time of sub pickup on February 9th. Thank you in advance for your financial and prayer support of our high school ministries!
- ◆ **Widow/Widower Event - Thursday, Feb. 20th, 5PM-7:30PM** at Pettisville Missionary Church. Free dinner and program provided by Weeping Willow Florist. Must call Weeping Willow to register at 419-445-7773. Registration deadline is Feb. 10th.
- ◆ St. John's continues to provide our congregation with the free gift of **RightNow Media** - a digital library of over 20,000 Bible study resources and videos (think of it as Netflix for Bible Studies and faith-based illustrations!). Watch on your own or with a group to experience the mission Jesus gave to his people - making disciples of all nations. Everyone is welcome to sign up for free by texting the keyword "STJOHNS" to 49775 or by contacting the church office. You can stream videos on any device online or through the RightNow Media app available on IOS, Android, Roku, Chromecast, or FireTV.



stjohnsarchbold.org/rightnow-media/

MISSION-A-MONTH - CWS EMERGENCY CLEANUP KITS

The Church World Service kit ministry program provides much needed supplies to people in their times of crisis. For every \$75 collected this month, CWS will fill a five-gallon bucket with items like sponges, cleaning towels, dish soap, house cleaners, dust masks, work and dish gloves, trash bags, insect repellants, and more.

DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

Jan 27 A Hard Act to Follow----- Joshua 1:1-9
Jan 28 People Get Ready----- Joshua 1:10-18
Jan 29 An Unlikely Ally-----Joshua 2:1-16
Jan 30 The Scarlet Cord-----Joshua 2:17-24
Jan 31 Crossing the Jordan-----Joshua 3
Feb 01 What Do the Stones Mean?-----Joshua 4:1-9
Feb 02 If God is For Us-----Psalm 124

WEEK OF JANUARY 26TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	6:00PM	Seekers (Keith & Kelli Kuntz's)
Mon	6:30PM	Consistory Potluck & Meeting (Chapel)
	7:00PM	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal (PEACE Mennonite) (Parish Hall)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Gym)/Confirmation (Confirmation Room)
	6:30PM	SYF - Skye Cinema Area Youth Night
	7:00PM	JYF (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Adult Small Group (Parlor)
	7:30PM	Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	Lynne Christman
Song Leader	Roger Zimmerman
Worship Leader	Kim S. Walker
Acolytes	(8:00) Dawson Martz (10:30) Carson Baden
Easy Worship	Kelly Ducey
Sound Tech	(8:00) Jenna Stuckey (10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Ollie MacDonald
Nursery	(10:30) Karen Walker & Molly Rutledge
Usher	(8:00) Tim Beck
Head Usher	Greg Walker
Ushers	(10:30) Tom & Laura Johnson, Keith & Kelli Kuntz

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Ryan & Keira Christman upon the birth of their daughter, Sadie Jeannine, born on Thursday, January 23rd, weighing 8 lbs. and measuring 20.75 inches in length.
- ◆ Melva Woolace, who returned home on January 17th after an extended time in rehab.
- ◆ Kassi Link, 10 year old daughter of Kyle and Katie, who underwent medical testing this past week following a medical scare.
- ◆ Ed & Dianne Wyrick, as Dianne entered into hospice care this past week.
- ◆ Eric Yoder and Erin Yoder, and families upon the death of their grandmother, Doris Yoder, whose service was held on Thursday.
- ◆ Tim Lairrd, son-in-law of Gary & Judy Salisbury, is having surgery on Wednesday for cancer in his sinuses.
- ◆ Scott & JoAnn Short, as Scott recovers from successful prostate surgery on January 7th.
- ◆ Ron McCurdy, Jim's brother, who continues dealing with serious health issues.
- ◆ Todd & Ruthann Buehrer, brother of Ben, as he continues through chemo treatments.
- ◆ Jeff & Laura Bostelman, as Jeff awaits the next stage of his cancer treatments.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, as Stuart's latest scan was a good one, with progress in his treatment.

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Charlene LaFontaine, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #108
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506, Room #130
- ◆ Dencel Miller, Fairlawn Haven Care Center, Room #169
- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #152B
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #111

Missions/Missionaries...

- ◆ M. – praising God for safe arrival and for meeting her team and roommates; pray for her as she starts further language and culture learning, for her adjustment to the location and for her health, and for her to be led by the Spirit in meeting people.
- ◆ Eliot Nofziger (YF) – pray for 7th & 8th grade students forming small groups in Archbold, students mental health, for the Holy Spirit's wisdom in guiding leaders in loving difficult youth, for Eliot as he steps in to an added role – development director.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ 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

Pastor - Rev. Erich Christman (Cell: 419-551-0401)
Dir. of Youth & Young Adults - Jocelyn Walker (Cell: 419-575-4218)
Interim Dir. of Music Ministry - Buffy Riley (Cell: 419-572-6880)
Administrative Assistant - Gloria Beck (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)