



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

“The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ”

Come **H**ear the **R**eason we're **I**nspired to **S**erve **T**ogether



The Candle of Hope

*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.*

November 29, 2020

8:00AM & 10:30AM

Welcome to our Worship of God!

Welcome & Announcements

Mission Moment – Crossroad Child and Family Services

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Luke 1:26-33

Prelude

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

A time to center our thoughts, centering on Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and our worship of Him.

The Nativity Scene – The Manger

Hymn Response

#157, “Away in a Manger”

Advent Wreath

The Candle of Hope
Eric, Anna, Finn, Liam, Cullen & Riley Yoder

†Advent Hymn

#125, “Joy to the World!”

Children’s Message

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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

“Christmas, with No Christ???”

Advent Communion Service

†Advent Hymn

#119, “O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful”

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#120, verse 2, “The Advent of Our God”

†Postlude

Scripture Readings

Luke 1:26-33

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, 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 conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him 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 Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

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.

Sermon Notes

Sermon "Christmas, with No Christ???"

Scripture Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon ideas - If and when you hear or read something that you believe would be a good basis of a sermon, please share that with one of the pastors!

Matthew 2

- ◆ V. 2 - "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?"
- ◆ "...have come to worship him."
- ◆ V. 3 - "When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him."
- ◆ V. 8 - "...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."
- ◆ V. 11 - "On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him."

A Newspaper Article

- ◆ "Generation Why: Finding Christmas without faith" (Toledo Blade, Kate Mitchell, 12/23/19)
- ◆ Pew Research poll - roughly 40 percent of Millennials have no religious affiliation
- ◆ Many of the younger generations see Christmas not as a religious holiday, but a social one
- ◆ Celebrating in a Millennial way, and take the Christ out of Christmas, at least for a few minutes
- ◆ Instead of only praying for the hungry, donate some food or time to a local food pantry
- ◆ Instead of sending your thoughts to a poor family, play Santa and pick up some toys to give joy to a child
- ◆ One of the (I believe) great things about not having faith is the idea that, if you think your fellow man needs help, it's on you to do it. There's no God to ask to step in.
- ◆ If there is a God out there, I think they'd listen.

Having your faith disturbed is a positive activity, offering an opportunity of growth

November Mission-A-Month: Christmas Cheer

Financial donations to Fulton County Christmas Cheer can be dropped off to the church office or in your weekly offering envelopes. Christmas Cheer Tree tag items can be placed under the tree or at the south end of the building. Please refer to the November Visitor for more information from the organization.

Distance Worship

We continue to offer distance worship options. Join us on Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM on 96.1 WMTR to listen to last week's worship service. Our 10:30 AM worship service is streamed via YouTube Live, which can be accessed on the St. John's Christian Church website at stjohnsarchbold.org.

Health and Safety Guidelines

We encourage everyone to abide by these hygiene and safety practices:

- ◆ Wear a facial covering when in the building, unless you meet one of the exemptions.
- ◆ Sanitize/wash hands frequently and cover coughs and sneezes.
- ◆ Stay home if you are sick, not feeling well, or live with or care for someone who is sick or not feeling well.
- ◆ Maintain 6' social distancing, including in the pews. Be mindful of people around you.
- ◆ Individuals and families seated in the back of the sanctuary should exit first.
- ◆ Offerings will be received in plates at the sanctuary doors. They can also be mailed to/dropped off at the church office or given online at stjohnschristianchurch.breezechms.com.

Discovery Daily Devotional Guides

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:

November 29 – Don't You Care, Lord?.....	Psalm 79
November 30 – A Meal with Friends.....	Luke 22:1-23
December 1 – Upside Down World.....	Luke 22:24-38
December 2 – Where Am I?.....	Luke 22:39-62
December 3 – Who's In Charge Here?.....	Luke 22:63-23:25
December 4 – At the Cross.....	Luke 23:36-46
December 5 – What Are You Waiting For?.....	Luke 23:47-56

Welcome!

Guests and Visitors

Welcome, welcome, 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 new, refreshing way. You can learn more about our church by visiting the "New to SJCC" resource page on our website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org/newtosjcc.

Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Station/Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located near our sanctuary, currently limited to one family at a time. Nursery care for infants and pre-kindergarten children is currently suspended. A diaper changing station is located in the Mother's Room. We kindly ask you to sanitize items after use (i.e. changing pad, toys, etc.) using the wipes provided as a respectful gesture to other families with small children in need of the room.

Children's and Large Print Bulletins are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex.

Hearing Assistance is provided by our system for hearing aids with a "loop system" switch position.

Week of November 29 at St. John's Christian Church

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
Tue	7:00PM	Mission Committee (Chapel)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

Next Sunday, December 6, 2020 - Second Sunday of Advent

The Candle of Peace

Service of Carols and Stories

Sermon - "God Has a Face"

Scriptures - John 1:14-18, Matthew 1:18-25, Hebrews 4:15-16

Announcements

- ◆ This year, the Advent Wreath will be lit by members of our congregation who have been worshipping from home. We welcome them to our service virtually and look forward to sharing this time with them!
- ◆ Advent Devotionals may be picked up on a table in the narthex beginning today. Digital copies are also available for download on the church's homepage at www.stjohnsarchbold.org. Thank you to those in our congregation who contributed to this year's edition!
- ◆ After much consideration, our Christmas Eve service will be offered in a virtual format only this year, since attendance at the service would preclude any aspect of social distancing. We encourage people to safely gather with family and friends in the home to enjoy watching a YouTube Live stream service at 7:00PM and/or listening to a radio broadcast worship service at 8:00PM on 96.1 WMTR. We'll focus on the humble setting of the Nativity as we gather in our own homes in warmth, safety, and love. The Christmas Eve service will be filled with carols, special music, and stories as we celebrate our Lord's birth. We'll be making packets of candles available for people to enjoy candle lighting in their home.

Congregational Prayer

Father, we love to celebrate the gift of your Son at Christmas. This Advent season, help us remember that we have even more to look forward to in Jesus' second coming. Jesus, as we contemplate your promises, fill our hearts with your hope, peace, joy, and love. Enable us to be faithful, that we might be ready for your return and greet you on that day with unbridled joy. Amen.

Today's Worship Servants

Accompanist - Lynne Christman

Song Leader - Roger Zimmerman

Easy Worship Tech - Kelly Ducey

Sound Tech - (8:00AM) Angie Neuenschwander, (10:30AM) James Grime

Video Tech (10:30AM) - Dean Sauder

Live Stream Tech (10:30AM) - Ryan Christman

Head Usher - Steve Walker

Ushers (8:00AM) - Gary & Judy Sears

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Jack Spotts and family, upon the passing of Joanne on 11/25 at the age of 85. Private family services will be held on 12/5.
- ◆ Kisha Genter and family, as Kisha has tested positive for COVID-19 and the family is in quarantine.
- ◆ Dave and Karen Walker, as Dave recovers from COVID-19 in isolation.
- ◆ Bill and Judy Barnhart, as Bill continues to recover from COVID-19.
- ◆ Bob and Barbara Vos, as they continue to recover from COVID-19.
- ◆ Praises for Brayden Hall, and Pastor Erich and Lynne Christman being released from quarantine.
- ◆ Larry Woolace, who continues to receive monthly treatments for his prostate cancer.
- ◆ Mert Kinsman, who has completed his radiation treatments and awaits results.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Fort Campbell, KY (Army) Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ Kali Collins, Washington, DC (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Kohl Collins, Ft. Myers, VA (Army) (Grandson of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Kyle Ducey, Suffolk, VA (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy)
- ◆ Brayden Hall, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO (Ohio Army Nat. Guard) (Son of Vond & Mary)
- ◆ Jared Kuntz, Washington, DC (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Eric Maag, Port Clinton, OH (Coast Guard) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)
- ◆ Shayne & Taylor Pitts, Albuquerque, NM (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ David Richardson, Okinawa, Japan (Marines) (Son of Shannon and Yesi)
- ◆ Joshua Richardson, Kaneohe, HI (Marines) (Son of Shannon and Yesi)
- ◆ 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

Sunday Worship at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

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

Associate Pastor - Rev. Alex Young (Cell: 330-206-8762)

Admin. Assist. - Jocelyn Walker (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)