



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"

Come **Hear** the **Reason** we're **Inspired** to **Serve** **Together**



Celebrating
— 25 YEARS —

Thank you for 25 years of service to
St. John's Christian Church, Pastor Erich!

*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.

March 14, 2021

8:00AM & 10:30AM

**Welcome to our Worship of God!
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Ringing of the Tower Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Prelude

Molly Rutledge & Lynne Christman "You Are My All in All"

†Hymn

#556, "Now Thank We All Our God"

†Unison Prayer of Confession - *God, you come to us in love, we come now in confession and repentance. You call us to love and serve others, but we cling to self-interest and small-mindedness. We pursue our own way and seek to prosper ourselves. Despite your generosity and comfort, we are too full of complaints toward you and those around us. Despite your compassion and love for us and all people, we are too full of judgment and fear. Though we come seeking your forgiveness for all the ways we sin, we hoard the forgiveness that others would ask of us. Forgive us, welcome us, and reconcile us to you and one another, we pray. Amen.*

†Hymn Response

#92, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

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

Children's Message

Special Music

Sarah Nafziger & Norm Fether "Cast Your Care on Him"

Scripture Reading

John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10

Sermon

"That Most Famous Reindeer"

†Hymn

#462, "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#244, "The Trees of the Field"

†Postlude

Scripture Readings

Psalm 107:1-3 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. ² Let the redeemed of the Lord say this -- those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, ³ those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

Psalm 107:17-22 Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. ¹⁸ They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death. ¹⁹ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. ²⁰ He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. ²¹ Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. ²² Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

John 3:14-21 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved

darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

Ephesians 2:1-10 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions -- it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Sermon Notes

Sermon "That Most Famous Reindeer"

Scripture John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10

Rudolph, really? Rudolph and his famous shiny red nose – how was his nose used? What was accomplished by Rudolph's glowing red nose?

"Rudolph, with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Verse 14 – Reference to Numbers 21:9 – "So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived."

Numbers 21:4-5 – "...But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses..."

Verses 14-15 – "...so the Son of Man must be lifted up,¹⁵ that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

Verse 16 – "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Verse 17 – "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

Verse 18 – "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Verses 19-21 – "This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

Thank you, Pastor Erich!

THANK YOU and congratulations to Pastor Erich, who completed his 25th year of service at St. John's Christian Church this past Wednesday, March 10th. His dedicated faith, leadership, and unconditional love and service to our congregation, community, and missions are a blessing and true gift from God. Thank you for all you do, Pastor Erich!

Stephen Ministry - Grief Workshop

St. John's Stephen Leaders/Ministers will be providing a four week grief support group in the chapel on Thursday mornings starting at 10:30 on April 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. They will be using Kenneth Haugk's Journeying Through Grief booklets: A Time to Grieve, Experiencing Grief, Finding Hope and Healing, and Rebuilding and Remembering. Support groups not only provide members with the opportunity to receive support, but to give it to others as well. You will find that others have experienced feelings and struggles that are similar to your own. Grief is not a club anyone wants to belong to, though once you're in it, there is great benefit in surrounding yourself with others who know that bad days happen. We would love to have you join us! If interested, please sign up on the bulletin board and pick up the reading material from the church office.

Next Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Scriptures - John 12:20-33; Hebrews 5:5-10

Sermon - "How Did You Receive the News?"

Special Music - Joshua Reeb, "I've Got Peace Like a River"

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:

March 14 – God Does Not Forget.....	Psalm 94
March 15 – Now and Forever.....	Mark 12:18-27
March 16 – Live to Love.....	Mark 12:28-34
March 17 – Seeking Status.....	Mark 12:35-40
March 18 – Giving that Hurts.....	Mark 12:41-44
March 19 – He's Coming!.....	Mark 13:1-27
March 20 – Wide-Awake Waiting.....	Mark 13:28-37

Welcome!

Guests and Visitors

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" page on our website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org/newtosjcc or by picking up a copy of "Getting to Know St. John's Christian Church: Visitor Brochure" at the literature rack near the office.

Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Station/Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located outside of the sanctuary, currently limited to one family at a time. 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. Nursery care is offered during the 10:30 worship service for infants and pre-kindergarten children. A diaper changing station is located in the Nursery.

Large Print and Children's 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 March 14 at St. John's Christian Church

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School, Faith Village & Confirmation
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
	6:15PM	Spiritual Council (Gym)
	7:30PM	Consistory (Gym)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
	6:45PM	LOGOS (Chapel)
	6:50PM	JYF (Gym)
	7:00PM	Lenten Service (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School, Faith Village & Confirmation
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	3:00PM	TGRM (Meet in Fireside Room)

Congregational Prayer

God of love and Lord of light – how wondrous a blessing to be saved through believing in the one and only Son. Your truth and your light guide the path you call us to follow and lay out for us, for which we are so grateful. In the dark times of the pandemic, in the political divisiveness of these times, in the fallen reality of humanity and in the myriad day to day struggles we can have, being alive in Christ makes all the difference in the world. Thank you for the sufficiency of your grace, which empowers us to live by faith in Christ alone. In his name we pray. Amen.

Today's Worship Servants

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Song Leader	(Both) Mike Meyer	
Worship Leader	(Both) Linda Heer	
Children's Message	(Both) Nancy Rupp	
Nursery Staff	(10:30) Eric & Anna Yoder	(March 21) Jan Martinez
Easy Worship	(Both) Brian Roth	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream Tech	(10:30) Jocelyn Walker	
8:00AM Usher	Jim Grieser	
Head Usher	Greg Walker	

Consistory Contact Information

President Gary Frazier (Ph. 419-654-3133)

Elders Ryan Christman (rchristman56@gmail.com; Ph. 419-551-2124)
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Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Pastor Erich and family, as his mother, Barbara Christman, entered into eternal life on March 10th after 90 years of life. A Celebration of Life service will take place on March 26th in Bozeman, Montana. Pastor Erich will be out of the office that week.
- ◆ Tracey & Sodie Warren, as Tracey is scheduled to begin radiation treatment for prostate cancer in May.

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, Deployed, USS Iwo Jima (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)