



Welcome to St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



Confirmation Sunday

*The Confirmation Class of 2021 (from left to right): Raegan Lea Rutledge,
Leah Renee Nafziger, Oliver Gene MacDonald.*

*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 to our Worship of God!
Confirmation Sunday**

Ringing of the Tower Bells Calling Us to Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Psalms 84:5-12 (pg. 584)

Prelude

“Here I Am to Worship”

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

†Call to Worship

“My Life Is In You”

†Unison Prayer - *For this blessed day and time of worship, we give you thanks and praise, O Lord. As Peter sank in the waters, we too, we too often take our eyes off of you, Jesus, and, regrettably, our sin increases. In this prayer, we look to you for deliverance, we look to you for holiness, we look to you for forgiveness. As the psalmist David writes, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.” Wash us, each one, with your cleansing blood as we walk in the light of your love. Receive our prayer, O Lord, and grant us your grace and your peace. Amen.*

†Hymn of Praise

#277, “The Church’s One Foundation”

Children’s Message

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

†(8:00)Hymn

#283, “We Are God’s People”

(10:30) Special Music

Raegan Rutledge

“Faithful”

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“The Potter’s Hand”

†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Readings

John 6:52-70 (pg. 1057)

Sermon

“A Hard Teaching”

(10:30) The Rite of Confirmation

Invitation, Opening Sentences, and Charge to Confirmands

Scripture Reading and The Apostles' Creed

Promises and Vows of Confirmands

Memory Verses and the Laying on of Hands in Blessing

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Charge to Parents

Response of Parents - *We praise God for your step of faith in your decision to be confirmed into the church of Jesus Christ this morning. Let us strive to stand firm in faithfulness to the Lord. We promise to continue to encourage you in your faith, doing our part to help you remember your confession and vows of faith. May God bless you with wisdom and courage as you continue to deepen your faith and serve the Lord with gladness.*

Address to the Confirmands

Unison Welcome by Congregation - *We are filled with joy for you as you have confessed your faith in Christ. We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share in the hopes and ministries of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love, and be witnesses of Christ in the world. Amen.*

Greetings of Christian Love, Conferring of Certificates, and Benediction

†Closing Song

#369, "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#244, "The Trees of the Fields"

†Postlude

Today's Worship Servants

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman
Song/Worship Leader	(Both) Andrew Rohrs
Easy Worship	(Both) Kelly Ducey
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander (10:30) James Grime
Live Stream Tech	(10:30) Cayla Swisher
Head Usher	Dave Walker
8:00AM Usher	Linda Heer
10:30AM Ushers	Paul & Joan Lovejoy, Roger & Mary Zimmerman

Scripture Readings

Psalm 84:5-12 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. ⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools. ⁷ They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion. ⁸ Hear my prayer, O Lord God Almighty; listen to me, O God of Jacob. ⁹ Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one. ¹⁰ Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. ¹¹ For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. ¹² O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

John 6:52-70 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹ He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. ⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" ⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? ⁶² What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him." ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷ "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." ⁷⁰ Then Jesus replied, "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!"

Sermon Notes

Sermon "A Hard Teaching"
Scripture John 6:52-70

Congregational Prayer

At the Spiritual Council meeting this past week, an elder shared a devotional on tact and diplomacy, drawing direction from Paul's letter to Philemon. Read this short book and consider how Paul was asking Philemon to welcome, accept and treat his former slave, Onesimus. Then pray, "O Lord, my God, I come before you with a contrite spirit, confessing my lack of tact and diplomacy in my conversations and in my descriptions of others. I regret the harsh words and the ill treatment I can offer towards others, and I pray for a spirit of restoration, a spirit of peace, in full awareness of your love; a love that calls us to love one another as you have loved us all. In the acrimony of our day, with everything being politicized, with extremism and division, restore us, unite us, by the blood of Jesus Christ, who calls us to be one body, to be the church, the body of Christ. For his glory, and for our salvation, we pray for your will to be accomplished. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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. 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 August 22nd at St. John's Christian Church

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	11:30AM	Parish Hall Reserved
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
Thu	11:30AM	Senior Luncheon (Chapel)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School, Faith Village
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

Next Sunday - August 29th, 2021

Sermon - "Teaching, to the World"

Scriptures - Mark 7:1-9, 14-24, James 1:17-27

Announcements

- ◆ **8/26 Senior Gathering** - Monthly Thursday luncheons for seniors will begin again on August 26th at 11:30AM in the Chapel. We will begin with a special program led by Pastor Erich at 11:30AM followed by a delicious luncheon prepared by Judy Sears. No sign up necessary - just come prepared to fellowship, eat, and enjoy!
- ◆ **B.L.A.S.T. Sunday** - We are in the final countdown to BLAST Sunday! Join us on September 12th as we **Believe, Learn And Seek Truth** together!
- ◆ **GIF Gals** - Attention GIF Gals! Do you like to laugh? Giggle? Snicker? Chuckle? Sing? Have you ever played a musical instrument? Then get ready for a fun-filled afternoon presented by Nancy Rupp at her home on Sunday afternoon, September 12th starting at 2:00PM. One never knows what our hostess has in store! The fun will be followed with an ice cream sundae bar. Don't miss the fun. If you would like to carpool, meet in the church parking lot at 1:45PM. Otherwise, there is plenty of parking at 22396 State Route 2, Stryker. Sign up at the office bulletin board by September 5th. Hope all of you will join in on the fun!

Skittles Prayer

From Leah and Raegan's Children's Message on 8/15. When you're eating your next bag of Skittles, use the candy colors to guide a moment of prayer!

- ◆ Red - Pray for someone you love
- ◆ Orange - Pray for something you're thankful for
- ◆ Yellow - Pray for something you're scared or worried about
- ◆ Green - Pray for forgiveness
- ◆ Purple - Pray for teachers or church leaders

Daily Discovery Guide

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:

August 22 – Story Time.....Psalm 114
August 23 – Go Tell It On The Mountain.....Nahum 1
August 24 – If God Is For Us.....Nahum 2
August 25 – Look At Your Lord.....Hebrews 1:1-4
August 26 – Get Your Worldview Right.....Hebrews 1:5-14
August 27 – But We See Jesus.....Hebrews 2:1-9
August 28 – Our Elder BrotherHebrews 2:10-18

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Wayne Spiess, who is recovering from Covid-19 and making slow improvements.
- ◆ Chloe Merillat, granddaughter of Roger and Kay, who met with the oncologist along with her parents and continue to weigh their options. Pray for Christ's guidance as they decide on her next steps of treatment.
- ◆ Bob & Barbara Vos, as both continue to experience health issues. Bob has been home for two weeks from Cleveland Clinic.
- ◆ Jodi Beltz, who continues to recover from fractures in both of her ankles.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Deployed, Iraq (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, Newton Falls, OH, attending Kent State (OANG) (Son of Vond & Mary)
- ◆ MAJ 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)

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