

ASH WEDNESDAY | MARCH 2, 2022 | 7:00PM



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

*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.*

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells

(At the bell's ringing, let us concentrate on Jesus and his promise of salvation)

Prelude

Service of Confession

Hymn of Invitation #326, v. 1, 2, & 4, "Softly and Tenderly"

Call of Confession (from Psalm 51:1-3)

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions.

People: **Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.**

Hymn of Prayer #449, Brown, "Into My Heart"

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy and impatience in our lives.

People: **Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our anger and our frustration, our envy of others.**

Leader: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in our daily life and work.

People: **Our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.**

All: *We confess to you, O God. We confess to you, O God.*

Hymn of Prayer #449, Brown, "Into My Heart"

Words of Cleansing (from Psalm 51:7-10)

Leader: Cleanse us with hyssop, and we will be clean; wash us, and we will be whiter than snow.

People: **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**

Leader: Hide your face from our sins and blot out all our iniquity.

People: **Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Reading of Assurance 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

†Hymn of Faith #405, "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"

Prayer of Dedication and Sharing our Offerings

Offertory

Scripture Reading Genesis 1:15-17, 11:1-9; Exodus 20:1-17; Luke 22:42; Acts 16:6

Sermon “Yes, the Christian Life Does Have Limits”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

†Closing Hymn #350, “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

†Benediction

†Postlude



WE PRACTICE OPEN COMMUNION

We observe open communion here at St. John’s, so we invite to the Lord’s Table all older youth and adults who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

On Wednesday evenings from March 16th through April 6th, while Logos, JYF, SYF, Life Planning are being held, Lenten worship services will be held at 7:00PM. We hope to have these services available in both in-person and live stream formats.

These services will consist of prayer, singing, and an interactive teaching lesson and will flow from a Lenten resource entitled “In View of God’s Mercy.”

TONIGHT’S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	Lynne Christman	Live Stream Tech	Cayla Swisher
Song Leader	David Stuckey	Sound Tech	James Grime
Easy Worship	Kelly Ducey	Head Usher	Steve Walker

THE SEASON OF LENT

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent, the 40 days (not counting Sundays) that precedes Easter. The date of Easter falls on the Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox, a time determined by the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. Easter is on April 17th.

“Lent” is from the Anglo-Saxon word for “lengthen,” as in the lengthening days of spring. This season of 40 days has been celebrated by Christians at least since the early 2nd century. In the Christian Scriptures the number 40 relates to the period spent by Noah in the Ark, the period spent by Israel seeking the Promised Land after the Exodus, and the amount of time Jesus was in the wilderness after his baptism and prior to beginning his public ministry.

For us, the Season of Lent is when the passion and death of our Savior come into focus. It’s observed as a time for growth in faith, as well as a time for deepening the devotional life of faithful Christians. It’s an invitation to 40 days of renewal, 40 days to prepare ourselves to take in the Good News of Easter through the disciplines of prayer, self-denial, and rededication.

Ash Wednesday represents our sorrow for our sins, our repentance, and our morality. Receiving the sacrament tonight reminds us that God’s love is triumphant over sin and death, that He remains “in communion” with us, and that through Christ’s redemptive act on the cross, our mortality is overcome.



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)