



Sunday, May 17, 2026

8:00am & 10:30am



St. John's Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner whose Cornerstone is Christ"

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. We 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/Diaper Changing Stations

Nursery Care is offered during our 10:30AM service for children ages four months through pre-school. The Nursery - Preschool room is located on the first floor, in Room #125. Before checking into the nursery for the first time, parents can register children for Nursery Care online at



www.stjohnsarchbold.org/nursery or by scanning the QR code to the left. We also have a Mother's Room located outside of the Sanctuary in Room #138 for nursing mothers and/or mothers with young infants and toddlers. Diaper changing stations are located in the Mother's Room, the Nursery, and the family restrooms. An usher will gladly direct you if needed!

Children's Busy Bags are located in the 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.

Large Print Bulletins are available at a table in the narthex.

Hearing Assistance in the Sanctuary is available through Bluetooth connection to a person's hearing aids or via use of a hand-held amplifier and headphones. Please see an usher for further assistance.

Let's Connect!



**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP OF GOD!
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

Welcome & Announcements

Scripture and Morning Prayer

(8:00) Prelude

(10:30) Prelude of Praise

†(8:00) Hymns of Praise

†(10:30) Songs of Praise

Children's Message

(10:30) Rite of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Baptism

Invitation, Opening Sentences and Charge to the Confirmands

Scripture Reading and The Apostles' Creed

Promises and Vows of the Confirmands

Memory Verses and the Laying on 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

(8:00) Sermon Hymn

(10:30) Adult Bell Choir

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Prayer of Dedication and the Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Psalm 47

"I Offer My Life"

"The Summons"

#24, "Clap Your Hands"

#229, "Our God Reigns"

"I Thank God"

"Gratitude"

insert, "Sing to the King"

"Be Thou My Vision"

Luke 24:44-52, Acts 1:1-11

"Keeping an Open Mind"

Offertory

†(8:00) Closing Hymn

†(10:30) Closing Praise

†Spoken Benediction

†(8:00) Benediction in Song

†(10:30) Benediction in Song

“Be Unto Your Name“

#21, “Stand Up and Bless the Lord“

“Glorious Day“

#215, “Alleluia! Alleluia!“

chorus, “Glorious Day“

Scripture Readings

Psalms 47 Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. ² How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth! ³ He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet. ⁴ He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. ⁵ God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets. ⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. ⁷ For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. ⁸ God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. ⁹ The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

Luke 24:44-52 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

Acts 1:1-11 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ⁶ So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jeru-

salem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Sermon Notes - "Keeping an Open Mind"

Scripture – Luke 24:44-52, Acts 1:1-11

We are still in the Season of Easter – today is the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Luke 24 provides details of the first Easter, the Day of Resurrection:

- ◆ 24:1-12 – Luke’s account of Easter morning
- ◆ 24:13-32 – On the Road to Emmaus – when two disciples encounter Jesus as they walked along, though they did not recognize Jesus until he broke the bread
- ◆ 24:33-35 – Those two disciples return to Jerusalem and report to the Eleven
- ◆ 24:36-43 – Jesus appears to the disciples, and eats a fish while with them
- ◆ 24:44-49 – Jesus talks with the disciples and opens their minds
- ◆ 24:50-53 – Jesus ascended to heaven

Key Points:

- ◆ The Old Testament prophecies about Jesus have been fulfilled
- ◆ He opened their minds – they had been closed
- ◆ Opened their minds to understanding the Scriptures
- ◆ Summary
 - ◇ The Christ will suffer
 - ◇ The Christ will rise from the dead on the third day
 - ◇ Repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached
 - ◇ Preached in his name to all nations
 - ◇ The disciples were witnesses of his suffering and resurrection
 - ◇ Will send what the Father has promised
 - ◇ Stay in the city until you have been clothed with power

Lessons for us:

- ◆ Keep an open mind
- ◆ Seek understanding of the Scriptures
- ◆ Repent
- ◆ Forgive
- ◆ Be a witness
- ◆ Go

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Search Committee News** - As shared last Sunday morning, verbally and in print, the Search Committee recommended a candidate to the Consistory for the position of Pastor. The Consistory met on Monday, May 11th and approved the recommendation and has called a special congregational meeting for Sunday May 31st. Following the Consistory meeting, the Search Committee shared the news with Pastor Elijah Layfield, the recommended candidate to be the next pastor of SJCC. The Search Committee is finalizing details with him for the weekend of May 31st. The hope is to have a “Meet and Greet” on Saturday, May 30th, then a “Meet and Greet” on Sunday morning at 9:00am, with one service of worship at 10:00am, with the congregational meeting to follow the service of worship. Pastor Elijah will preach a trial sermon and assist in leading the service. The church constitution requires a quorum of 40% at the congregational meeting to call a pastor. Such a quorum requires 156 members of the church to be present. An informational packet about Pastor Elijah is in the process of being put together, which will be finalized at the May 18th Consistory meeting. Information will be available via email and in print. May we each continue to pray for the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit to be very evident as both we and Pastor Elijah prepare for May 31st.
- ◆ **Parlor Hospitality Team** - Would you like to be more involved at St. John’s Christian? We are looking for a group of volunteers to rotate serving in the SJCC Parlor on Sunday mornings. Fellowship, coffee, light clean up... Details on the sign-up sheet, outside of Pastor Erich’s office!
- ◆ **GIF Gals** - What is that old saying, “April showers bring May mud?” Something like that! I’m sure we are all happy just to see the beautiful colors of the tulips. Well, now back to business! This month, the Gals will gather at Mancinos on May 26th at 11:30AM. It is closing soon, so this will be a farewell & thank you for their years of excellent food and friendly service. Please sign up outside the church office You are also welcome to bring someone with you.
- ◆ **VBS Paper Collection** - Put your Amazon packing paper to use and recycle it here at the church for this year's Rainforest Falls VBS! We will gladly take all brown kraft paper, often found as a packing filler in Amazon deliveries. Please drop off to Jocelyn Walker's office as able. Thank you!
- ◆ **VBS Stuffie Collection** - While you're in the middle of spring cleaning, please feel free to donate any rainforest or jungle stuffed animals for this year's Rainforest Falls VBS. Animals will be used for a kickoff night station for children to take home. Thank you!
- ◆ **VBS Craft Night** - Calling all crafters and junior crafters! We are looking for your help on Wednesday, July 1st and Wednesday, July 8th from 6:00 to 8:00pm in the gym. We'll be assembling an assortment of rainforest foliage and landscaping that will be used as decorations throughout the church during VBS week. This is a great opportunity to help with VBS even if you can't be here the week of the event! All ages and abilities are welcome, as this will be a fun fellowship opportunity for our church community. Bring your hot glue gun, favorite pair

of scissors, and a snack to share if willing!

- ◆ **Junior Church** - Due to Confirmation Sunday, we will not hold Junior Church this morning as originally scheduled. Children will be invited to come get their passports and a year-end gift after service this morning in the Chapel. Junior Church will resume in September with the new program year! Enjoy a summer of worship with your families!

WEEK OF MAY 17TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Confirmation Sunday/ Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	3:00PM	TGRM Departure
	6:00PM	Seekers (Fireside)
	7:30PM	Praise Team 2 Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Mon	6:15PM	Spiritual Council (Fireside)
	7:15PM	Consistory (Fireside)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	10:30AM	Staff Meeting (Part Time Staff Room)
Wed	7:30PM	Adult Choir (Sanctuary)
Thu	11:30AM	Third Thursday Senior Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
Sun		Pentecost Sunday
	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/ Sunday School
	10:30AM	Graduation Sunday/ Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	Buffy Riley	10:30 Sound	James Grime
Worship Leader	Jocelyn Walker	10:30 Easy Worship	Kelly Ducey
8:00 Song Leader	David Stuckey	10:30 Live Stream	Cayla Swisher
8:00 Usher	Shawn Stuckey	10:30 Head Usher	Steve Walker
10:30 Ushers	Kim Walker, Adam Walker, Emily Walker, Toby Walker		
10:30 Nursery	Jen & Brie Grime		
10:30 Hand Bells	Jane Pearl Buckenmeyer, Lynne Christman, Ryan Christman, Maggie Enderle, Gloria Lauber, Aimee Roth, Darlene Steiner, Crissi Stuckey, David Stuckey		
10:30 Praise Team	Lynne Christman, Norm Fether, Buffy Riley, Corrie Riley, Bruce Wooley		

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Ralph Grieser continues to recover from a broken knee cap.
- ◆ Tara Meyer having testing of medical issues resulting from a car accident a year ago.
- ◆ John Graber continues at Rupp Rehab as he recovers from a partial hip replacement.
- ◆ Susie Enderle continues to recover at home, now involved in physical therapy.
- ◆ Sandy Miller, who has gone through a battery of tests and awaits word on surgery.
- ◆ Chloe Merillat will be starting a specialized therapy in Florida in early June.
- ◆ The Pastor Search Process, praying for the Search Committee, Shepherd Staff, and the congregation, praying for the Lord's wisdom and guidance in the entire process.
- ◆ Members of our church family who are navigating various mental and emotional health challenges, as we pray that they can feel God's goodness and love surrounding them.
- ◆ Toni & Chris Neuenschwander, as Toni has been diagnosed with heart failure and is going through twelve weeks of cardio rehab.
- ◆ Rev. Jim Barnes, National Minister of the Evangelical Association, as recent scans have shown a return of cancer. Jim will be undergoing a PET scan and a biopsy on at least one tumor. Pray for the power of God's healing upon Jim's body.
- ◆ Jodi Beltz, as monthly injections continue, and in therapy for bursitis below her left knee.

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Marilyn Baron, Fulton Manor, 725 S. Shoop Ave, Wauseon 43567
- ◆ Linda Hayes, 407 E Lutz Road, Room 401, Archbold, 43502
- ◆ Charlene LaFontaine, 407 E Lutz Road, Room 180, Archbold, 43502
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Room 130, Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Dencel Miller, 407 E Lutz Road, Room 135, Archbold, 43502
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, 600 Haven Drive, Apt. 111, Archbold, 43502

And those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Kyle Ducey, San Antonio, TX (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy)
- ◆ MAJ Jared Kuntz, Hawaii (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Shayne Pitts, Dayton, OH (Air Force) (Grandson-in-law of Nan Neill)

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)

Director of Music Ministry - Buffy Riley (Cell: 419-572-6880)

Administrative Assistant - Jenna Stuckey (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)