



Sunday, August 9, 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, and we hope you feel God's love in a refreshing way this morning. We invite you to learn a little more about our congregation and fill out a connect card while you're waiting for worship to start. Simply scan the QR code to the right with your phone's camera!



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!

Call to Worship	John 4:23-24
Prelude	"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"
Welcome & Announcements	
†Hymn of Praise	#247, Spirit of the Living God"
Old Testament Reading	Ezekiel 36:25-27
†Sharing the Peace of Christ	
Children's Message	
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer	
<i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.</i>	
†Hymn Request	
New Testament Reading	Mark 1:6-8
Sermon	"When We're Not Worthy"
Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings	
Offertory	"Breathe on Me, Breath God"
†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication	
<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
†Closing Hymn	#40, "A Perfect Heart"
†Spoken Benediction	
†Benediction in Song	#259, v. 1, "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	Buffy Riley	Worship Leader	Jocelyn Walker
Song Leader	Roger Zimmerman	10:30 Audio Tech	James Grime
Prelude/Offertory	Reagan Rutledge	10:30 Projection Tech	Ryan Christman
8:00 Usher	Linda Heer	10:30 Head Usher	Brad Roth
Nursery	Karen Walker & Molly Rutledge		
Ushers	Curt & Kay Stamm, Evy & Avery Roth		

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 4:23-24 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

Ezekiel 36:25-27 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Mark 1:6-8 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

SERMON AND TRANSLATION NOTES: "WHEN WE'RE NOT WORTHY"

Mark 1:6-8 (Elijah's translation) "And John was clothed in camel's hair and a belt of leather around his waist and he was eating locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached saying, 'The one who comes after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to stoop down to untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I baptized you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.'"

Why Does It Matter What John Wore? Verse 6

2 Kings 1:7-8 NIV "The king asked them, 'What kind of man was it who came to meet you and told you this?' ⁸ They replied, 'He was a man with a garment of hair and with a leather belt around his waist.' The king said, 'That was Elijah the Tishbite.'" Elijah lived 900 years before Jesus was born.

Matthew 11:7-9 NIV ...Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet." **Matthew 11:7-9, 13-15 NIV** "For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears, let him hear."

Malachi 4:5-6 NIV ⁵"See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. ⁶ He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.'"

SERMON AND TRANSLATION NOTES (CONT.)

Why Does John Say He Was Unworthy? Verse 7

The word "worthy" (ἱκανός) occurs in Mark 1:7, 10:46, and 15:15.

2 Samuel 6:6–7 NIV “When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. ⁷ The Lord’s anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.”

What Is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? Verse 8

This is the first reference to the Holy Spirit (πνεῦμα ἅγιον) in the Gospel of Mark. God, the Holy Spirit, shows up in Mark 1:8, 1:10, 1:12, 3:29, 12:36, and 13:11)

Acts 1:4–5 NIV “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.'”

SERMON NOTES:

DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL: Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

- Aug 9 True Worship -----Psalm 50
- Aug 10 Religious Smorgasbord----- Genesis 31:22-42
- Aug 11 Peace Treaty ----- Genesis 31:43-55
- Aug 12 Trust the Promise-----Genesis 32:1-21
- Aug 13 New Name, New Calling-----Genesis 32:22-32
- Aug 14 Faith Sees Beyond----- Genesis 33
- Aug 15 Back to the Beginning----- Genesis 35:1-5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Baptism** - We will be celebrating the sacrament of baptism on August 16th. If you or your child is interested in being baptized, please contact the office at office@stjohnsarchbold.org or 419-446-2545.
- ◆ **Third Thursday Senior Luncheon** - No Senior Luncheon for the month of August.
- ◆ **Gif Gals** - Welcome to August, where did summer go? I believe it evaporated with all the heat we had in June & July! It will soon be time for our grandchildren to be heading back to school. I will miss the extra time I could spend with them. On the other hand, my grocery list & bill should be less. So to fill this extra time, lets get together at 5:00pm on August 27th, at Sullivan's Restaurant in Wauseon. Please sign up on the sheet outside of Elijah's office. Remember to ask a friend to join us!
- ◆ **Wednesday Evening Registration** - Registration for all Wednesday evening children and teen programs will open on August 19th! Registration information will be posted on our social media channels as well as the church website.
- ◆ **Book Bag Bash** - Our annual event was a huge success! The Evangelism Committee handed out 85 backpacks full of school supplies to kids PreK- High School. Thank you for supporting a worthwhile cause in our community.
- ◆ **VBS Mission, "Look Good. Feel Good. Do Good."** - This year's mission collection supported local children in need of back to school items that help kids feel their best. We were blessed to have raised \$2,303.00 during the week of VBS, allowing us to provide 38 children with a new school outfit, name brand shoes, and a fresh haircut. Each child had a personal shopper to look for their wishlist items! Thank you to our Mission Committee for matching this year's funds, once again.
- ◆ **Adult Choir** - If you are interested in joining or returning to sing in the Adult Choir for the upcoming year, please sign up on the sheet outside of the church office by August 30th. Be sure to invite a friend! This will help Buffy plan the music for the upcoming church year.
- ◆ **Adult Bell Choir** - If you are interested in joining or returning to play handbells in the Adult Bell Choir for the upcoming year, please sign up on the sheet outside of the church office by August 30th. Be sure to invite a friend! This will help Buffy plan music for the upcoming church year.

WEEK OF AUGUST 9TH 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)
Mon	6:30PM	Building Committee Meeting (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	10:30AM	Staff Meeting (Fireside Room)
	6:45PM	Mission Committee Meeting (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Property Committee Meeting (Chapel)
Thurs	7:00PM	Children's Education Committee Meeting (Fireside\\\ Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

AUGUST MISSION-A-MONTH: BACK BAY MISSION

“Back Bay Mission has a simple mission: to strengthen neighborhoods, seek justice, and transform lives,” (thebackbaymission.org, 2021). Back Bay serves communities on the Mississippi Gulf Coast through ministries like their education and empowerment programs and their housing rehabilitation program - all with a goal of transforming lives. You may give to Back Bay Mission by marking Line 2 of your offering envelope, or by going to the “Give to” drop-down menu in Breeze’s online giving feature.

- ♦ **November 2026 Back Bay Mission Trip** - The trip is November 15th- 21st. Serving with Back Bay Mission (BBM) enables participants to learn the realities of living in poverty and homelessness, as BBM provides a food pantry, soup kitchen and day center as key aspects of their ministry. Each of these ministries enables participants to spend time talking with and learning from staff and clients. In addition, BBM oversees a vital housing rehabilitation program, too. The work projects for the week could be any type of home repair or renovation, with projects matched to the skill level of volunteers. Whatever skills a person has or doesn’t have, each participant will find there is a wide variety of work so everyone can share in a teamwork approach to the week. The Consistory has granted special approval for Pastor Erich to lead this final scheduled trip to Biloxi as it falls within the year he is to separate from the congregation. He will assume leadership once in Biloxi, as Betsy Ducey and Kim M. Walker will coordinate arrangements for the trip. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the pastor’s office.

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Mel Woolace, as she has returned home, but still dealing with breathing complications.
- ◆ Sandy Miller, continues to recover at home from surgery to relieve nerve pain in her head.
- ◆ Ralph and Bonnie Grieser, as Ralph is in the special care unit at Fairlawn, receiving therapy.
- ◆ Chloe Merillat, prayers to maintain and build upon the specialized therapy she recently completed in Florida, and for relief from stiffness in her joints.

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Marilyn Baron, Fulton Manor, 725 S. Shoop Ave, Wauseon 43567
- ◆ Linda Hayes, 407 E Lutz Road, Room 401, Archbold, 43502
- ◆ Charlene LaFountaine, 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 - Elijah Layfield (Cell: 419-612-1239)

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)