



Sunday, September 13, 2026
8:00am

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 will not be offered during our services today, but rooms are open for families to use. The Nursery is located on the first floor, in Room #125. 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, located at the

South Entrance. 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 on a shelf 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!



@stjohnschurcharchbold



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Let's enter the presence of the Lord together!

Call to Worship	Raegan Rutledge	Isaiah 55:6-9
Prelude		"I Will Follow"
Welcome & Announcements		
†Hymn of Praise	#50, "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"	
Hymn Requests		
†Sharing the Peace of Christ		
Congregational Prayer & 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>		
Old Testament Reading		Psalm 23
†Sermon Hymn		Insert, "Jesus I Come"
New Testament Reading		Mark 1:16-20
Sermon		"Follow Me"
Gloria Patri		
<i>Glory to God in the Highest! Glory to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever, world without end. Amen.</i>		
Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	Raegan Rutledge	"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"
†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 Song		#373, "Where He Leads Me"
†Spoken Benediction		
†Benediction in Song		Insert, V. 1, "God Be With You"

Worship Servants

Accompanist	Buffy Riley	Sound Tech	Kelly Ducey
Worship Leader	Jim Grieser	Projection Tech	Cayla Swisher
Song Leader	Roger Zimmerman	Usher	Linda Heer

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 55:6-9 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. ⁸ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. ⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Mark 1:16-20 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Sermon and Translation Notes

Mark 1:16-20 (Elijah's translation) "And passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Come, after me, and I will make you become fishermen of people. ¹⁸ And straight away, leaving their nets, they followed him. ¹⁹ And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were also in the boat preparing the nets. ²⁰ And straight away he called them. And, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired hands, they went after him."

- The word "come" (δεῦτε) shows the kindness of God's invitation to us (Matt 11:28, 22:4, 25:34, John 21:12, Rev 19:17).
- This word "after" (ὀπίσω) carries the idea of authority (John 12:19, 18:6). This is the word that Jesus used to rebuke Satan when he spoke through Peter (Mark 8:33-34).

Continued on page 5

Sermon and Translation Notes (continued)

Whom Does Jesus Call?

Luke 5:4–8 NIV, When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” ⁵ Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” ⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!”

What Does Jesus Call to?

John 1:35–36, 40–42 NIV, “The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God!’... ⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas’ (which, when translated, is Peter).”

Does Jesus Still Call?

John 10:27–30 NIV, “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

Announcements

- **Third Thursday Senior Luncheon** - Senior citizens are invited to gather this Thursday, September 17th at 11:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. A delicious meal & blessed fellowship will be enjoyed after a devotional program. We hope to see you there!
- **Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission** – The BASIC Sunday School Class will be going to TGRM next week. If you would like to join them, meet in our parking lot at 3PM for departure.
- **Wednesday Evening Program Registration** – Registration is OPEN for Wednesday evening Kids & Teens programs! Head to stjohnsarchbold.org/register to submit your registration for kids in Preschool (3.5 years old) through 12th Grade. Programs start on Wednesday, September 16th with our Family Kickoff Night from 6:00-8:00PM!
- **Blanket Sunday** – Next week we will take a special offering in support of Church World Services. Your support allows CWS to quickly respond to get supplies into the hands of people in crisis. Supplies include: Blankets, Emergency Cleanup Buckets, Hygiene Kits, School Kits & Food Packages.
- **GIF Gals** – Q: What are 3 activities women like most? A: Talk, eat, shop. If your answers matched, good news! On September 24th the Gals will go to Endless Creations in Bryan for shopping from 4-5PM, then hop across the street to Four Seasons Restaurant for food & fellowship. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of Pastor Elijah's office & don't forget to bring a friend!
- **"Getting to Know You" Small Groups with Pastor Elijah** – In an effort to get to know everyone at SJCC, Pastor Elijah has planned several opportunities to gather in small groups of 12 people at Short's Pond. Join in for a time of fellowship & getting to know one another. Light refreshments will be served. Short's Pond is located on CR E in Archbold, just east of Scott & JoAnn Short's home. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the Pastor's Office. Next group meets this Saturday, September 19th at 3PM.
- **Back Bay Mission Trip** – There's still time to sign up for the Back Bay Mission Trip, which is scheduled for November 15-21st. You can sign up on the bulletin board outside of the Pastor's office. We hope you'll consider joining the team!

September Mission-a-Month: Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission

Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission – St. John's has been in partnership with TGRM for many years, as they represent a commitment to local missions. They offer shelter, food and support to those experiencing homelessness and poverty. If you would like to join the next team going to TGRM, please see Dan Light or Ann Grime for more information. You can give to TGRM by writing in "TGRM" on line 12 or 13 of your offering envelope, or by selecting "TGRM in the "Give to" drop-down menu in Breeze's online giving feature.

Week of September 13th at SJCC

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube Live)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Donuts & Devotion (Chapel)
	10:30AM	Worship (East Lawn)
	11:30AM	Fellowship Lunch (Parish Hall)
	6:30PM	Life Planning Kickoff Cookout (Fellowship Hall)
Mon	6:30PM	Evangelism Committee Meeting (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tue	9:00AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	10:30AM	Staff Meeting (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:45PM	Mission Committee Meeting
Wed	6:00PM	Children’s Education Programs Night (Sanctuary)
Thurs	11:30AM	Third Thursday Senior Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
Sat	3:00PM	Getting to Know You Small Group (Short’s Pond)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	3:00PM	Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission Departure

Discovery Guide Daily Readings

For the week of September 13th, 2026:

- Sept. 13 “When Friends Betray” ----- Psalm 55
- Sept. 14 “Losing Our Saltiness”----- Mark 9:38-50
- Sept. 15 “Can One Plus One Still Be One?” --- Mark 10:1-12
- Sept. 16 “Being Like Children”----- Mark 10:13-16
- Sept. 17 “Riches in Heaven” ----- Mark 10:17-31
- Sept. 18 “The Shadow of the Cross” ----- Mark 10:32-34
- Sept. 19 “Not to Be Served but to Serve”---- Mark 10:35-45

Prayer Concerns and Joys

Please pray for...

- Jim Grieser, for upcoming open heart surgery.
- Mel Woolace, who has been experiencing breathing complications.
- Ralph & Bonnie Grieser, as Ralph is in the special care unit at Fairlawn, receiving therapy.
- Chloe Merillat, praise! Initial biopsy results were encouraging, with no cancer found, though inconclusive. Additional biopsies were performed Friday, September 11th. Please pray for peace, strength and healing for Chloe & her family.

Care Center Residents...

- Marilyn Baron, Fulton Manor, 725 S. Shoop Ave, Wauseon 43567
- John Graber, 550 Haven Drive, Apt. 309, Archbold, 43502
- 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

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Senior Pastor - Elijah Layfield (Cell: 419-612-1239)
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