

Sunday, November 8, 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, 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.

First Aid Kits are located and hung on the walls of the Gym (Room #106), and Second Floor Hallway next to the Elevator. In the Northeast Foyer (Room #134) a first aid kit, AED & Emergency First Aid can be found on the wall. Please see an usher if there is an emergency, or if medical assistance is needed.

Let's Connect!

Welcome to our Worship of God!

Call to Worship — Matthew 11:27-30 (page 966)

Prelude — "Morning Has Broken"

Welcome & Announcements

†Hymn of Praise — #2, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

†Hymn Requests

†Sharing the Peace of Christ

(10:30) Children's Message

At this time Junior Church may be dismissed to the Chapel

Congregational Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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.

Old Testament Reading — Isaiah 58:6-12 (page 736)

(10:30) Special Music — Adult Choir — "God's Grace"

New Testament Reading — Mark 2:18-22 (page 992)

Sermon — "Eating and Fasting for the Bridegroom"

Gloria Patri

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.

Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — "Be Thou My Vision"

†*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication*

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.

†Closing Hymn — Insert, V. 1, 2, "Shine, Jesus Shine"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song — Insert, V. 3, "Shine, Jesus Shine"

Worship Servants

Accompanist	Buffy Riley	10:30 Audio Tech	James Grime
Worship Leader	Kim S. Walker	10:30 Visual Tech	Ryan Christman
Song Leader	Roger Zimmerman	Prelude & Offertory	Raegan Rutledge
8:00 Usher	Jim Grieser	10:30 Head Usher	Greg Walker
10:30 Ushers	Bill & Kathy Bostelman, Scott & JoAnn Short		
10:30 Soloists	Crissi Stuckey, Roger Zimmerman		
10:30 Nursery	Jen & Brie Grime		

Scripture Readings

Matthew 11:27-30 "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. [28] "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Isaiah 58:6-12 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? [7] Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? [8] Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. [9] Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, [10] and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. [11] The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. [12] Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Mark 2:18-22 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?" [19] Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. [20] But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast. [21] "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. [22] And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, he pours new wine into new wineskins."

Sermon & Translation Notes: "Eating & Fasting for the Bridegroom"

Mark 2:18-22 (Elijah's translation), "Now, the disciples of John and the Pharisees were fasting. They come and say to him, 'Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast?' [19] And Jesus said to them, 'Can the sons of the bridal chamber fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. [20] But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them and then they will fast on that day. [21] No one sews an unshrunken patch of cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. [22] And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine bursts the wineskins and the wine is destroyed along with the wineskins, but rather new wine into new wineskins.'"

Why Aren't They Fasting? (v. 18)

- Who are the disciples of John?
- Who are the Pharisees?

Can They Fast? (v. 19)

- Who is the bridegroom?
- Why can't they fast?

Will They Fast? (vv. 20-22).

- Why is the bridegroom taken away?
- Why will they fast? Mark 9:29 (NKJV) "So He said to them, 'This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.'"
- What do garments and wineskins have in common?

Following Jesus Out the Front Door: Now What?

- Prayer of application, "Lord Jesus, help us to long for your presence in our lives and express our desire for you through fasting."
- Is there any reason why I shouldn't fast?
- Is there anything other than food I should fast from?
- What do I need to pray for while I'm fasting?

For more on fasting:

Fasting…[is for] times of intensive intercession, repentance, worship, and seeking of guidance… (1) Fasting increases our sense of humility and dependence on the Lord… (2) Fasting allows us to give more attention to prayer… and (3) it is a continual reminder that…we must continually sacrifice all of ourselves to him… (4) Fasting is a good exercise in self-discipline… If we train ourselves to accept the small "suffering" of fasting willingly…(5) Fasting also heightens spiritual and mental alertness and a sense of God's presence …. Finally, (6) fasting expresses earnestness and urgency in our prayers…" (Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 390-1).

John Piper, *A Hunger for God*

Donald Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*

Announcements

- **Men's Prayer Breakfast** - Men, be sure to set your alarm because you do not want to miss what's cooking on Saturday, November 14th at 7:40AM in the Fireside Room.
- **Life Planning** - This Wednesday, Nov. 11th we will split the girls & guys. Girls & mentors are invited to Tinora Performing Arts Center from 5-6:30PM, to hear "Empowering the Female Student-Athlete in Mind, Body and Spirit". If you are unable to attend, please join the rest of the group at Craig & Jenny Grieser's for a night of games. Thanks again Craig & Jenny for allowing us to use your home. Please let us know if you are unable to attend.
- **Lunch Sponsor Requested** - SJCC 8th-12th graders will participate in a Habitat for Humanity Playhouse Build on Monday, November 23rd at the Wauseon Habitat Warehouse. We are looking for an individual or group willing to provide or sponsor lunch for our team of around 20. If you would like to help, please contact Jocelyn Walker by Wednesday, November 11th. Thank you for your consideration!
- **Christmas Decorating Committee -** Love to deck the halls? We are searching for 1 more person to join the Christmas Decorating Committee! It is a fun & rewarding way to get involved behind the scenes. Contact the Church Office if interested.
- **SJCC Deck the Halls 2026** - On Sunday, November 22nd, we need YOU to help us decorate St. John's Christian Church for the Christmas Season! This year we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at noon for soup & sandwiches before we get started around 12:30PM. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of Pastor Elijah's Study, so we can plan.
- **Third Thursday Senior Luncheon -** Senior citizens are invited to gather on November 19th at 11:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. A delicious meal & good company will be enjoyed after a devotional program. Please sign up at the bulletin board by Sunday, Novermber 15th. P.S.- There will be no Luncheon in December.
- **Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner** - Save the date & be sure to join us on December 10th at 12PM. Please sign up at the bulletin board by November 29th.
- **JYF Poinsettia Sale** - The Most Wonderful Time of the Year is almost here! Be sure to stop any of our JYF to place an order for your Christmas Poinsettia.



Week of November 8TH at St. John's Christian Church

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School/Veteran's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	9:45AM	Veteran's Day Presentation (Fellowship Hall)
	10:00AM	Adult Choir Warm up (Sanctuary)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	11:00AM	Junior Church (Chapel)
Tue	9:00AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	10:30AM	Staff Meeting (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal (Fellowship Hall)
	6:45PM	Mission Committee Meeting (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Property Committee Meeting (Chapel)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Crazy Hair Night)/Confirmation (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	JYF (Junior High Youth Room)/Life Planning (Gym)
	7:30PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thur	6:30PM	Building Committee Meeting (Fireside Room)
	7:30PM	Christian Education Committee Meeting (Parlor)
Sat	7:40AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (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)
	3:00PM	TGRM Departure (South Parking Lot)

November Mission-A-Month: Fulton County Christmas Cheer

The 2nd week of December, the Jr. Fair Building is transformed into a mini shopping center. The heart of Christmas Cheer is to spread kindness and make the holiday season brighter for those less fortunate in the community. Eligible families get to "shop" for many items at no charge. They choose their own household/grocery items, and for most of these families the toys they choose will be the only gifts their children receive for Christmas. We need your help to stock the shelves! Some supporters like to give food items, some cash for us to purchase in bulk, and some like to stock shelves, help shoppers and numerous other tasks. Watch for the Christmas Cheer Tree that will be going up later this month in our church. It will have many different tags with donation items. Please take as many as you like from the tree, shop for items & return to the church in designated boxes outside of the Chapel by Sunday, December 6th. You may also designate monetary donations on line 11 or 12 of your giving envelopes. Thank you for helping to touch the lives of people throughout all of Fulton County. Together we can do great things!

Prayer Joys, Concerns, and Requests:

Please pray for...

- Denny Caryer, has returned home after a serious fall on Saturday October 20th. Please pray for healing and relief from the pain of multiple fractures in his back and ribs.
- Jim Grieser, as he recovers from an open-heart surgery on October 6th.
- Ella Yoder, Justin & Carrie's daughter, who is home recovering from issues with blood clots, and a surgery on September 23rd to remove significant clotting in her leg. Please continue to pray for healing & answers from testing.
- Chloe Merillat, please continue to pray as further evaluation is needed after latest biopsy results. Pray for wisdom and discernment over the medical team and peace, strength, and healing for Chloe & her family.
- Mel Woolace, who is dealing with breathing complications.

Care Center Residents...

- Marilyn Baron, Fulton Manor, 725 S. Shoop Ave, Wauseon 43567
- John Graber, 550 Haven Drive, Apt. 309, Archbold, 43502
- Ralph Grieser, 407 E Lutz Road, Room 401, Archbold, Ohio 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

Senior 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)