

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church

Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

Office: 847-497-4JOY (4569) – Cell: 815-861-9554

5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051

www.joyfulharvest.org



January 18th, 2026

Second Sunday after Epiphany

**We worship in-person and on-line at 9:00 am. There is a link on our website to join the on-line Worship Service through Zoom!
Stay safe and God bless!**

Gathering

Welcome/Greeting/Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you.

Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

Call to Worship

P: We wait patiently for our God.

C: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One who calls us here.

P: We will not chase after other gods.

C: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One in whom we can trust.

P: We will tell of all God has done for us.

C: We will sing, we will sing new songs of the One whose salvation is for all.

Gathering Songs: Come Let Us Worship
(Please join us in "Sharing the Peace")
Behold the Lamb

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be

glorified.”⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God.”⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11

¹ I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

² **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

³ The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴ **Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

⁵ Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶ **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

⁷ And so I said, “Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸ **‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.’”**

⁹ I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

¹⁰ **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

¹¹ You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here...

P: This is the gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

Tessa Ancona

Sermon

Pastor Ken Gibson

Hymn of the Day: Jesus Calls Us

Prayers of Intercession

A: "Merciful God", ... **C: "Receive our prayer"**

Offering: Friends, an offering is an act of Worship, given freely to share God's love through this congregation. Please place your offering in the basket as it is passed around, you may come forward to put your gift in the offering plate, or send your gifts to the church at: **5050 N. Johnsburg Rd.,** Johnsburg, IL 60051 or give online at www.joyfulharvest.org

Offering Prayer

Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion: *Christ is truly present with us today, especially in the gifts of bread and wine. God's table is open; we invite you to join us at the Lord's Table! After the choir is served, come up the center aisle, from front to back. If you are unable to come forward, please let the pastor or another worship leader know, and we will bring communion to you. If you do not receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, simply keep your hands folded. The dark colored liquid is wine, and the light-colored liquid is juice. Please let the pastor know if you need a gluten free wafer. All are welcome!*

Communion Song: Communion Song

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Sending Song: Holy Forever

Sending and Benediction

P: Having learned new words from our God,

C: we will go to warm others in the bleak midwinter of life, to whisper to them of grace and hope.

P: Having learned new ways to serve from Jesus,

C: we will go to clear paths for those lost in oppression, to wait with those in hospital rooms and job lines.

P: Having learned new songs from the Spirit,

C: we will go to sing of peace in all the broken places, to light the way out of the shadows of injustice..

Commissioning

P: At Joyful Harvest Church,

C: our mission is growing together for Christ.

P: As disciples of Jesus Christ, we value:

C: Family Worship, Relying on Prayer, Unity in Christ, Instruction in the Word, Telling Others, and Service to God's Community.

P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

If you are looking for a place to worship with your family, join us any Sunday at 9:00 am! Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Daily Devotionals with Pastor Ken Gibson @ 8:00am.

Pastor Ken has started doing daily devotionals on FaceBook live every weekday at 8:00am. Go out to FaceBook and search for "Pastor Ken Gibson". Be sure to find the correct one, as there are multiple. Then send a friend request to join the group. He is looking forward to seeing you there!



Joyful Readers Book Club: Do you like to read, are you looking for a way to connect with other women? Consider joining the ladies of Joyful Harvest as they embark in this fellowship opportunity. The next meeting will be Sat, Jan 24th at 9:00a.m. They're reading "The Lonely Hearts Book Club" by Lucy Gilmore. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

Blood Drive! Sat. Feb 28, 8:00am-12:00pm: Please help fill the need for blood donations. More than 75 percent of all Americans reaching age 72 will need donated blood within their lifetime; 97 percent will have a loved one who will need blood. You can register online at <https://donateblood.versiti.org> or walk-ins are always welcome.



Weekly Calendar

Tue. Jan 20	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Jan 20	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Thur. Jan 22	Food Pantry meeting at JHC	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thur. Jan 22	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sun. Jan 18	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Jan 18	Faith Formation Class	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Jan 24	Joyful Readers Book Club	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Feb 08	Giving Closet	11:00-1:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb 28	Versiti Blood Drive	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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JANUARY 18, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY



Faith is formed through trusted relationships.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 1:29-42	Jesus, the Lamb of God
Monday	Isaiah 49:1-7	The servant's mission
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Greetings to the Corinthians
Wednesday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathaniel
Thursday	Psalm 46	God is our mighty fortress
Friday	John 9:1-34	The man born blind receives his sight
Saturday	Psalm 40:1-11	Happy are they who trust the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 4:12-23	Jesus calls his first disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*He [Jesus] said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **John 1:39 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help me and all people to see Jesus the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, let me see in this meal a gift of love, part of your wondrous deeds that are so many they cannot be counted. Amen. (Psalm 40:5)

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with peace.



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WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What words would you use to describe someone with whom you have a trusted relationship?
- John the Baptist, Andrew, and Philip helped others see Jesus. How can trusted relationships help others see Jesus?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 1:29-46.

Having a relationship with Jesus often involves a trusted relationship with others. John the Baptist twice tells people that Jesus is the Lamb of God. After the second announcement, two of John's disciples follow Jesus. They want a relationship to Jesus so they ask where he is staying. Jesus immediately invites them to where he is dwelling. The result is that Andrew (one of the two disciples of John) goes and gets his brother Simon (Cephas or Peter). Then Philip is brought into the inner circle of disciples. Interestingly, he is from the same hometown as Andrew and Peter. These were likely neighborhood boys who knew each other growing up and had a trusted relationship. Then Philip goes and gets his friend Nathaniel. Philip's invitation includes the same words Jesus used earlier: "Come and see" (vv. 39 and 46).

Discuss: We often see Jesus through others with whom we have a trusted relationship. Who has helped you see Jesus?

Pray: **Dear Jesus, may we help others to see you through our invitation, our care, and our living faith. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you invite someone to come and see Jesus?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



When John the Baptist saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" While we cannot physically see Jesus, there are signs of his life all around us. Cut out the shape of a lamb from a large sheet of white paper. Talk or think about ways you have seen or experienced the presence of Jesus during the day. Write your thoughts on your lamb. Take a moment to read through them.

Pray: **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. Amen.**



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