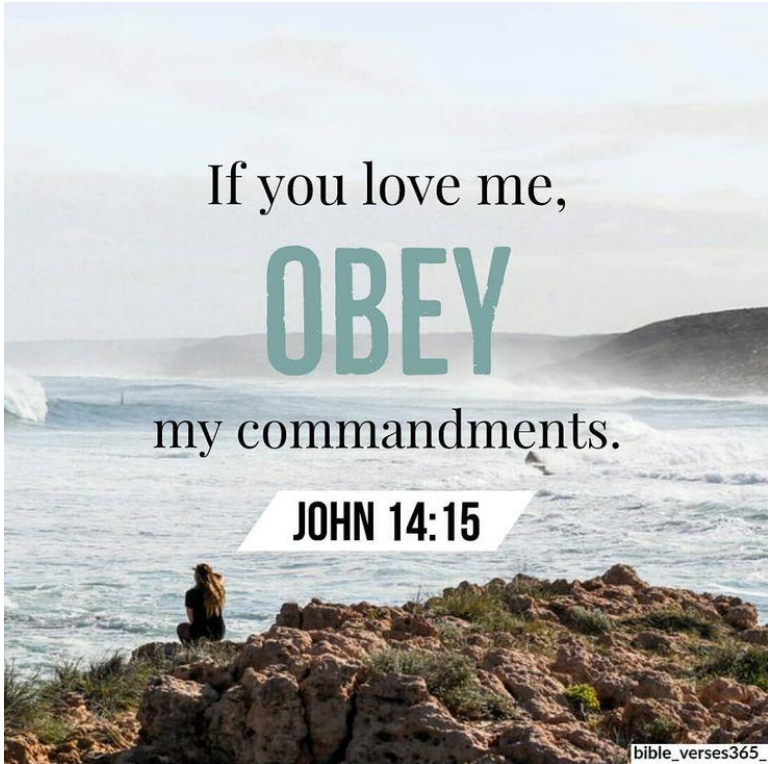


Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church
Growing Together for Christ
Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor
Office: 847-497-4JOY (4569) – Cell: 815-861-9554
5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051
www.joyfulharvest.org



May 10th, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Call to Worship

P: Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

C: We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.

P: Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

C: Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.

P: Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

**C: We will tell of the joy and of the love,
of the peace and of the hope which is ours.**

Opening Song: Dance With Me

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Faith Song: You Are My Sunshine

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you

worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unflinching love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,.....

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my.....

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: Trust and Obey

Prayers of Intercession

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

Sharing of the Peace

Offering Invitation: 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: Come Holy Spirit/I Love You Lord

Prayer After Communion

Sending

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.

SENDING

P: Go from this place, speaking of what God has done.

C: We will remind everyone that, despite everything, God loves us.

P: Go from this place, singing of what God is doing.

C: We will rejoice that God has not left us orphaned, but makes us one with everyone around us.

P: Go from this place, imagining what God will do.

C: We will witness to that hope which seems too distant, yet is as close to us as our hearts.

Sending Song: Amazing Love (You Are My King)

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

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.

Memorial Day Luminaria Fundraiser for Veterans:

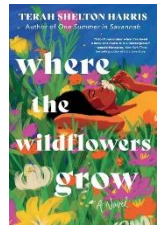
On Sun. May. 10th & Sun. May. 17th we will be selling Luminaria bags & bracelets for our 2nd annual "Luminaria Lighting Ceremony". On Sun. May 24th, we will line the corner with our decorated bags, say a special prayer and light the bags in honor of our fallen heroes!



Spring Clean-up & Garden! Sat. May 16th 9:00am-Noon:

Join us in helping to make our church "Shine". Helpers are needed to do inside and outside sprucing up of our church community environment, along with planting our community garden. Please sign-up on the board in the narthex to let us know if you would like to work inside, outside or in the garden. We will provide hotdogs, chips & side salad afterwards.

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, Jun 13th at 9:00a.m. They're reading "Where the Wildflowers Grow" by Terah Shelton Harris. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!



Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. May 12	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. May 12	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Thur. May 14	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. May 16	Spring Clean-up & Garden	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Sat. May 16	1st Saturday Night Service	4:30 p.m.
Sun. May 17	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sun. May 17	Faith Formation Class	10:30 a.m.
Sun. May 17	Luminaria Sales	10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Sun. May 24 **Luminaria Lighting Ceremony** 10:15 a.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

June 13 – Joyful Readers

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**MAY 10, 2026
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



The Holy Spirit is our helper.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 14:15-21	The promise of the Holy Spirit
Monday	Acts 17:22-31	Paul in Athens
Tuesday	1 Peter 3:13-22	Suffering for doing right
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 31:7-8	God will be with you
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	Jesus is taken up to heaven
Friday	2 Timothy 1:3-7	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Saturday	Psalms 66:8-20	Shout praises to God
Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I [Jesus] will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you."

John 14:18 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come, Holy Spirit, give me the faith and strength to love others as Christ has loved me and the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For this food and the people who have brought it from the earth to our tables, we give you thanks. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a loving heart.



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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:

- When have you felt alone or afraid?
- Jesus called the Holy Spirit our helper. What do you think the Holy Spirit helps us do?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 14:15-21.

The Gospel of John weaves themes into one another like a beautiful tapestry. That is clearly what is happening in John 14. At the heart of it, Jesus will not abandon his followers. He loves them and wants them to love him by keeping his commandments to love one another (John 13:34). Jesus will remain with us, his followers, through the presence of “another Advocate” (v. 16), just as Jesus himself is an advocate (1 John 2:1). The word “advocate” in the original Greek also means counselor, helper, or intercessor. The Advocate is here to help us. The other advocate is the Holy Spirit, described as “the Spirit of truth” (v. 17), just as Jesus is seen as “the truth” in John 14:6. After Jesus’ death, resurrection, and ascension, he is still with us through the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth. The Holy Spirit makes Christ a reality in our lives today so that we may love one another and the world as God does (John 3:16). We are not abandoned after Jesus’ ascension; we are empowered by the Spirit of truth to live out Jesus’ new commandment to love one another and the world.

Discuss: How has the Holy Spirit helped you along your faith journey?

Pray: **The Lord’s Prayer.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who feels alone?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Today is Mother’s Day in the United States. It is a time to recognize and be thankful for those women in our lives who have loved and cared for us and for others. Be a witness for God’s love and reach out to a woman you know who deserves a special thank you with a phone call, text, or a visit. Say this prayer for her: **Lord God, thank you for [name]. May she know how grateful I am to have her in my life. Please bless her on this day and every day with your love and care. Amen.**



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