

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church

Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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www.joyfulharvest.org



Even the dogs eat
the crumbs that
fall from their
master's table.

Matthew 15:27

Aug 16th, 2026	12th Sunday after Pentecost
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**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: In the gathering of school supplies,
in the harvesting of backyard gardens:

C: God blesses us beyond imagination.

P: In the simple acts of daily chores,
in the kindness shared by a stranger:

C: God is gracious to us.

P: In the amazement of a child watching a firefly,
in the inquisitive look of a senior
wondering where they left their keys:

C: God's face shines upon us.

P: We praise you, O God!

C: We praise you!

Opening Song: Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⲥ 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, ⲥ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Faith Song: Step by Step

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹ Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant— ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 67:1-7

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:10-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and.....

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: Healing Rain

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. Johnsbury Rd., Johnsbury, 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 Songs: Come Let Us Worship/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: Now go, to serve as God's people.

C: We will work to remove all that divides us from others.

P: Now go, to share the grace of Jesus.

C: We will love others just as we are loved.

P: Now go, to be the Spirit's community.

C: We will invite everyone to join us in this life of faith and service.

Sending Song: Take My Life and Let It Be (ELW #583)

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: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

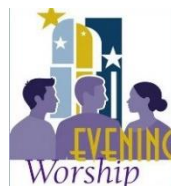
C: Thanks be to God.

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.

Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL) @ 4:30pm:

Can't make it on Sunday?? Come to our new Saturday night Liturgy (SNL) to see what you're missing. Join Pr. Ken on Saturday nights (see schedule below) at 4:30 pm and enjoy a shortened version of the following Sunday's service. We will be using our new hymnals!



Wed. "Weed & Feed" – Watch for upcoming dates!

Wear your "Holy" jeans, bring a pair of gloves and roll up your sleeves! Help is needed to keep the garden looking good. Watch your bulletin and keep your ears open during announcements to find out the next date. "Weeding" will start at 4:00pm and we will have a light "feeding" at 5:00pm. Please sign up on welcome table, be sure to include phone # in case of cancellation.



Bingo & Silent Auction Fundraiser! Sat. Aug 29 @ 2-4 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of bingo & a silent auction to support our local veterans. **All ages are welcome!** We will be playing 10 games of bingo (*time permitting*) with prizes consisting of \$5.00 gift cards to various locations and additional “auction (*play*) money”. Between games there will be time to bid on the auctions. After the final game, we will take a few minutes for final bids before the winners are announced. For a minimal donation you can get additional “Auction (*play*) money” and food throughout the night. **Tickets are limited to the first 75 players!**



For a small donation of \$15.00 per ticket, you will get:

1 set of bingo cards, 1 bingo dauber,
\$100.00 in “Auction (*play*) Money”,
Hotdog or Hamburger, chips & soda

Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Aug 18	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Aug 18	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Aug 19	“Weed & Feed” Gardening – watch for date	TBD
Wed. Aug 19	Council Meeting	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Thur. Aug 20	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Aug 22	Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Sat. Aug 22	Feed My Starving Children	10:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.
Sat. Aug 22	Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	4:30 p.m.
Sun. Aug 23	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Sat. Aug 29	Bingo & Silent Auction – Veterans Fundraiser	2:00-4:00 p.m.
Sat. Aug 29	NO - Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	N/A

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

Wednesdays as Announced – **“Weed & Feed”**

Sept 5 – **Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

Sept 12 – **Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

Sept 13 – **Luau (pig roast) Rally Day**

Sept 19 – **Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

Sept 26 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 26 – **LAST - Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

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AUGUST 16, 2026
TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus’ ministry is for all nations.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 15:21-28	A woman’s faith
Monday	Isaiah 56:1-8	God’s saving power is everywhere
Tuesday	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	God saves Jews and Gentiles
Wednesday	Genesis 45:1-15	Joseph and his brothers
Thursday	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Instructions concerning prayer
Friday	Matthew 28:16-20	The Great Commission
Saturday	Psalms 67	Tell the nations to praise God
Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter’s confession of Christ

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Psalm 67:12 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the nations, we thank you for your mercy and grace that is meant not only for those we know and love but for all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Gracious God, we thank you for this food and for all those who have planted, harvested, transported, and prepared it for us this day. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God be gracious to you and bless you. (Psalm 67:1)



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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 have you learned from someone who speaks a different language or comes from a different culture?
- It is easy to overlook God's grace and mercy is not just for us but for all people. How can you extend kindness to someone of a culture that is foreign to you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 15:21-28.

The Canaanite woman is central to this story for many reasons. She is a woman, and she is a foreigner, both good reasons for Jesus not to talk to her. He is especially not to address her plea before addressing the needs of the Jewish people, "*the lost sheep of the house of Israel*" (v. 24). This woman is also a critical figure because her plea for help changes Jesus' response to her. It is not easy to understand how this woman seems to teach and change Jesus, but she does. The result, however, is clear: Jesus' ministry, like that of the God of the Old Testament (Psalm 67) is for all the nations, not just the sons and daughters of Abraham. This story lifts up the essential mission of Jesus and the church of all generations. As Jesus directed us in Matthew 28:16-20 (the Great Commission), we are to make disciples of all nations, not just our ethnic group, not just "our people," and not just our own nation.

Discuss: What opportunities do you have in your community to show God's love to a foreigner or a stranger?

Pray: **Generous God, help us to see the breadth and depth of your love for all people in the world through Christ our Lord. 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 reach out to someone who needs to hear kind and loving words?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The prophet Isaiah declared God's intention to make God's house (the temple in Jerusalem) a "*house of prayer for all peoples*" (Isaiah 56:7). Think or talk about where, when, and how you pray in your home. In what ways do you feel your own home is a "house of prayer"?

Pray: **Generous God, help us to see the breadth and depth of your love for all people in the world through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



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