

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church

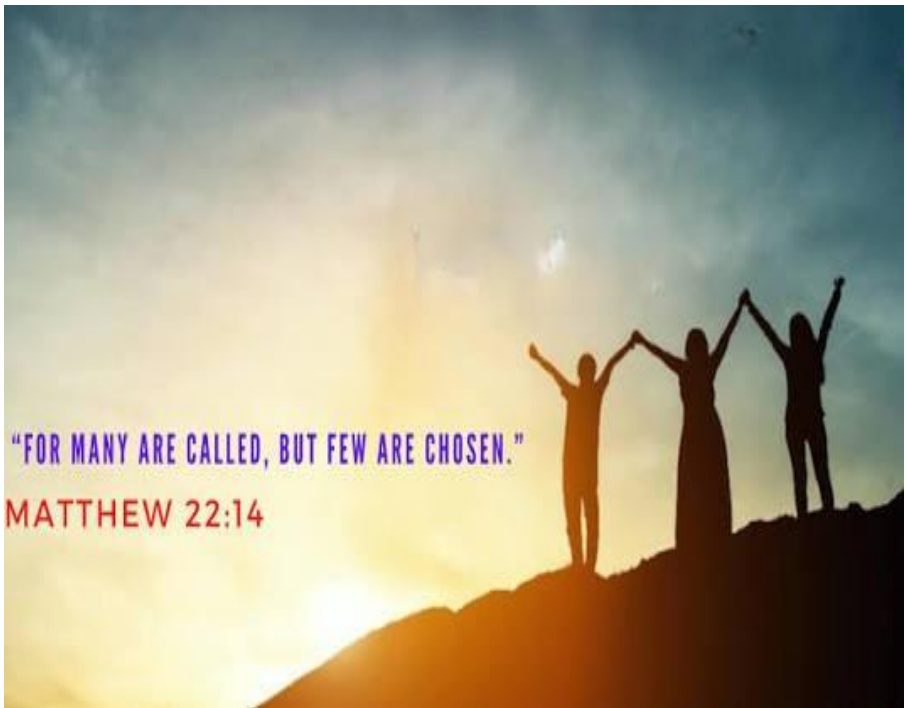
Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051

www.joyfulharvest.org



October 11th, 2026	20th 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: Here in this place, with these people,
we come to worship the living God.

C: In you, O God, we hope; in you, we live.

P: Here in this sacred space, in these very moments,
we are invited to the Table of Joy.

C: In you, O Christ, we rejoice; in you, grace is as near as your heart.

P: Here on this day of gentleness and beauty,
we are filled with the peace of God.

C: In you, O Spirit, we find our path; in you, we learn to serve.

Opening Song: Let It Rise

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Faith Song: The Lord is My Shepherd

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

¹ O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ² For

you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 23:1-6

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall 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, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom.....

P: This is the gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Children’s Message

Pastor Ken Gibson

Sermon

Pastor Ken Gibson

Hymn of the Day: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Prayers of Intercession

A: “Hear us, O God”, ... **C: “Your mercy is great”**

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 Songs: Let Us Go Now to the Banquet (ELW #523)

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 let us leave this place, to live and serve those not here,

C: to share the hope of God, to live in love with all creation.

P: Now let us leave this place to offer the gifts of life and grace with all,

**C: to bring joy to those who mourn,
to offer the heart of Christ to everyone.**

P: Now let us leave this place to fill our neighborhoods with peace.

**C: to walk the Spirit's path with strangers,
to serve all as if they were family.**

Sending Song: Blessed Be Your Name

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.

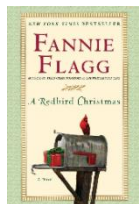
C: Amen

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

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.



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, Dec 5th @ 9:00a.m. They're reading "A Redbird Christmas" by Fannie Flagg. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 13	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 13	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Oct 14	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct 15	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct 17	Chair Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 18	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 18	Faith Formation Class	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Oct 21	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Wed. Oct 21	Council Meeting	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct 24	Chair Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 25	Reformation Sunday – Wear “RED”	9:00 a.m.
Wed. Oct 28	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct 31	Chair Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

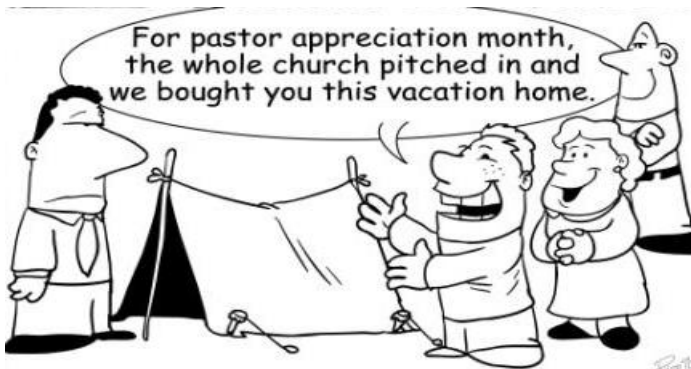
Nov 04, 11, & 18 – **Mat Yoga with Robin**
Nov 07 – **Veterans Spaghetti Dinner**
Nov 14 & 21 – **Chair Yoga with Robin**
Nov 15 – **Thanksgiving Potluck – after worship**
Nov 25 – **Thanksgiving Eve Service w/pie fest**
Nov 28 – **Hanging of the Greens**
Nov 29 – **5th Annual Soundtrack of Christmas**
Dec 05 – **Joyful Readers**

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OCTOBER 11, 2026
TWENTIETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God’s grace is powerful and trustworthy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast
Monday	Isaiah 25:1-9	A prayer of thanks to God
Tuesday	Philippians 4:1-9	Paul encourages his co-workers
Wednesday	Exodus 32:1-14	The people make an idol
Thursday	Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23	A nation asks for forgiveness
Friday	Matthew 5:1-11	The Beatitudes
Saturday	Psalms 23:1-6	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Finally beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. **Philippians 4:8 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, guide our thoughts and actions in ways that reflect your reign of goodness and mercy through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you who promise us a feast of rich food, help us to take joy in this meal today. Amen. (Isaiah 25:6)

A Blessing to Give:

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)



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 did you go to a party that was memorable? What made it memorable?
- Who do you think God would invite to a great banquet? Why?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 22:1-14.

The good news of Jesus is powerful and meant to make a difference in the world. God's mercy has the last word. It also includes a divine judgment that says that the marginalized, the "outsider," the "*poor in spirit*" (Matthew 5:3) will be blessed. If we take the grace of God for granted, we not only miss the feast, we miss the fact that "*many are called, but few are chosen*" (v. 14). Jesus is quite aware that many will miss his invitation to a way of life that brings love and salvation rather than hate and judgment. This text is from Jesus' final week before his crucifixion. The people see him as a prophet, a true messenger of God (Matthew 21:46), but soon he will suffer, be humiliated, and die. There will be false prophets who come along. They are like the guest who is not wearing the proper clothing and their message is to be rejected. Our life in Christ will not be associated with messages and actions of indifference, contempt, or hateful revenge to gain an advantage over others. God's grace makes the difference in our lives and world; God's grace is powerful and trustworthy.

Discuss: What are some things we do that might take God's grace and mercy for granted?

Pray: **God of grace and mercy, cleanse us of our way of life that can become indifferent to the people we do not want to see yet are the very people you love 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 help, support, and care for the homeless or those who are often overlooked?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



World Food Day is celebrated each year on October 16. It was founded by the United Nations in 1979 to raise awareness about hunger and malnutrition and to promote healthy food diets for all. There is a theme this week in the Bible readings about feasts and hospitality. Hospitality is receiving and treating guests and strangers in a warm, kind, and generous way. Think or talk about what it means to show hospitality. Prepare a healthy meal. Before eating it, take a moment to reflect on how you can help feed others.

Pray: **Dear God, we thank you for this meal, a sign of your care for us. Help us to care for others in the name of Jesus our Lord and Shepherd. Amen.**



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