

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



October 19th, 2025

19th Sunday after Pentecost

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: We have gathered in God's holy presence,
the One who etches grace on our hearts.

C: This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

P: We glorify our God, who yearns for justice,
not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

C: This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

P: We give thanks to God for unceasing grace;
we remember God's persistence in saving us.

C: This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.

Gathering Songs: Down to the River to Pray
(Please join us in "Sharing the Peace")
The Heart of Worship

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

PSALM: Psalm 121:1-8

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always 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: I Love You, Lord

Prayers of Intercession

A: "God of grace",C: **"Receive our prayer"**

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

Offering Prayer

Meal

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Seeking to follow Jesus, we often wander down the wrong roads. Impatient with God's schedule, we rush off to do things our way. Let us confess our foolishness, that we might receive God's hope for our lives. Join me as we pray,

C: Your words are given to us, Author of Life, so we might be reformed, but we are intent on changing others. Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are focused on conforming to our culture. Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we hold our old ways tight to our chests.

Forgive us, God of Wonder. In spite of our sins, You continue to touch us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, even as you were so tenacious in offering us your grace and life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(Silence is kept)

P: Jesus reminds us that we are to be resolute in our lives of faithfulness and service. The good news is that God is steadfast in filling us with love and grace.

C: We are forgiven people. May we live as sisters and brothers in Christ, God's children in word and deed, in hope and joy. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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: Holy Forever

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Sending Song: Shout to the North

Sending and Benediction

P: Here in this place, God transforms us into disciples,

C: so we may share the grace etched upon our hearts.

P: Here with these people, compassion is written on our hearts,

C: so we may join Jesus in bringing justice to all.

P: Now, in these moments, the Spirit is breathed into us,

C: so we can be as persistent as God in bringing hope to the world.

Commissioning

P: At Joyful Harvest Church,

C: our mission is growing together for Christ.

P: As disciples of Jesus Christ, we value:

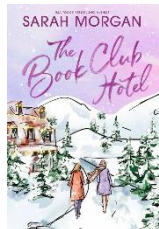
C: Family Worship, Relying on Prayer, Unity in Christ, Instruction in the Word, Telling Others, and Service to God's Community.

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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 Nov 15th at 9:00 a.m. They're reading "*The Book Club Hotel*" by Sarah Morgan. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

Messy Church/Family Fun Night! Wed. Nov 19th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

If you are wondering...you ARE indeed part of the family!! "Messy Church" invites us all to gather as God's community to eat, share fellowship, and learn and grow in our faith in a relaxed environment. We will be doing a special project and are in need of clean, empty mayonnaise jars. Come see what it's all about! For more information or to volunteer to help, please see Sue Bettis.



Choir Practice – Every Saturday 9:00 – 10:00 am.

Tired of singing in the shower? Karaoke not an option? Then try your talent at singing with the Joyful Harvest Choir! We welcome all....off key or not!

Men's Group: We meet on **Saturday afternoons at 1 p.m.** at the church for fellowship and learning more about God's call on our lives. All men are invited to attend.

Be part of Worship! Help out by reading, greeting or assisting in communion! There is a sign-up sheet for Sunday worship on the Welcome Table. No experience necessary!!!

Weekly Calendar

Tue. Oct 21	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 21	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct 23	Food Pantry Meeting @ Joyful Harvest	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct 23	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sun. Oct 26	Reformation Sunday Worship (wear RED)	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 26	Faith Formation	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Oct 22	Council Meeting	6:00-7:00 p.m.
-------------	------------------------	----------------

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

Sat. Nov 15 – **Joyful Readers**

Wed. Nov 19 - **Messy Church**

Sun. Nov 23 - **Thanksgiving Potluck**

Sat. Nov 29 - **Hanging of the Greens**

Sun. Nov 30 - **Soundtrack of Christmas**

Wed. Dec 24 - **Christmas Eve Service**

Sun. Jan 11 - **Annual Meeting**

Songs are reproduced, projected, and streamed with permission under CCLI #1029838.

Portions of the liturgy are Copyright © Thom M. Shuman 2017

Portions of the liturgy are copyright © Augsburg Fortress 2020

Portions of the liturgy are copyright © Joyful Harvest Church, ELCA 2020



OCTOBER 19, 2025
NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Faith is nurtured through personal, trusted relationships.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow
Monday	Genesis 32:22-31	God renames Jacob
Tuesday	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Paul’s instruction to Timothy
Wednesday	Genesis 14:15-25	Crossing the Red Sea
Thursday	Esther 8:1-17	Esther saves the Jews
Friday	Acts 8:26-40	Phillip and the eunuch
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God’s protection
Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of truth and justice, help us to be strengthened by the good news of Jesus Christ and to be a faithful witness of your love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for strengthening our bodies with this food and our lives of faith with the good news of Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord watch over and protect you.



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 are things you learned during your childhood that have helped you?
- Who taught you about Christian faith and what do you remember about them?

DEVOTIONS



Read: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5.

In this reading, Paul mentors Timothy and reminds him of the people who taught him the faith. Timothy's faith began during his childhood. Earlier in the book of 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul affirmed Timothy's *"sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice."* Timothy's faith was nurtured through personal, trusted relationships. The faith is inspired by God through scripture, holy words used as a guide *"for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness"* (3:16). The motivation for this review of the Christian faith is that Paul notes that there will be a time when the basics of the faith will be misused, and people will seek out messages that suit their own passions. There is a need for courage to speak and to correct with patient endurance rather than take the easier route of being silent. The confidence to speak out and confront a false message comes from the God-given inspiration of scripture and the confirmation of the faith that Timothy has received from Paul, Lois, Eunice, and other trusted voices.

Discuss: When do you have or do not have confidence to speak of the Christian faith?

Pray: **O God, our guide and teacher, strengthen our faith with patient endurance so that our lives may be comforted, and others may know the love of Christ, our Savior and 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 encourage someone who is experiencing discouragement?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Genesis 32:28 God changes Jacob's name to Israel which means, *"you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed."* We don't often see our lives of faith as wrestling with God, yet that is exactly what God honors and expects from us. Question God in your prayers, asking, "Lord, how come . . . ?" Let this questioning of God's intent be an example of building a strong and trusting relationship with God.

Pray: **God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, thank you for honoring our wrestling with you as faithful followers, through Christ our Lord, amen.**



5050 N Johnsbury Road
Johnsbury, IL 60051
www.joyfulharvest.org
(847) 497-4569