

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Church
Growing Together for Christ
Rev. Dr. Douglas Liston, Pastor – 847-497-4JOY (4569)
5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051
www.joyfulharvest.org



January 23, 2022

Third Sunday after Epiphany

This week we will be worshipping on-line through Zoom and Facebook. There will be a link on our website to watch on Zoom, or you can watch the live-stream on Facebook! Stay safe and God bless!

Gathering

Welcome/Greeting/Announcements

Call to Worship

Loud talkers and silent worriers, glad-handers and lonely wallflowers:

God gathers us together to be the Body of wonder and joy, of hope and healing.

Bystanders with hands shoved into our pockets, fraidy-cats whose feet are frozen in place:

Jesus calls us to carry grace to outsiders, to walk with all those left behind.

Kids who never offer answers in class, bashful folks whose tongues tie in knots:

The Spirit anoints us to speak up for the voiceless, to partner with the poor to discover their gifts.

Gathering Songs

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (NRSV)

¹All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19 (NRSV)

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

4yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

6Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

8the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

⁹the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

12But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

14Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a (NRSV)

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one

member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit...

This is the gospel of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Message

Prayers of Intercession

Meal

Offering/Offering Song

Friends, while our programs and in-person worship are temporarily modified, our responsibilities for our regular bills (mortgage, utilities, payroll, etc.) continue. Please send your gifts to the church office: 5050 N. Johnsburg Rd., Johnsburg, IL 60051 or you may give online at www.joyfulharvest.org.

Call to Reconciliation

We are afraid to join hands with others; we want to listen to those who speak falsely; we glibly offer silliness to those we love the most. Let us share with God how we have not been that Body we are made for, that God might reshape us into that holy community, even as we pray together...

Do we make you laugh or weep, Gracious God? We sing that we are one in your Spirit, but cannot tolerate those who disagree with us. We talk of being one Body, but fight over music or Bible versions or carpet colors. We affirm the giftedness of each person, but we heap honor on just a special few. Forgive us, Creative God, that we dismember your Body so easily. May the words of our mouths speak peace to the brokenness in our world; may the hopes of our hearts bring wonder to those in despair; and may our love embrace all who are around us, even as we have been welcomed by your grace in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence is kept...

Forgiven, we are filled by God's Spirit, commissioned to be Christ's hope, Christ's people for the world.

Anointed, we can care for one another, weep with one another, serve one another, and live with one another. Thanks be to God. Amen. Amen.

Lord's Supper

Words of Institution and Lord's Prayer

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

Communion Song

Sending

Sending Song

Sending and Benediction

Now, we are scattered by our God,
to go carry grace into a broken world.

Now, Jesus scatters us,
to bring justice to the outsiders, to visit all who are alone and lonely.

Now, filled with the Spirit, we are scattered,
to gather up the dispirited, to take hold of the lost and embrace them as family.

Commissioning

At Joyful Harvest Church, **our mission is growing together for Christ.**
As disciples of Jesus Christ, we value: **Family Worship, Relying on Prayer, Unity in Christ, Instruction in the Word, Telling Others, and Service to God's Community.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

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Announcements

Cross Keys Village Stampers: Cut used postage stamps from the mail you receive at home, bring it to the church and we'll make sure the Cross Keys folks receive them!

Men's Group: We are currently meeting online **Saturday mornings @ 7 a.m.** to learn more about God's call on our lives. All men are invited to attend.

Donate for Tijuana Mission Project! - Toys and school supplies! When our volunteers go to Tijuana this year, they would like to take some items that the kids can use. *If you should see a backpack on sale for the kids, we can fill it with school supplies. Soccer balls or footballs can be deflated and taken. Jump ropes, small toys, t-shirts for kids would be good, too.* There is a box in the narthex for donations. *Thanks so much for your generosity.* **See Ray Pratscher or Theresa Ancona for info.**

Live-Streaming Monday Evening Bible Study! DiscipleShip is back! Weekly Monday evening Bible Study at 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom! Follow the link on the website! "See" you then! Studying *Reading Paul's Mail!*

St. Jude Children's Ranch: We are collecting greeting cards! Please bring in the whole card Juanita will separate the front from the back. Save your used holiday and all-occasion cards, bring them to the church, and we'll ship them off to St. Jude's!

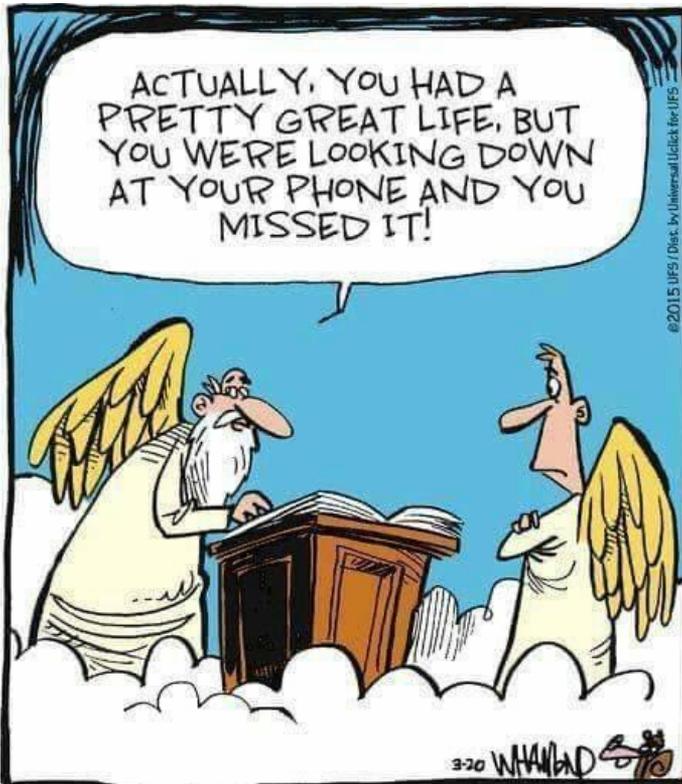
Remember – For your online shopping, visit Joyfulharvest.org and click on Saving with Susan! It helps support our ministries at Joyful Harvest!

Donate to help the ministries of Joyful Harvest! Scan the QR code on the left with your mobile device. You'll go straight to our online giving page to set up a one-time or recurring gift through your debit/credit card processed through PayPal. Your generous gift will support our many outreach ministries. ***Thank you for making so much possible!***



Weekly Calendar

Sun. Jan 23	Sunday Worship <u>Live-Streaming</u>	9:00 a.m.
Mon. Jan 24	Bible Study – <u>Live-Streaming</u>	6:00 p.m.
Tue. Jan 25	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Wed. Jan 26	Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Jan 27	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Sat. Jan 29	Men's Group <u>Live Streaming</u>	7:00 a.m.
Sun. Jan 30	Sunday Worship <u>Live-Streaming</u>	9:00 a.m.



JANUARY 23, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



**taking†
faith
home**

Jesus comes to set us free.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 4:14-21	Jesus returns to Nazareth
Monday	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Ezra reads God's law to the people.
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	One body, many parts.
Wednesday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The good news of deliverance.
Thursday	Romans 12:1-8	Christ brings new life.
Friday	John 8:31-36	The truth will set you free.
Saturday	Psalms 19	God's glory in creation and the law.
Sunday	Luke 4:21-30	The prophet Jesus is rejected.

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Luke 4:18-19 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus Christ, for the good news announced to us, the freedom given to us, and for sight that enlightens us, we give you thanks. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we thank you for this food. May this meal fill our bodies and your word fill our souls. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord sustain you when you are weary, free you when you are burdened, and bless you with grace and favor. (Luke 4:18-19)

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- When you are free to choose, what is one of your favorite things you like to do?
- When have you been set free from a burden?
- The prophet Isaiah and Jesus announce God's power of freeing people's lives from things like poverty, imprisonment, and physical illness. What would you like to be set free from by the power of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 4:14-21.

The text Jesus chooses from Isaiah sets the stage for what Jesus has come to do: set people free. The root word for freedom used here is also the word for forgiveness. At the heart of all human burdens and limitations is the pain of regret. People regret what they have done, and they regret the things they have failed to do. At the end of our day and the end of our days, it is good to be set free from both and to rest in the care and embrace of the God who sets us free from our past to enjoy an eternal future. To be set free is to be freed to love others and to love ourselves. This is the wisdom of faith celebrated by the psalmist. Such divine teachings (law), precepts, and ordinances are more desirable "than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb" (Psalm 19:10). This is a picture of joy for which Jesus has now set us free. What images can you think of that show joy? How would you describe the joy of being set free by Jesus? *Pray: The Lord's Prayer.*

SERVICE

In 1 Corinthians 12:21-22, Paul says, "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect." In our society, we tend to respect the honored and belittle others. Paul says that as the body of Christ, we are to care for one another. In what ways can you show care and compassion to those who suffer?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The closing prayer in Psalm 19 is often used at the beginning of sermons, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer" (v. 14). This week, pray this verse as part of a morning prayer ritual as a way to honor the day and see your actions and thoughts as a form of praise to God.



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Join us for worship: Sundays 9 am!