

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



September 6th, 2020

14th Sunday
after Pentecost

This week we will be worshipping together outside at Joyful Harvest. In case of inclement weather, we will do “drive-in” church. Please remember to bring your own chair and maintain social distancing.

If you don’t feel comfortable with in-person worship yet, we will still be live-streaming. There will be a link on our website to watch at www.joyfulharvest.org, or you can watch the live-stream on Facebook!

Gathering

Welcome/Greeting/Announcements

Call to Worship

We gather here, where God would teach us:
so we may learn to be more compassionate, so we may be taught how to be more loving.

We gather here, where Jesus would teach us
the wisdom to choose forgiveness over holding a grudge, the language of hope so we may speak to all.

We gather here, where the Spirit imparts wisdom,
so we might know how to share grace, so we would learn to welcome all to this Table.

**Gathering Songs: ????/????
????**

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11 (NRSV)

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die,"

and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40 (NRSV)

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

³⁶**Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.

³⁸**Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

⁴⁰**See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14 (NRSV)

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20 (NRSV)

¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you...

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

Message

Prayers of Intercession

Meal

Offering & Offering Song: ????

Offering

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

In worship and at work, in life and in loss, now and in every moment, Christ is among us: loving us, teaching us, and hoping to lead us. But we focus on those needs, on those desires that keep us from recognizing him. Let us confess all that we have done against God and others, as we pray,

All you ask of us is to love one another, God of our lives, and you are more than willing to teach us how. Yet we find this simple request so hard to carry out, this easy lesson so difficult to learn. Someone cuts us off in traffic, and we curse them. Another buys something we want but cannot afford, and we overflow with jealousy. A friend gets the acclaim we wanted, and we whisper about them behind their backs. Forgive us, Merciful God, and unclasp our hands from our grudges. With Christ in our midst, we can become the people you dream about: loving, merciful, gentle, and compassionate children of God.

Silence is kept...

2 or 3, or 30, or 300, - we have gathered as God's people: broken, we are made whole; alone, we are welcomed into a family; forgiven, we are sent to serve.

Fed, forgiven, restored, loved. This Table is our constant reminder of God's presence in our lives, of God's grace which makes us new in every moment. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Lord's Supper

All are welcome to come to communion; if you believe that Christ is truly present here today, we invite you to join us at the Lord's Table. The communion cups we share today have a wafer sealed under a clear piece of plastic (peel this off first) and grape juice in the lower portion.

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

Go now to the people who are overwhelmed by despair.

We will take the hope which has been given to us and share it with all.

Go now to those who are at odds with neighbors.

We will offer the peace and reconciliation which God has poured into our lives.

Go now to those who are the most vulnerable in our world.

We will bring the healing, the grace, the love of our God.

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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September's Memory

Verse

Exodus 20:17

9th Commandment: "You shall not covet your neighbor's house."



Announcements

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. **Thank you!!**

Thanks Amazon Smile! - Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Joyful Harvest whenever you shop at AmazonSmile! Whatever you shop for...books, music, etc., **Joyful Harvest** will get a portion of the purchase price. To support us, go to our webpage (www.joyfulharvest.org) and click the **AmazonSmile** link! It all adds up!

Men's Group: Men's group is now meeting in the garage on Saturday mornings with the door up, social distancing, and face masks. Join us for our weekly Bible Study!

Operation Christmas Child: With the difficulties of the pandemic, we've decided to do a financial contribution to OCC this year and not pack shoeboxes. If you'd like to make a contribution to this ministry of spreading the Good News to children in living in other countries, please mark your gift (on the memo line) to be directed to OCC.

Weekly Calendar

Sat. Sep 05	Saturday Worship - <i>Cancelled</i>	6:00 p.m.
Sun. Sep 06	Sunday Worship – Outside @ Joyful Harvest and <i>Live-Streaming Worship</i>	9:00 a.m.
Tue. Sep 08	Breakfast Club at Dino's Den - <i>CANCELLED</i>	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Sep 01	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Wed. Sep 09	DiscipleShip Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Sep 10	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Sat. Sep 12	Men's Group – In-Person – In Garage	7:00 a.m.
Sat. Sep 12	Saturday Worship - <i>Cancelled</i>	6:00 p.m.
Sun. Sep 13	Sunday Worship – Outside @ Joyful Harvest and <i>Live-Streaming Worship</i>	9:00 a.m.



Check out our online rummage sale – we're posting some of the larger items in the basement to Facebook Marketplace so we can keep the pile in the basement manageable! Check it out – there's probably something there that you desperately need! Go to Facebook Marketplace and search Theresa Ancona!

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Memories! Since we can't have a full-blown shindig for our 25th, we're in the process of collecting memories to put together into a book for everyone to enjoy! Please return your questionnaires as soon as possible so that we can collect them all and get a book printed for everyone. Drop them off at the church, mail them back, or put them in the offering basket on Sunday!

Return to Indoor Worship! October 4th will be our first day back in the building for worship. Please bring your own chairs and beverages; we won't be having fellowship. Worship may look and feel different – we'll give more specifics as time gets nearer!

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Returns! We start weekly Wednesday night Bible Study on September 9 at 6:30 p.m. No dinner beforehand, but come and learn more about your faith!

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2020
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



Christians seek reconciliation with other Christians.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation
Monday	Ezekiel 33:7-11	God's judgment seeks repentance
Tuesday	Romans 13:8-14	Love for one another
Wednesday	Exodus 12:1-14	The first Passover
Thursday	Psalms 149	A new song of praise
Friday	Galatians 5:13-15	Love fulfills the law
Saturday	Psalms 119:33-40	A prayer for understanding
Sunday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, teach us your ways that we may live together in peace and see Jesus in the face of others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, in the midst of violent storms and droughts we encounter in the world, we thank you for this gift of food and for those who have brought it to us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus strengthen you to love your neighbor and be at peace with all.

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www.milestonesministry.org



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life. Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or tell about a time you felt badly treated by another individual or a group.
- What makes it hard to openly face conflict with someone?
- For Jesus and the church, we are to pursue others with love and grace. Does knowing this help you to resolve differences with others? Why or why not?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 18:15-20. All relationships experience conflict, even in the church. Jesus is aware of this and lays out a plan of action: out of love, be direct. It is the way of life of the people of God announced by Paul in Romans 13:10: "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." Being right is not good enough. Having your own way is not good enough. Be loving, be merciful, and pursue what is right; face conflict through a personal conversation to resolve the issue. But if the person who has hurt you does not repent, this is not an excuse to treat them badly. Treat them as Jesus would treat a Gentile or tax collector. He pursued them with his love. Jesus is present in all our relationships, even the stressful ones (v. 20). We are to seek them out with love and mercy. When have you been wronged by the harsh treatment of another? Did you face it directly with the other person to resolve it? Did you treat them as Jesus would? Explain. *Pray:* **Lord Jesus, when I am with others, remind me that you are present strengthening us to love one another anew each day. Amen.**

SERVICE

"Love your neighbor as yourself" (Romans 13:9b) sums up the commandments. Who is your neighbor? It may be the person next door or someone in the community. Loving others, even when they are different from you, fulfills the law and motivates us to action. How does knowing this motivate you to show love to a neighbor?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Next Sunday is the beginning of a new Christian education year for many congregations. Psalm 119 is a lovely text that promotes learning God's will and word. Pray for all teachers and students involved in Christian education and mention those you can by name. Conclude with: **Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Amen.**



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Join us for worship: Sundays 9 am!