

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 25, 2022

16th Sunday after Pentecost

This week we will be worshipping in-person and 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

The word has come for us from God:

who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope and grace.

The word has come to us from Jesus:

who encourages us to remember the good news we have received.

The word flows to us from the Spirit:

who reminds us to place our hope and trust in God.

Gathering Songs

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 (NRSV)

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. ²At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, ^{3a}where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him. ⁶Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: ⁷Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." ⁸Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord. ⁹And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales.

¹¹Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; ¹²and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. ¹³In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, ¹⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (NRSV)

¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

²**will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."**

³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;

⁴he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

⁵You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day,

⁶or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

¹⁴Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

¹⁵When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

¹⁶With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19 (NRSV)

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13 (NRSV)

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen...

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

In God's presence, our lives are exposed, our words are shown for their hollowness, our need is revealed. Let us confess who we are, as we ask God to embrace us with grace and hope.

We need to confess, God of Abraham and Lazarus, how often we are not content with the simple gifts and lives you offer. Tempted by everything, we can become insensitive to those who have nothing. Encouraged by the world to accumulate more, we may miss the chance to gather your goodness and godliness. Chasing after all which has no value, we may not have the energy to pursue the faith, the love, the gentleness you have for us. Forgive us, God of Reversals. You have sent the One who speaks the words we need to listen to in order to have life. Help us to remember how you have redeemed us, and in remembering, may we make that good confession that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior, now and forever.

Silence is kept...

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace, I will deliver you from your sins.

God has covered us with grace; under God's hope we will find shelter. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

God sends us from this place with a word of hope.

We will offer the shelter of grace to all in need.

Jesus sends us out with the word of life.

We will seek to share community with those we will meet.

The Spirit sends us into a world which longs for justice.

We will trust that God's freedom will be offered to all people.

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!**

Order of service may change to accommodate the Holy Spirit...

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Announcements

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!



Food Gathering: *We're collecting salad dressing! (They get lots of lettuce!)* for the Northern Illinois Helping Hands food pantry! Help us feed those in our community who are in need. **Please leave your items in the bin in the narthex!**

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!

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 and In-Person Monday Evening Bible Study! We're starting up again on September 12!! We will explore the book of Acts in order to come to a deeper and more thorough understanding of God's Word. What a great opportunity for discussions and learning more about the faith!
Held in-person at Joyful Harvest Church and Via Zoom!

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

Donate to help the ministries of Joyful Harvest! Scan the QR code on the left with your mobile device or visit the giving kiosk in the narthex. 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!



Joyful Readers Book Club: Do you like to read and are looking for a way to connect with other women? Consider joining the ladies of Joyful Harvest as they embark on a new fellowship opportunity. **Next meeting date is October 22 at 9 am!** Their first book is: *Glimpses of Grace* by Gloria Furman. Contact Kim DuBois for more information!



Next Feed My Starving Children Outing: Saturday, October 3, 11:30 a.m. Meet at church at 10:30 to carpool! Mark your calendars and sign up TODAY!

Block a Worship Song for a Year!

Tired of a particular worship song? The highest bidder will be able to give that one song a much-needed vacation for an entire year! Please write down which song it is, so if someone loves that song, they can outbid you and retire their least favorite song instead! Bidding closes after the Semi-Annual Meeting in November.

AND/OR

Six Weeks of Your Favorite Worship Song!

Absolutely love a particular worship song? The highest bidder will be able to highlight that one song for six consecutive weeks! Please write down which song it is, so if someone doesn't care for that song, they can outbid you and have their favorite used in worship over-and-over again instead! Bidding closes after the Semi-Annual Meeting in November.



Annual Pet Blessing: Saturday, Oct. 8th @ 9:00 a.m., is our annual pet blessing on the Church lawn or inside – depending on the weather! Free and open to all! Tell your friends and neighbors!

Weekly Calendar

Sun. Sep 25	Sunday Worship <u>In-Person & Live-Streaming</u>	9:00 a.m.
Mon. Sep 26	DiscipleShip Bible Study at Joyful Harvest	6:00 p.m.
Tue. Sep 27	Breakfast Club – Granny's Diner, Johnsburg	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Sep 27	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	4:00-6:30 p.m.
Wed. Sep 28	Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Sep 29	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	4:00-6:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct 01	Men's Group <u>In-Person & Live Streaming</u>	7:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 02	Sunday Worship <u>In-Person & Live-Streaming</u>	9:00 a.m.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so certain that you could stake your life on it one thousand times. – Martin Luther

September 25, 2022
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Fight the good fight of faith.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Judgment for a self-Indulgent life
Tuesday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The good fight of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 22:2-16	The value of a good reputation
Thursday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Friday	2 Corinthians 8:8-15	Generous giving
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Faith the size of a mustard seed

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. **1 Timothy 6:12 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of love, rich in mercy, feed us and strengthen us in faith that we may tell of your goodness and act with kindness to all. In Jesus' name, amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, we're so blessed with the food you've sent. May we be thankful and content. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord open your eyes to see; may the Lord watch over you now and always. (Psalm 146:8-10)

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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:

- What are some of your favorite topics you like to talk about with your friends and family?
- Do you ever talk about the Christian faith with others? Why or why not?
- How does talking about your faith in Jesus make a difference in your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 16:19-31. The Christian faith makes a difference in what we do, what we value, and what we see around us. The rich man in our story enjoyed himself immensely while Lazarus was outside his door starving and covered in sores. Even the dogs saw Lazarus and licked his wounds, but the rich man appeared to see and do nothing. In the parable that shows Lazarus in heaven with Abraham and the rich man in torment in Hades, the rich man wants help for himself and for his family. The help they needed was in the faith extolled in the Bible, the message of Moses and the prophets. If they cannot find comfort and direction from the Bible, even seeing someone rise from the dead will not help. God's persistent care of us, fully shown in Jesus' life, death and resurrection, has always been made known. To trust in the resurrection is to trust in the God of justice and mercy, a faith we are called to live each day. Where do you see a Lazarus in need near you? How does Jesus' resurrection lead you to a new way of life?

Pray: **Almighty God, you call us to a life of action and to confess our trust in your goodness. Help us to fight the good fight of faith in word and deed, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Psalm 146 offers praise for God's help. Communities of faith strive to serve others with justice and mercy. It is through God's help that they "execute justice for the oppressed and give food to the hungry" (v. 7). How does your faith community help the needy and feed the hungry? How can you be part of those efforts?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul encourages us to "do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share" (1 Timothy 6:18). It is a Christian tradition to give generously to others. Find a large box and label it, "The Generosity Box". Take a walk around your home and look in closets and drawers. Fill the box with items you no longer need or use. When it is full, decide where you will donate the items. Fill the box again in the future as a continued practice of giving to others.



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Join us for worship: Sundays 9 am!