

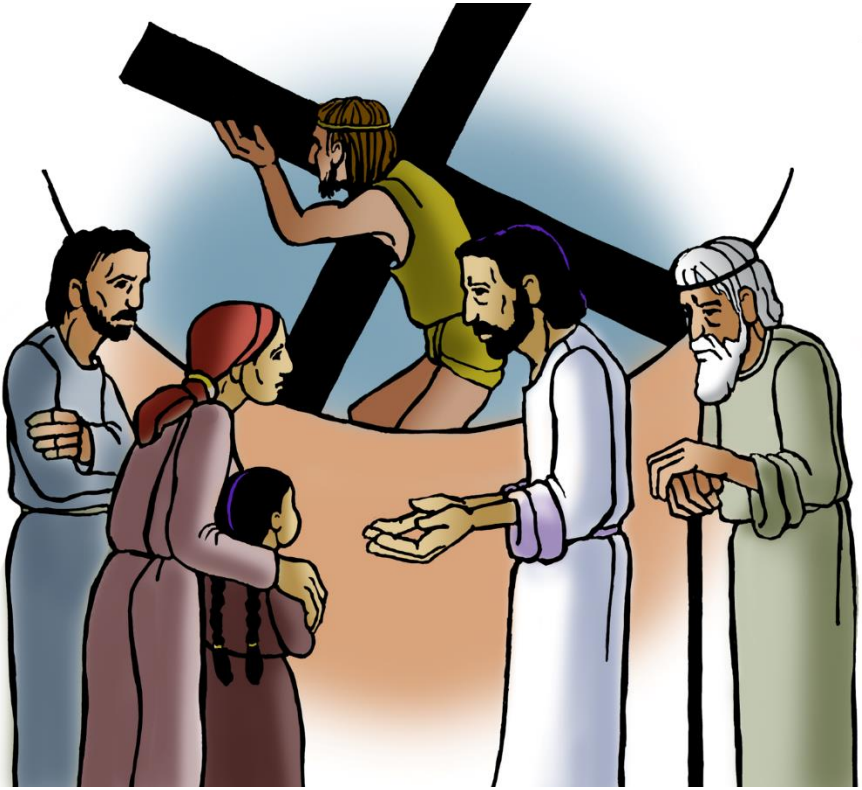
Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Church

Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Dr. Douglas Liston, Pastor – 847-497-4JOY (4569)

5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051

www.joyfulharvest.org



October 18th, 2020

**20th Sunday
after Pentecost**

This week we will be worshipping together inside at Joyful Harvest. Face masks and social-distancing will be required at all times. You will be greeted, asked some basic health questions and asked to sanitize your hands with hand sanitizer provided.

If you don't feel comfortable with in-person worship yet, we completely understand and we will still be live-streaming. There will be a link on our website to watch on Zoom, or you can watch the live-stream on Facebook!

Gathering

Welcome/Greeting/Announcements

Call to Worship

We gather in the presence of God:

who knows us when we wake up and when we go to sleep, and in all the moments in between.

We gather in the house of God:

who has created a family for us, here as well as in Johannesburg, in the Bahamas, and in Midland, Texas.

We gather to be the people of God:

who appeals to us to follow in love, in faith, in service.

Gathering Songs

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (NRSV)

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means

life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Psalm: Psalm 1 (NRSV)

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²**but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴**The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶**for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21 (NRSV)

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or

owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33 (NRSV)

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him and he turned and said to them...

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

Message

Prayers of Intercession

Meal

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

Our sins are not to be hidden from God. Rather, we bring them into the Light and lay them on the Table, trusting in the One who shaped us for goodness and will transform our brokenness into wholeness. Please join me as we pray...

Searching God, we are so attached to our possessions, we have trouble sharing them. We are so connected to our pleasures that we cannot feel the pain of those around us. We are so stuck on ourselves, we cannot sense our souls slipping away into the shadows. Most merciful God: loosen us from the grip of the world, so we may feel your healing touch. Sever us from our sin, so your Spirit might bind us to you. Reshape us, redeem us, renew us, so we may take up our crosses and follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Silence is kept...

The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. This is the Good News - we are God's new creation.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are reshaped, renewed, forgiven.
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

It is God who has formed us as a community of faith.

Now, we will go to find and serve our sisters and brothers.

It is Jesus who has knit us together as partners in grace.

Now, we will go to bear the burdens of those around us.

It is the Spirit who gives us the words we need.

Now, we will go to speak for justice and hope for all.

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!**

**October's
Memory Verse**
Exodus 20:17

**10th Commandment: "You shall not covet
your neighbor's wife, or his manservant,
or his maidservant, or his cattle, or
anything that is your neighbor's."**

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Announcements

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Returns!: DiscipleShip is back! Weekly Wednesday evening Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. No dinner beforehand, but come and learn more about your faith and How Lutherans Interpret the Bible!

Rummage Sale: 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!



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!!***

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!

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., To support us, go to our webpage (www.joyfulharvest.org) and click the AmazonSmile link! It all adds up!

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

Sun. Oct 18	Sunday Worship – Outside @ Joyful Harvest and <u>Live-Streaming Worship</u>	9:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 20	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Wed. Oct 21	DiscipleShip Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Oct 22	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:30 p.m.
Sat. Oct 24	Men’s Group – In-Person – In Garage	7:00 a.m.
Sun. Oct 25	Sunday Worship – Inside @ Joyful Harvest and <u>Live-Streaming Worship</u>	9:00 a.m.

Susan Mercado, daughter of Gary and Connie Craig, has set up Joyful Harvest with a web page that will help JH financially! If you do any online shopping, go to savingwithsusan.com/joyfulharvest and link through to your favorite online shopping sites. The church will receive a commission on everything you buy! Or, you can go to Susan’s site by visiting our web page and clicking on the link!

OCTOBER 18, 2020
TWENTIETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God does great things through people.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:15-22	The question of paying taxes
Monday	Isaiah 45:1-7	Cyrus serves the Lord
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	The example of faith
Wednesday	Exodus 33:12-23	Moses' intercession
Thursday	Psalms 99	Our Lord is king
Friday	Isaiah 42:1-9	The Lord's servant
Saturday	Psalms 96:1-13	Sing a new song
Sunday	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, use our gifts, our faith, our hope in you, to do labors of love for the sake of Jesus Christ and his reign on earth. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for how you provide for us and for the hands that have brought this food to us today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who has chosen you in love, give you grace and peace. (1 Thessalonians 1:1, 4)

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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:

- What is something you have accomplished and are proud of?
- How can God use your efforts—your deeds—for others?
- Is it a surprise that God can use your efforts to accomplish God's will on earth? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Isaiah 45:1-7. Cyrus is a Persian king. He is not part of God's chosen people through Abraham, Isaac or Jacob. Cyrus doesn't even know the God of Israel, and yet Cyrus does God's will by setting God's people free to return home from exile in Babylon. Isaiah lifts up the supreme power and authority of God's rule throughout the world. Besides the LORD, there is no god (v. 5). All that is, is God's. It is easy for us to forget that God can use others outside of the body of Christ to do God's will on earth. No wonder Psalm 96 commands all the earth to sing to the LORD (v. 1). In the midst of the tragedies that happen all too often around us, it is important to remember that we are a people of hope and trust in the God who holds all things together. The Apostle Paul wrote with thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' faith, love, and hope (1 Thessalonians 1:3). As a chosen people, Paul gladly affirms that they do God's work of love on earth through their "work of faith" and "steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 3). How does God's rule on earth give you hope and encourage you to act with love and faith? *Pray:* **God of power and might, we thank you for your glory that breathes hope and love into all corners of the earth through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

God is the ruler of all of creation and we, God's servants, have responsibility to care for all that God has created. One of the greatest concerns for our world today is to care for the earth that is suffering under the weight of carbon emissions, overflowing landfills and polluted air and water. What can you do to reduce the waste that harms the earth?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 96 is a song of praise to God. It tells of the sea roaring, the creatures and fields rejoicing, and the trees singing. In what ways do you praise God through sounds and music? Sing a favorite Christian hymn. Think about what the words say about God. Then say: **Sing a new song to the Lord! Everyone on this earth, sing praises to the Lord, sing and praise his name.** (vv.1-2a)



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Join us for worship: Sundays 9 am!