

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church
Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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www.joyfulharvest.org



It is written, 'One does not live on bread alone.'

Luke 4:4

February 22nd, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

**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

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the
righteousness of Christ. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are
forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in
you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C: Amen.

Gathering Songs: Take My Life
(Please join us in "Sharing the Peace")
Amazing Love

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." ^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 32:1-11

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, righteous one, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the.....

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 Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Prayers of Intercession

A: "Hear us, O God", ...**C: "Your mercy is great"**

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

Offering Prayer

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: Let My Prayer Rise Up

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Sending Song: Love the Lord Your God

Sending and Benediction

P: May God lead us to all who are afraid.

C: We will follow God into the barren spots of our world.

P: May Jesus lead us to all who look for a friend,
a companion in this life.

C: We will follow Jesus into all the places where the lonely live.

P: May the Spirit lead us to all who
are tossed aside by the world.

**C: We will follow the Spirit to the neighborhoods
filled with injustice, to bring hope.**

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. Believe the good news.

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.

Daily Devotionals with Pastor Ken Gibson @ 8:00am.

Pastor Ken has started doing daily devotionals on FaceBook live every weekday at 8:00am. Go out to FaceBook and search for "Pastor Ken Gibson". Be sure to find the correct one, as there are multiple. Then send a friend request to join the group. He is looking forward to seeing you there!



Blood Drive! Sat. Feb 28, 8:00am-12:00pm: Please help fill the need for blood donations. More than 75 percent of all Americans reaching age 72 will need donated blood within their lifetime; 97 percent will have a loved one who will need blood. You can register online at <https://donateblood.versiti.org> or walk-ins are always welcome.

Lenten Simple Suppers & Holden Evening Prayer:

Starting Wed. Feb. 25th thru Wed. Mar. 25th in the spirit of Lent (period of fasting & self-denial) we will be having a "simple supper" consisting of only soup & bread at 6:00pm, followed by Holden Evening Prayer (music based) service at 6:30pm. Please see the sign-up board in the Narthex.



Weekly Calendar

Tue. Feb 24	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Feb 24	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Feb 25	Simple Supper	6:00 p.m.
Wed. Feb 25	Holden Evening Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Feb 26	Food Pantry Meeting @ Joyful Harvest	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thur. Feb 26	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Feb 28	Versiti Blood Drive	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Sun. Mar 01	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Mar 01	Faith Formation Class	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Mar 04	Simple Supper	6:00 p.m.
Wed. Mar 04	Holden Evening Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

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FEBRUARY 22, 2026
FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT



Jesus faces temptation and conquers evil.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 4:1-11	Temptation of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	First sin and its punishment
Tuesday	Romans 5:12-19	Adam and Christ
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Christ was raised to life
Thursday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Love wipes away many sins
Friday	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear one another’s burdens
Saturday	Psalms 32	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him. **Matthew 4:10-11 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, it is difficult to face the evil within and around us. Thank you for facing and conquering the power of sin through Christ Jesus, the Son of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of steadfast love and mercy, we thank you for this meal and all that you do to care for us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God keep you safe from evil.



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:

- Why is it sometimes difficult to talk about evil and sin?
- Do you believe that God is always there for you in good times and bad times? Explain.

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 4:1-11.

After his baptism, Jesus is guided by the Holy Spirit to go out into the wilderness, a place that tests one's true character. He is tested as he faces Satan and the basic temptations of comfort, worshiping false gods, and the misuse of power. Jesus does not give in to these temptations. As the Son of God, he is without compromise. We, on the other hand, can find it easy to compromise goodness in the presence of evil by tolerating comfort over justice, worship of false gods, and powers that hurt others without grieving us. In a world where little compromises can lead to major wrongs and injury to others, it is good to know that our Savior faced down evil and won. Evil is real and does real damage to God's creation, including human beings and their relationships. The good news is that as fallible and susceptible as we are to evil, in the end, it does not and cannot win. God in Christ has conquered every evil power.

Discuss: What can we learn from Jesus' response to temptation?

Pray: **Eternal God, you who never give up on us and oppose every evil, we thank you for your steadfast love and mercy through Christ Jesus. 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 help someone who is afraid to try something for fear of making a mistake?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



To establish a ritual during Lent, make a Lenten Candle Cross. Place six purple tea-light or votive candles in the shape of a cross, using a white seventh candle for the center. Each week, a candle will be lit during prayer time in your home. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) will be introduced as a way to pray. This first week in Lent represents "**A**" for Adoration, meaning love, respect, and worship. [Light one purple candle]

Pray: **Dear God, we praise your name and worship you. I praise you for . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



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