

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

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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www.joyfulharvest.org



March 1 st , 2026	Second Sunday in Lent
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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 disdain 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: Here I Am to Worship
(Please join us in "Sharing the Peace")
I Lift My Eyes Up

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

¹ The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 121:1-8

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say?

"Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness."

⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into

existence the things that do not exist.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.....

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: Change My Heart O God

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: Jesus, All for Jesus

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Sending Song: You Never Let Go

Sending and Benediction

P: Now go with the Spirit, from the comfort of this place,

C: so we may go to bring hope to the world.

P: Now carry the Light of Christ with you,

C: we will go into the shadows with this gift.

P: Now trust in God who is always with you,

C: we will follow that life called discipleship.

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 Monday-Friday 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!



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. Mar 03	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Mar 03	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Mar 04	Simple Supper	6:00 p.m.
Wed. Mar 04	Holden Evening Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.
Thur. Mar 05	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sun. Mar 08	Daylight Saving Time – Spring Ahead	2:00 a.m.
Sun. Mar 08	Sunday Worship – NO Faith Formation Class	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Mar 08	Giving Closet	11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Mar 11	Simple Supper	6:00 p.m.
Wed. Mar 11	Holden Evening Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

Sun. Mar 29th – **Palm Sunday Brunch**

Sat. Apr 11th – **Joyful Readers Book Club**

Sat. Apr 18th – **Painting/Tijuana Mission Fundraiser**

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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: Sunday, March 8th @ 2:00 am

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead 1 hour before you go to bed
Saturday night, March 7th. You don't want to be late for church!
(or coffee hour)

It's also a good time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors!

**MARCH 01, 2026
SECOND SUNDAY
IN LENT**



We are blessed to bless others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world
Monday	Genesis 12:1-4a	The call of Abram
Tuesday	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	God keeps his promise
Wednesday	Jeremiah 17:7-8	Trust the Lord
Thursday	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Generous giving
Friday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." **Genesis 12:3 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, as you bless us each day in faith, help us to bless others through your never-failing love through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, you who watch over our going out and our coming in, we thank you for this food that nurtures us day by day, through Jesus Christ. Amen. (Psalm 121:8)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you every day.



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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:

- What does it mean to be blessed?
- Abram and Sarai were called to God to bless all the families of the earth. How do you think this affected the way they lived?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Genesis 12:1-6.

Abram and his wife Sarai are sent on a faith quest. They look rather foolish to the world. They leave the security of a kinship community to go out and trust an unknown God while becoming foreigners in a strange land. The faith of Abram and Sarai in this passage is not defined by doctrines or clear convictions. Faith is a walk of life where people learn who their God is through a trusted relationship. This is true in the Gospel of John as well where faith is never a noun. It is always a verb, an action that trusts in a relationship that recognizes that one's entire existence is dependent upon God. That is what faith looks like. And it has consequences for others because faith is never a private affair: *"in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed"* (Genesis 12:3b).

Discuss: How would you describe the journey of faith that you have been on?

Pray: **Living God, you call us to ventures we cannot fully imagine. Help us to trust you and know you will lead us all the days of our lives, through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might you bless someone?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



During the second week in Lent, light two of the six purple candles on your Lenten Candle Cross. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) is being introduced as a way to pray. This week represents **"C"**, for Confession, meaning to confess one's sins and receive God's forgiveness.

Pray: **Dear God, I confess that I do not fully place my trust in you. Forgive me for. . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



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