

Welcome to Worship at  
***Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church***

**Growing Together for Christ**

*Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor*

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**5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051**

**[www.joyfulharvest.org](http://www.joyfulharvest.org)**



**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**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

#### Call to Worship

P: Lift your voices to God.

**C: We call on the One who promises to hear us.**

P: In life, in death, in every moment,  
God deals graciously with us.

**C: We rejoice in the One who saves us.**

P: We will break the Bread of life in thanksgiving to God.

**C: We will lift up the Cup of salvation,  
drinking deeply from it.**

**Opening Song:** I Lift My Eyes Up

#### Confession & Forgiveness

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the  
Lamb!

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*(silence is kept for reflection)*

P: Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.  
Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Faith Song:** Hosanna in the Highest

## **Prayer of the Day**

### **Word**

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup> “Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the LORD’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

**Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. <sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

P: <sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called.....

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:** One Bread, One Body

**Prayers of Intercession**

A: "Merciful God", ...**C: "Receive our prayer"**

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Offering Invitation:** 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](http://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:** Holy Forever/Love Has Come

## Prayer After Communion

### Sending

### Sending and Benediction

P: The stone has been rolled away!

**C: We will go to share this good news!**

P: Jesus walks with us on our journey.

**C: We will go with him wherever the road takes us.**

P: Jesus has opened our eyes.

**C: We will go to serve everyone we see.**

### 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.**

**Sending Song:** Jesus is a Rock

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

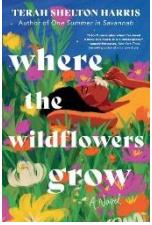
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## 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-Thursday 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!



**Joyful Readers Book Club:** Do you like to read, are you looking for a way to connect with other women? Consider joining the ladies of Joyful Harvest as they embark in this fellowship opportunity. The next meeting will be Sat, Jun 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m. They're reading "Where the Wildflowers Grow" by Terah Shelton Harris. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

## Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	<b>Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken</b>	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Apr 21	<b>Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast</b>	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Apr 21	<b>Food Pantry Service Opportunity</b>	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Thur. Apr 23	<b>Food Pantry Meeting @ Joyful Harvest</b>	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thur. Apr 23	<b>Food Pantry Service Opportunity</b>	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sun. Apr 26	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Apr 26	<b>Faith Formation Class</b>	10:30 a.m.

## Upcoming Events

### Save The Date!

*Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.*

**End of April – Luminaria Fund Raiser for the Veterans**

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**APRIL 19, 2026  
THIRD SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**



*Our eyes have been opened to see the Lord.*

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 24:13-35</b>	<b>Road to Emmaus</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Acts 2:14a, 36-41</b>	<b>The first converts</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Peter 1:17-23</b>	<b>A call to holy living</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Matthew 8:5-13</b>	<b>Jesus heals a centurion servant</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Matthew 9:2-7</b>	<b>Jesus heals a paralytic</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Matthew 14:13-21</b>	<b>Feeding the five thousand</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19</b>	<b>Thanksgiving for illness recovery</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 10:1-10</b>	<b>Christ the shepherd</b>

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*When he was at table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. **Luke 24:30-31 (NRSV)***

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Holy God, may your word and the community of faith open our eyes and our hearts to your living presence within us and among us through the Risen Christ. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as the disciples on the road to Emmaus had their eyes opened to you through the breaking of bread, open our eyes now with thankful hearts for this meal. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the Risen Lord fill you with joy.



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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:

- An eye-opening experience helps us to see something in a different way. What eye-opening experiences have you had?
- When is a time you felt God's presence while singing a hymn or reading the bible?

## DEVOTIONS



*Read:* Luke 24:13-35.

We have within us the desire for the divine in our lives. As Christians, we want to see Jesus as Lord. We want to have our hearts burning within us. That may have happened weeks ago on Easter Sunday during worship with all the pageantry, song, and in community gathered together to "break bread" (v. 35). For the disciples on the road to Emmaus, even though they had the risen Lord with them and he was teaching them the Scriptures, it was not until the breaking of the bread that he was revealed to them, and they acknowledged that their hearts had been burning within them. Perhaps the sense of the divine in our lives is best recalled in retrospect. We are not in control of the divine in our lives. God is. The Holy Spirit uses our faith stories, the Bible, and the breaking of bread in community to create the burning in our hearts that we want to recall and talk about again and again. That is what happened to the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

*Discuss:* What faith story can you tell about a time when you felt God's presence in your life?

*Pray:* **Creator God, give us eyes to see and hearts that burn for the joy of your presence through Christ our Savior and Lord. 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 encourage someone to be aware of God's presence in their life?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) was introduced during Lent as a way to experience prayer in our daily lives. Add a little extra movement to your prayers this week and make the shape of each letter as you pray: **(A)** I praise God for..., **(C)** forgive me for..., **(T)** I thank you for..., **(S)** I pray for ..., and finish with amen.



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