

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church

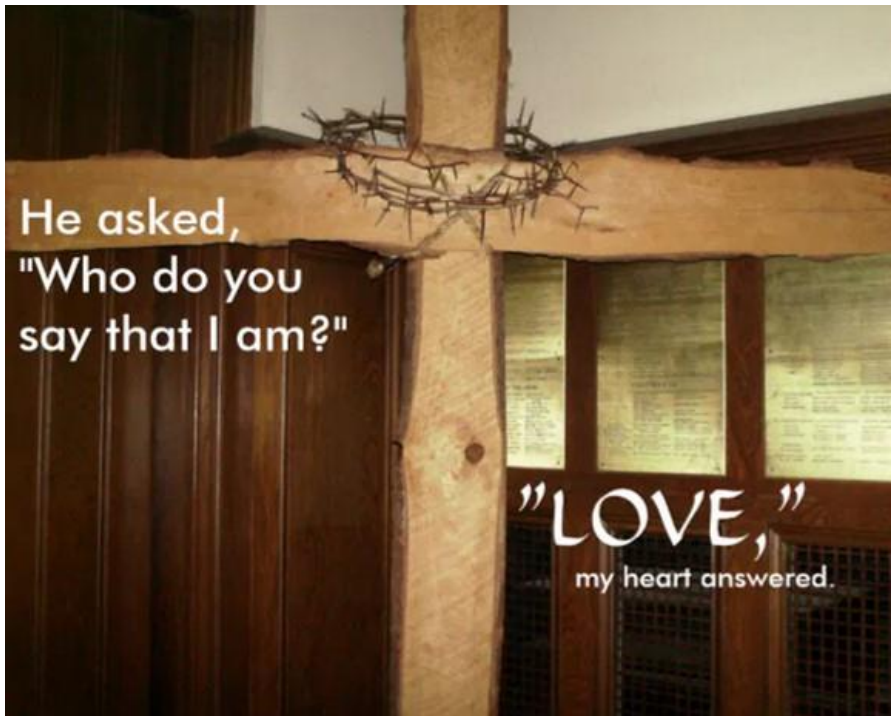
Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051

www.joyfulharvest.org



Aug 23 rd , 2026	13 th Sunday after Pentecost
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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

Call to Worship

P: Give thanks to God with all your heart.

C: We will hold nothing back from our God.

P: Sing full-throated praises to our God.

C: We will join in the chorus of thanksgiving for God's abiding love.

P: Glorify God and that Word we know as Jesus Christ.

C: We will worship our God with wonder and joy.

Opening Song: Holy, Holy, Holy

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Blessing Of The Backpacks

Faith Song: Give Me Jesus

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. ² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 138:1-8

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to

faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's.....

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: Amazing Love (You Are My King)

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

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 Songs: Come, Holy Spirit/Awesome God

Prayer After Communion

Sending

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

P: Go out as God's people,

C: willing to do God's work in the world.

P: Go out as Christ's disciples,

C: ready to serve wherever we have the chance.

P: Go out as the Spirit's hopes,

C: eager to proclaim peace to all.

Sending Song: Jesus, Messiah

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share 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.

Bingo & Silent Auction Fundraiser! Sat. Aug 29 @ 2-4 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of bingo & a silent auction to support our local veterans. **All ages are welcome!** We will be playing 10 games of bingo (*time permitting*) with prizes consisting of \$5.00 gift cards to various locations and additional "auction (*play*) money". Between games there will be time to bid on the auctions. After the final game, we will take a few minutes for final bids before the winners are announced. For a minimal donation you can get additional "Auction (*play*) money" and food throughout the night. **Tickets are limited to the first 75 players!**

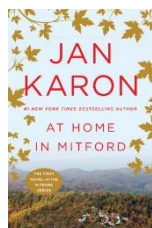
For a small donation of \$15.00 per ticket, you will get:

1 set of bingo cards, 1 bingo dauber,

\$100.00 in "Auction (*play*) Money",

Hotdog or Hamburger, chips & soda

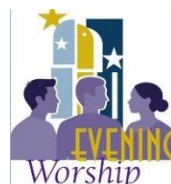




Joyful Readers Book Club is back! Sat. Sept 26th @ 9:00 a.m.:
Do you like to read, are you looking for a way to connect with other women? Consider joining the ladies of Joyful Harvest as they embark in this fellowship opportunity. The next meeting will be Sat, Sept 26th @ 9:00a.m. They're reading "At Home In Mitford" by Jan Karon. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL) @ 4:30pm:

Can't make it on Sunday?? Come to our new Saturday night Liturgy (SNL) to see what you're missing. Join Pr. Ken on Saturday nights (see schedule below) at 4:30 pm and enjoy a shortened version of the following Sunday's service. We will be using our new hymnals!



Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Aug 25	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Aug 25	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Aug 26	"Weed & Feed" Gardening – watch for date	TBD
Thur. Aug 27	Food Pantry Meeting @ JHC	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Thur. Aug 27	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Aug 29	Bingo & Silent Auction – Veterans Fundraiser	2:00-4:00 p.m.
Sat. Aug 29	NO - Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	N/A
Sun. Aug 30	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Sat. Sep 05	Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	4:30 p.m.
Sat. Sep 12	Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	4:30 p.m.
Sun. Sep 13	Luau (pig roast) Rally Day	10:30 a.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

Wednesdays as Announced – **"Weed & Feed"**

Sept 2 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 9 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 16 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 19 – **Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

Sept 23 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 26 – **Joyful Readers Book Club**

Sept 26 – **Yoga with Robin**

Sept 26 – **LAST - Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)**

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AUGUST 23, 2026
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter’s confession of Christ
Monday	Isaiah 51:1-6	The LORD will bring comfort
Tuesday	Romans 12:1-8	Christ brings new life
Wednesday	Exodus 1:8-2:10	Israelites are oppressed
Thursday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Prayer for the readers
Friday	Ephesians 6:10-20	The whole armor of God
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise God with all your heart
Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*“I [Jesus] will give you [Peter] the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loosed on earth will be loosed in heaven.” **Matthew 16:19 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, in a world that can divide us from one another, we pray for your rule of mercy and grace that binds us together in faith and love through Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this meal and pray for all to have food to eat through your abundant and fruitful creation. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the Son of God, give you new life.



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 motivates someone to break the law or do something wrong?
- How is Jesus' power different from other powers of the world?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 16:13-20.

Jesus and his disciples were in Caesarea Philippi, an important center for the Roman government and a place where many gods of the ancient world were recognized and worshiped. They were fickle gods that ruled over human life rather harshly and arbitrarily. You could not trust them. This was very similar to the rule of the Roman authorities. In contrast to such untrustworthy and unkind gods and powers, Jesus as the *"the Messiah, the Son of the living God"* (v. 16) showed compassion and positively transformed lives like the Canaanite woman and her daughter in Matthew 15. Jesus has the power to bind and to loosen lives. Jesus as our Messiah intends to transform our lives from despair to hope, from broken relationships to a life of mutual forgiveness, from lives that are judged and condemned to lives that receive mercy. Jesus gave Peter and the church that power and way of life. Yes, Jesus has the authority to restrict and to free lives, but Jesus' intent is to free, to forgive, and to give new life where suffering and death had once reigned. Now, that message and life-giving power will be Peter's and the church's to do the same.

Discuss: How does knowing Jesus as the Messiah inspire you to serve others?

Pray: **Almighty God, your ways are not our ways; give us hearts and minds to grasp that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God for the sake of the world you love. 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 who is in despair or losing hope?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalm 138 is a song of thanksgiving and praise: *"I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart"* (v. 1a). Draw a heart on a piece of paper. Inside the heart write a list of things you thank God for in your life. Place the heart in a visible place in your home as a reminder to give thanks and praise for God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

Pray: **I give you thanks, O Lord, for all you do to protect me with your steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



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