

Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church

Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

Office: 847-497-4JOY (4569) – Cell: 815-861-9554

5050 N. Johnsburg Rd, Johnsburg, IL 60051

www.joyfulharvest.org



Aug 30th, 2026	14th 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: Even when we encounter folks who are mean, dishonest, hateful,

C: we are called to respond with that love which is true and sincere.

P: God calls us to love all people as if they were our siblings,

**C: for God seeks to weave us into one family,
tearing down all the barriers between us.**

P: No matter how weary we become
from our loneliness, our struggles, our service,

C: God challenges us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying.

P: Why should we do all these things?

C: Because we are God's people, called to lives which make a difference!

Opening Song: Morning Has Broken

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.

Faith Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶ Your words were found,

and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says

the Lord.” ²⁰ Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was 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: The Summons (ELW #798)

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: What Wonderous Love Is This/Agnus Dei

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: Take the love of God into the world.

C: We will be genuine in sharing this with everyone we meet.

P: Take the grace of Jesus into our communities.

C: We will share the joy of those who rejoice, we will mingle our tears with those who weep.

P: Share the Spirit's peace with all this week.

C: We will welcome everyone, especially those who feel alone and afraid.

Sending Song: Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble

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.

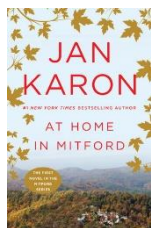
Announcements

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.



Luau & Pig Roast – Sunday Sept. 13th @ 11:00am-??:

Bring family and friends to join us for a “Traditional” Hawaiian Luau and pig roast! Come in your favorite Hawaiian attire. We will be digging a pit and burying the pig to roast overnight. After service, we will dig the pig up and enjoy this amazing feast. Sign-up to bring a dish to pass – if you have a Hawaiian favorite, we would love to try it.



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!

Chicken/Pulled Pork Corn Roast! Sat. Oct. 3rd @ 4-6 p.m.

We invite you to an "all you can eat" feast of Chicken, pulled pork and corn on the cob. There will be a 50/50 raffle. If interested, please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert. Drinks will be available for \$1.00 each. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and can be purchased ahead of time or at the door. **See Ray for your tickets!**



Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Sep 01	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Sep 01	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed.Sep 02	Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Wed.Sep ??	"Weed & Feed" Gardening – watch for date	TBD
Thur.Sep 03	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Sep 05	Saturday Night Liturgy (SNL)	4:30 p.m.
Sun. Sep 06	Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed.Sep 09	Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 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.
Wed.Sep 16	Council Meeting	6:00-7:00 p.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

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

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)**

Oct 03 – **Chicken/Pulled Pork Corn Roast**

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AUGUST 30, 2026
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



To follow Jesus is to be open to suffering.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross and follow
Monday	Jeremiah 15:15-21	Jeremiah complains
Tuesday	Romans 12:9-21	Rules for Christian living
Wednesday	Exodus 3:1-15	Moses at the burning bush
Thursday	1 Peter 4:12-19	Suffering as a Christian
Friday	2 Timothy 2:1-13	A good soldier of Christ Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 26:1-8	Prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Matthew 18:15-20	Seeking reconciliation

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” **Matthew 16:24 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to pick up our cross and follow you to serve and love others even when it causes pain and suffering. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, we thank you for the toil and hard work of those who grow, gather, and prepare our food so that we may be fed. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the cross of Christ give you courage.



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:

- Who do you turn to for support when you are suffering or in pain?
- How does your faith in Christ help you when you are suffering?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 16:21-28.

In an era when we can do so many things to avoid or stop physical pain, it can be surprising that suffering is still very present. It is also an essential part of the Christian life because Jesus shows us that the way of his painful death on the cross gets at the heart of the Christian faith. Even if Peter knew Jesus was the Messiah, he still did not fully understand. Peter had to be humbled and corrected, and we do, too. God shows the depth of God's love from the cross of Christ. We are invited to join the great movement of divine love by caring, suffering, and celebrating Christ's victory over sin, death, and evil. Part of that celebration of Christ's triumph over death is our openness to the pain of the world. For the sake of love, we join in the suffering of others. It is the path of new life, the resurrected life, which allows us to see the kingdom of God at work through empathy, justice, and a desire to minimize the pain and suffering of others.

Discuss: How does knowing that suffering is an essential aspect of the Christian faith impact how you view life?

Pray: **Compassionate God, help us to see in Jesus' suffering and death the very path of life and love 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 be courageous and help someone who is hurting or suffering?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



In Jesus' time, the cross was about death. It is not easy to understand or talk about Jesus' death on the cross. The cross is a Christian symbol. It reminds us that Jesus is with us through easy and hard times. We see crosses in many places in our lives. As a follower of Jesus, notice the number of crosses you see in your home and in the community. Each time you see one, be reminded of what it means.

Pray: **Thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross to save me. Amen.**



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