

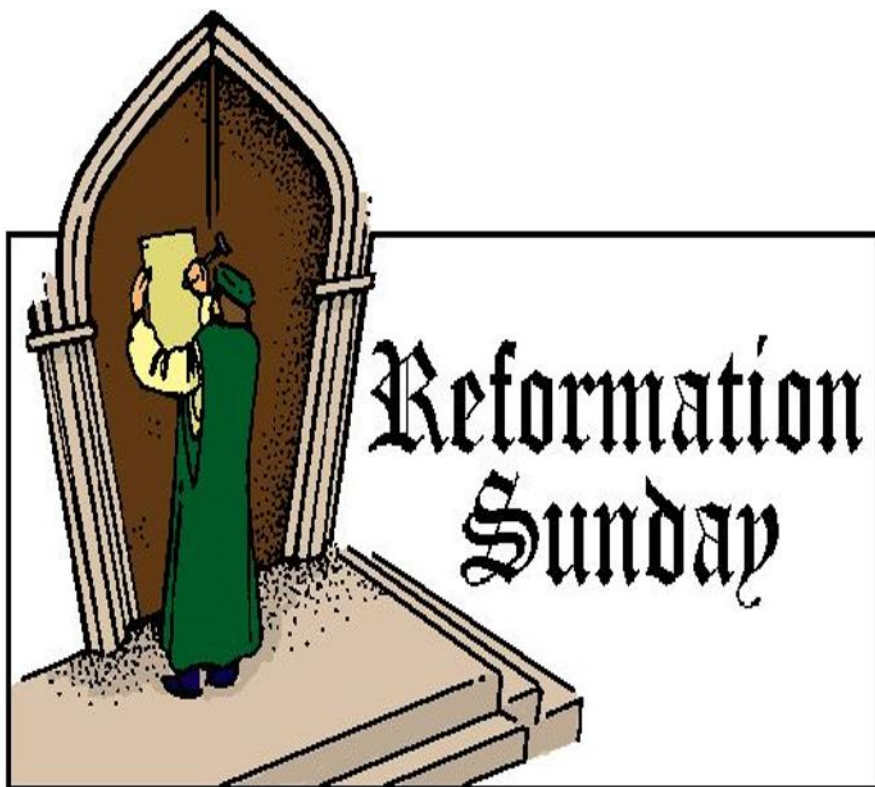
Welcome to Worship at
Joyful Harvest Lutheran Church
Growing Together for Christ

Rev. Ken Gibson, Pastor

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www.joyfulharvest.org



October 25th, 2026

Reformation Sunday

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: We are called to love God with our hearts.

C: We will do so, when we welcome those tossed aside by the world.

P: We are called to love God with our souls.

C: We will do so, when the brokenness around us transforms us into more compassionate people.

P: We are called to love God with our minds.

C: We will do so, when we think less of our needs, and see each person as our neighbor, our sibling, our family.

Opening Song: A Mighty Fortress

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

Faith Song: Your Name

Prayer of the Day

Word

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be

like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³ though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ “Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to

demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: ³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in.....

P: This is the gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

Pastor Ken Gibson

Sermon

Pastor Ken Gibson

Hymn of the Day: Love the Lord Your God

Confirmation of Chase Williams (*See separate insert*)

Prayers of Intercession

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

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. Johnsborg Rd., Johnsborg, 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: In Christ Alone

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 now, to love God.

**C: We will do so, not just with warm thoughts,
but using our minds to solve problems which torment those around us.**

P: Go now, to love Jesus.

**C: We will do so, not just with changed hearts,
but with passion to challenge all who would damage the lives of others.**

P: Go now, to love the Spirit.

**C: We will do so, not just with righteous souls,
but with a willingness to serve in places we are sent.**

Sending Song: Today is the Day

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: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

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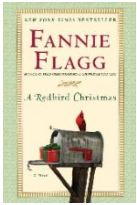
Announcements

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.

"AYCE" Spaghetti Dinner! Sat. Nov 7th @ 12:00-6:00 p.m.

We invite you to an "all you can eat" spaghetti dinner fundraiser for our veterans. There will be multiple great raffles, a 50/50 raffle, door prizes, and bake sale. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and can be purchased ahead of time or at the door. Ticket includes spaghetti, with or w/o meatballs, French bread, and beverage.

See Vicky or Carrie for your tickets!



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, Dec 5th @ 9:00a.m. They're reading "A Redbird Christmas" by Fannie Flagg. Contact Kim DuBois for more info!

Weekly Calendar

Mon-Thurs	Daily Devotionals with Pr. Ken	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 27	Breakfast Club at Midwest Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
Tue. Oct 27	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Oct 28	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Thur. Oct 29	Food Pantry Service Opportunity	3:00-6:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct 31	Chair Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.
Sun. Nov 01	Sunday Worship - All Saints	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Nov 01	Faith Formation Class	10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Nov 04	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov 07	Veterans Spaghetti Dinner	12:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed. Nov 11	Mat Yoga with Robin	4:00-5:00 p.m.
Sat. Nov 14	Chair Yoga with Robin	10:00-11:00 a.m.

Save The Date!

Watch for more information about these events in upcoming bulletins.

Nov 18 – Mat Yoga with Robin

Nov 21 – Chair Yoga with Robin

Nov 15 – Thanksgiving Potluck – after worship

Nov 25 – Thanksgiving Eve Service w/pie fest

Nov 28 – Hanging of the Greens

Nov 29 – 5th Annual Soundtrack of Christmas

Dec 05 – Joyful Readers

OCTOBER 25, 2026
REFORMATION SUNDAY



Disciples have a trusted relationship with Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 8:31-36	The Son makes you free
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	The new covenant
Tuesday	Romans 3:19-28	True righteousness
Wednesday	John 15:12-17	Jesus the true vine
Thursday	John 21:15-19	Jesus and Peter
Friday	Galatians 2:15-21	Justified through faith
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is our refuge
Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” John 8:31-32 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, keep your faithful people steadfast in your word that we may receive your freedom and truth through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God of glory and might, with this gift of food we remember the gift of faith that strengthens us and renews us daily through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you be blessed through a relationship with Jesus.



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 words describe the qualities of a good friend?
- What words describe a disciple of Jesus Christ?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 8:31-36.

It is the power of the word that Jesus brings that gives us freedom from sin. That word is first and foremost Jesus, the Word that became flesh (John 1:14). Christian disciples “continue” or remain in the freeing and saving word of God. The Gospel of John emphasizes that followers of Jesus are to be in an ongoing relationship with him by continuing “in my word” (8:31). To know the truth that sets one free is more than to know information; it is to live in a relationship with Jesus through faith. The challenge at the time of the Reformation—and today as well—is for the church to promote a living relationship with God, a relationship that depends on faith in Jesus, the Son of God. We experience this relationship through worship, prayer, reading the Bible, and serving and loving one’s neighbor for the sake of Christ.

Discuss: How do you continue to live each day as a disciple of Jesus?

Pray: Almighty God, help me to trust in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord and have life in his name. Amen.

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to show Jesus’ love as an act of service to others in your community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Martin Luther wrote the words for *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* and composed the melody. This well-known hymn is based on Psalm 46. As you read Psalm 46 out loud, pause after reading a word or words that describe God as a mighty fortress. Write them on a sheet of paper. When you finish, take a moment to read through your list. ***Then pray: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Amen.*** (Psalm 46:11)



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