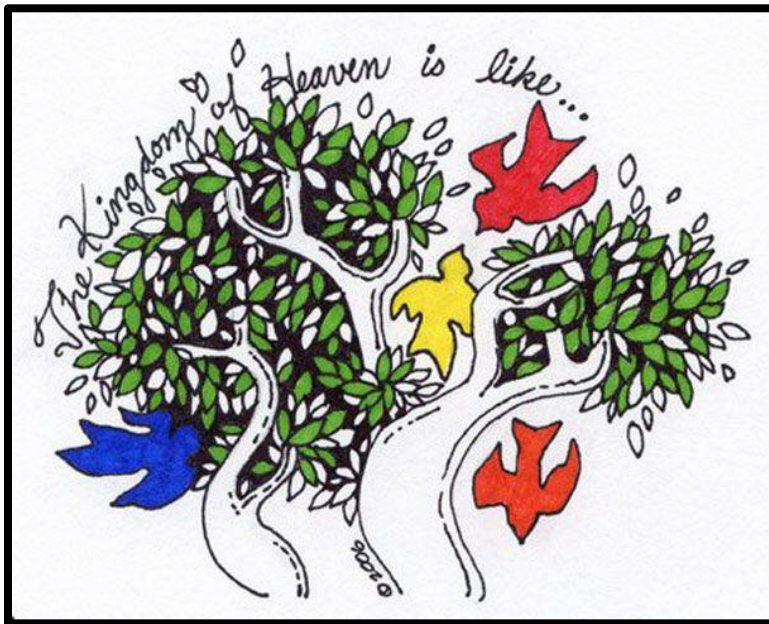


Welcome to
John Calvin Presbyterian Church

12120 Bridgeton Square Drive, Bridgeton, MO, 63044 | (314) 739-3066 | JCPChurch.org



Sunday, July 30th, 2023 | 9th Sunday After Pentecost- Year A

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 29: 15-28 | Psalm 105: 1-11 | Romans 8:26-39|

Matthew 13:31-33 44-52

Welcome- we are so glad you are here!

Gathering for God's Word

PRELUDE

Steve Dill

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

OPENING SONG

Praise Team

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

The kingdoms of the world hold up what is grand and powerful.

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that grows into a bush where the birds of the field can build their nests.

The kingdoms of the world so often value quick results.

The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman mixes into the flour that causes the full measure to rise.

The kingdoms of this world want to hold on to possessions and seek ever more.

The kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure, a precious pearl—something of such great value that we would sell everything in order to gain it.

Holy God, we are easily caught up in the kingdoms of this world. But this morning we come seeking the kingdom of heaven.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist

Gracious God, we gather this morning to add our voices to the chorus of praise raised by your creation! We come as we are – distracted and weary, hopeful, and open. We know that you accept us and are ever mindful of our cares and joys. Still in us now the many voices that clamor for attention, that we might center ourselves upon you. Speak to us in word and melody and quiet, that we may be renewed in our faith and strengthened for your service. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAISE SONG

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Praise Team

CALL TO CONFESSION

John Hughes

All of us have come to this place out of a broken world that yearns for grace. Yet each brings individual shortcomings and a need for redemption. Let us first confess our sins together in the prayer of confession.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, your kingdom confounds us.
You challenge our assumptions about right living
and stretch our understanding of what holds greatest worth.
You reverse our expectations
and reorder our priorities to reflect your vision for the well-being
of all.
Your kingdom surprises us with grace upon grace.
But we cling to the values of this world.
We place products over people, success over service,
and competition for resources over the common good.
Open us to new ways of living,
Ways that embody your desire for creation,
and contribute to the fullness of the Kingdom
as Jesus taught us to see it.**

AFFIRMATION OF FORGIVINESS

John Hughes

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need and brokenness, we are given the grace to grow, and the courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

GLORI PATRI

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

John Hughes

May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Charles Barnum, Soloist

Proclaiming God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need and brokenness, we are given the grace to grow, and the courage to continue the journey.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

SCRIPTURE READING

Liturgist

Psalm 119:129-136 (NIV)

¹²⁹ Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.
¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant,
longing for your commands.
¹³² Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your word;
let no sin rule over me.
¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may obey your precepts.
¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant
and teach me your decrees.
¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

³³ He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds^[a] of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

The Parable of the Net

⁴⁷ “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

⁵² He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

SERMON

John Hughes

Responding to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

John Hughes

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION FOR THE OFFERING

John Hughes

God of all blessings, Jesus inspired us to see your kingdom as a place where small things have a mighty impact: a tiny mustard seed or a bit of yeast. We ask you this day to bless the gifts we offer, so that they might nurture your kingdom. In name of Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray. **Amen.**

OFFERING

Offerings can be made near the sanctuary entrance prior to worship or at the communion table following worship.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

John Hughes

Receive the offerings we bring, O God, and sanctify them to the holy purpose of extending your gifts to all who are in need and to all who would desire them, even as you sanctify our lives in the presence of the Holy Christ who is in our midst today. **Amen.**

✠ **DOXOLOGY**

Sending

CLOSING SONG

“You are My All in All”

Praise Team

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

John Hughes

Go forth today with compassion and justice in your heart
Give voice to the silent
Give strength to the weak
See one another.

And may the grace of Christ attend you,
the love of God surround you,
the Holy Spirit keep you,
that you may live in faith,
abound in hope, and grow in love,
both now and forevermore.

Amen.

Some elements of the liturgy come from:
Book of Common Worship | Westminster John Knox Press © 2018

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JCPC Prayer List

JCPC Family

Cindy Lay
Kathy Doty
Elva Holder
Mary Smith

Bob Messersmith
Kelley Maerz
Kinquist Family
Heather Wolz

Donna Lindsey
Virginia Messersmith

Members in a Care Facility

Arlene Walters

Friends of Our JCPC Family

Junia Thompson and Family- Missionaries in Indonesia
Denise Kinquist- S. Kinquist sister
Mark Kesner, K. Doty's cousin
Melanie Williams-Harvey, R. Kinquist sister
Charles Barnes, S. Tyler's son-in-law
Amelia Sanchez, S. Tyler's great granddaughter
Kelly Koch, H. Wolz' uncle
Marie Gross, C. Lay's stepmother
Lola- H. Wolz niece
Rob Hanson- Barb Hanson's son
Chad Grellner- friend of Ken and Mary Myers
Rick Kraft- Mark Miller friend

Jerry Hahn- V. Messersmith brother -in-law
Jeanie Rhodes- Audrey Hahn's daughter friend
Steve- Van Buren friend
Emily McDonnell- Kara Myers' friend
Debbie Richie-Raymer- Cindy Lay friend
Jessica White- R. Kinquist friend
Aaron and spouse- friends of Kelley and Bryan Maerz
Randy Clark- S. Kaczmariski friend
Rosalie Calvin- D. Calvin's mother
Rev. Melissa Kathryn Leo
Melissa- Friend of H. Wolz
McGee Family- Messersmith neighbors
Chris Hanson- Barb Hanson son

Joys and Thanksgiving

Faith Formation

Women's Movie Discussion Group Sunday Mornings | 9 AM

Join our Sunday morning women's movie discussion group as they watch and discuss the films and the various ways they connect to our faith and theology. Join us at 9 AM for a time of fellowship before we begin viewing.

Mission

Community Helping Ministry



CHM NEEDS:

Cereal (URGENT NEED)

Pasta Sauce

Dried/Canned Beans

Financial contributions can be made via CHM mailbox in church office and food contributions can be made in the **welcome area**. Please do not leave donated food in warehouse area.

Are you or your family in need of food or any other kind of assistance?

Please contact Liza Browning at (314) 770-2216 or email communityhelpingministry@yahoo.com.

Worship at Life Care Center

Our outreach committee is looking for volunteers who may be interested in helping lead worship at the Bridgeton Life Care center. We are currently planning to hold a service each month at their facility as a ministry to those who call the Life Care Center home. We are looking for a variety of help, and if you are interested, please reach out to Amy Brixey (bisskut27@gmail.com).



We will be collecting school supplies over the coming weeks to support local students who need supplies for the upcoming school year. For more information on supplies needed, please visit the mission table in the welcome area.

Community

Sunday Morning Help Needed

We are looking for help with counting following Sunday morning worship and are looking for someone who can volunteer once or twice a month after worship. For additional details please contact Gil Elliott or the church office. Some computer experience requested.

Don't Miss Out on our Weekly Update email!

Don't miss out on receiving our weekly update email each Friday. This email provides important updates regarding life at JCPC and links to sign up for a variety of opportunities. To sign up to receive this email, visit JCPChurch.org

Updated Directory Information Needed!

We are preparing an updated church directory, and we need your help in providing updated information.

Please visit JCPChurch.org/directory, or scan the QR code below, and fill out the form to provide your updated information.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.



Please submit announcements and information for weekly bulletin and website to Matt Miller (office@jpcchurch.org) no later than by the Tuesday of the desired week.

Get Involved this week!

Sunday

9 AM | Women's Movie Discussion Group
10:30 AM | Worship

Thursday

6:45 PM | Property Committee Meeting

Saturday

9:30 AM | Presbyterian Women Gathering

August Birthdays

Doug Meyer	08/01
Virginia Messersmith	08/02
Andrew Van Buren	08/03
Ruby Cooley	08/04
Marion Elliott	08/04
Rita Whitten	08/04
Barbara Thomas	08/05
Carter Lipscomb	08/06
Audry Hahn	08/08
Mary Myers	08/11
Harrison Barnum	08/12
Cory Lipscomb	08/19
Susan Barnum	08/22
Eileen Pierce	08/24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	11:00 am ROMEOS	2 6:45 pm Property Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	3	4 9:30 am Presbyterian Women Monthly Gathering
6 9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship 11:45 am Board Game Sunday!	7 7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America Troop 766	8	9 11:00 am ROMEOS	10 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	11	12
13 9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship	14 7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America Troop 766	15	16 11:00 am ROMEOS	17 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	18	19
20 9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship	21 7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America Troop 766	22	23 11:00 am ROMEOS	24 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	25	26
27 9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship	28 7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America Troop 766	29	30 11:00 am ROMEOS	31 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous		

Welcome to John Calvin Presbyterian Church

We are so glad you are here!

- ✦ Please feel free to stop by our welcome area and get a nametag if you do not already have one.
- ✦ Our worship and communion services are open to all. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make your time with us more welcoming and comfortable.
- ✦ Please see any of our greeters or ushers if you have any accessibility needs/requests.
- ✦ **Restrooms** are located across the hall from the sanctuary entrance as well as in the fellowship area. Please see an usher if you need directions.
- ✦ Please feel free to join us for fellowship time following worship!

For more information on John Calvin Presbyterian Church, please visit JCPChurch.org

Do you have a passion to serve?

We are always in need of members and volunteers to help serve in various ways at John Calvin Presbyterian Church! If you feel called to serve, please contact the church office, or see any of the worship stewards, and we will be happy to connect you with the appropriate team!

**“There is one body, but many parts. But all parts make up one body.
So it is with Christ.”**

-1 Corinthians 12:12-

Thank you for your consideration!