

*Welcome to*

# John Calvin Presbyterian Church



*Proclaiming Christ as a church of prayer, outreach,  
Bible study, discipling, and worship*

Sunday Morning Worship | 10:30 AM

12120 Bridgeton Square Dr.  
Bridgeton, MO, 63044  
(314) 739-3066



*The Presbytery of  
Giddings Lovejoy*



# Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14 | Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 | Philippians 4:1-9 | Matthew 22:1-14

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## *Gathering for God's Word*

### WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

#### OPENING SONG

“Lord, I Give You My Heart”

Praise Team

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

One: Come away from the valleys of misplaced loyalty.  
Come, seeking to meet the God of all worlds.

Many: **We come together that our faith might be strengthened.  
We seek the strength to live by all we profess.**

One: We rejoice that God is near and available to us.

Many: **We hear God welcoming us to this time of worship and prayer. Let us worship our God.**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist

Gracious God, you have invited and welcomed us to this place of worship. You draw us away from the idols we create to take your place. When we come together, we sense that there is nothing in life that can substitute for a vital relationship with you. Yet we are only dimly aware of who you are. All the mysteries of the universe are in your hands, yet you have made yourself known among the people of this earth. We catch glimpses of your work among us and are amazed. We want to meet you again today, as for the first time. Touch us. Remake us. Help us to stand firm in the faith. **Amen.**

## HYMN

#43: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist

God knows our fascination with golden calves – with pastimes and possessions that take our attention and resources every day. Like our ancestors before us, we have sinned and deserve God's wrath. As Moses implored God to spare the Hebrew people, we bring our petitions, seeking a fresh start.

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all mercy, you have planted within us a desire to observe justice and do righteousness. We want to be fair and honorable, delighting in life shared openly and honestly with family, friends, and co-workers. Instead, we are often defensive, fearful, and distracted. We spend more time with our toys than with your truth. We seek temporary thrills rather than lasting meaning. Then we are disappointed when our "golden calves" bring no fulfillment. We return to you, loving God, intent on following the guidance we are receiving from you. Save us from ourselves.  
AMEN**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Joy Myers

Rejoice, knowing that God is always near. Our prayers are always heard. Beloved, hear the good news; Jesus Christ came to stand in the breach to reconcile us to God. We are forgiven and freed. We are chosen by God to share in the mind of Christ.

## GLORI PATRI

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Joy Myers

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**Many: And also with you.**  
One: Let us share this peace with one another!

## ANTHEM

“As the Deer”

JCPC Adult Choir

## *Proclaiming God’s Word*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

Your word, O God, is a feast all its own. Let your Holy Spirit open our minds to your call to listen, for we know your holy Word heals and reconciles your people. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 32:1-14 (CEB)

Liturgist

### **Worshipping the gold bull calf**

**32** The people saw that Moses was taking a long time to come down from the mountain. They gathered around Aaron and said to him, “Come on! Make us gods<sup>[a]</sup> who can lead us. As for this man Moses who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we don’t have a clue what has happened to him.”

<sup>2</sup> Aaron said to them, “All right, take out the gold rings from the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” <sup>3</sup> So all the people took out the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup> He collected them and tied them up in a cloth.<sup>[b]</sup> Then he made a metal image of a bull calf, and the people declared, “These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”

<sup>5</sup> When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf. Then Aaron announced, “Tomorrow will be a festival to the LORD!” <sup>6</sup> They got up early the next day and offered up entirely burned offerings and brought well-being sacrifices. The people sat down to eat and drink and then got up to celebrate.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses: “Hurry up and go down! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, are ruining everything! <sup>8</sup>They’ve already abandoned the path that I commanded. They have made a metal bull calf for themselves. They’ve bowed down to it and offered sacrifices to it and declared, “These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!” <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “I’ve been watching these people, and I’ve seen how stubborn they are. <sup>10</sup>Now leave me alone! Let my fury burn and devour them. Then I’ll make a great nation out of you.”

<sup>11</sup>But Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, “LORD, why does your fury burn against your own people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and amazing force? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, ‘He had an evil plan to take the people out and kill them in the mountains and so wipe them off the earth’? Calm down your fierce anger. Change your mind about doing terrible things to your own people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, whom you yourself promised, ‘I’ll make your descendants as many as the stars in the sky. And I’ve promised to give your descendants this whole land to possess for all time.’” <sup>14</sup>Then the LORD changed his mind about the terrible things he said he would do to his people.

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Philippians 4:1-9 (CEB)

Rev. Joy Myers

### **Stand firm in the Lord**

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters whom I love and miss, who are my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord.

Loved ones, <sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to come to an agreement in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I’m also asking you, loyal friend, to help these women who have struggled together with me in the ministry of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my coworkers whose names are in the scroll of life.

<sup>4</sup>Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Don’t be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. <sup>7</sup>Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. <sup>9</sup>Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

## **SERMON**

Rev. Joy Myers

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness. For we believe that the Lord is good; the Lord's steadfast love endures forever, and the Lord's faithfulness to all generations.**

**We believe that all the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and God's decrees. We believe God's steadfast love extends to the heavens, the Lord's faithfulness to the clouds. We believe the Most High will cover us with his pinions, and under God's wings we will find refuge; the faithfulness of the Almighty is a shield and buckler.**

**We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with our mouths we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. We declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. For we believe it is good to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.**

**So let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones. For we believe that great is God's steadfast love toward us, and that the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!**

## *Responding to God's Word*

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Joy Myers

One:           The Lord be with you.  
**Many:        And also with you.**  
One:           Let us pray...

God of the ages, you never abandon your children; your steadfast love endures forever, your faithfulness throughout the generations. Hear us as we pray...

...for those in our world whose trust has been broken through exploitation by people in power or abuse by those in intimate circles.

(silence as we name those whose plight lies on our hearts)

...for those whose trust has been broken through abandonment by those who promised to stay or manipulation by those who refuse to let go.

(silence as we name those whose plight lies on our hearts)

...we pray for those whose trust has been broken through cold comfort in times of affliction or callous rebukes of those on the margins.

(silence as we name those whose plight lies on our hearts)

...we pray for those who trust has been broken through the trauma of war or the chaos of assault.

(silence as we name those whose plight lies on our hearts)

Empower us, your body, to enfold and protect those broken in body, mind, or spirit, through your all-embracing grace.

In one voice hear us as together we pray as Jesus taught his disciples saying: Our Father...

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory, forever  
Amen.**

## **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

Rev. Joy Myers

Beloved, do not worry about anything, but in everything let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

In the assurance of this promise, let us confidently offer ourselves and our gifts to God, knowing that God has already provided all that we need.

## **OFFERING**

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

## **DOXOLOGY**

## **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Creator God, you are our provider. WE offer all that we have and all that we are to you, because we belong to you. Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church, that through the work of your Spirit we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm, and a shade from the heat. Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.**



## *Sending*

### **CLOSING HYMN**

#497: "Near to the Heart of God"

### **BLESSING**

Rev. Joy Myers

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### **CHARGE**

Rev. Joy Myers

God is opening our minds to what is true. God is filling our lives with ways that are just. God calls us to daily self-examination. God's plan for us is not disaster but fulfillment. We rejoice in God, who loves us. We are eager to live as Christ teaches us. Go in peace...knowing that God goes with you. **Amen.**

**Some elements of the liturgy come from:**  
*Book of Common Worship* | Westminster John Knox Press © 2018  
Lavon Bayler | *Taught By Love: Worship Resources for Year A*  
*Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion for Year A, Volume 2 Trinity Sunday Through Reign of Christ*  
*SourceBook of Worship Resources, Book 3.*

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# JCPC Prayer List

## JCPC Family

**Cindy Lay**  
**Kathy Doty**  
**Elva Holder**  
**Mary Smith**  
**Bob Messersmith**

**Kinquist Family**  
**Heather Wolz**  
**Donna Lindsey**  
**Virginia Messersmith**  
**Gil Elliott**

**Carol Mallette**  
**Sandra Barclay**  
**Randy Clark**  
**Kara Myers**

## 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

**Steve**- Van Buren friend

**Debbie Richie-Raymer**- Cindy Lay friend

**Jessica White**- R. Kinquist friend

**Aaron and spouse**- friends of Kelley and Bryan Maerz

**Rosalie Calvin**- D. Calvin's mother

**Rev. Melissa Kathryn Leo**

**Melissa**- Friend of H. Wolz

**McGee Family**- Messersmith neighbors

**Chris Hanson**- Barb Hanson son

**Lucido family**- Van Buren friends

**Sarah Dilallo**- Kara Myers ' friend

Those dealing with mental health issues

**Prokhodova Family**

## Joys and Thanksgiving

**Kelley Maerz**

## Upcoming Events



### Church Potluck Luncheon

*Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> | Noon*

Join us after worship on October 22<sup>nd</sup> for our annual potluck luncheon! Sign-up to bring your favorite dish to share in the welcome area.



## 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:

*Canned Meat  
Cereal  
Canned Fruit  
Jelly*

*Financial contributions can be made via CHM mailbox in church office and food contributions can be made in the **welcome 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](mailto: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](mailto:bisskut27@gmail.com)).

## Community

### **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](http://JCPChurch.org)

### **AV HELP NEEDED!**

We are looking for help with our Sunday morning audio and visual team. If you are interested in volunteering to help once a month, please contact the church office.

Thank you for your consideration!

### **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](http://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@jcpchurch.org](mailto:office@jcpchurch.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

6:00 PM | Adult Choir

## October Birthdays

Barb Hanson	10/2
Harriet Edler	10/08
Donna Lindsey	10/10
Mark Vogler	10/11
Marty Hornberger	10/12
Koda Hook	10/15
Bea Teahan	10/16
Kathy Doty	10/20
Luke Hardy	10/21
Nancy Pruitt	10/22
Bob Barclay	10/23
Rebecca Cook	10/23
Brandon Van Buren	10/23

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship	7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America   Troop 766		11:00 am ROMEOS	6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 pm Property Committee Meeting		
9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship	7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America   Troop 766		11:00 am ROMEOS	6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous		
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9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 am Church Potluck	7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America   Troop 766		11:00 am ROMEOS	6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous		
9:00 am Movie Discussion Group 10:30 am Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 pm 2023 Trunk 'n Treat	7:00 pm Boy Scouts of America   Troop 766					

# 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](http://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!