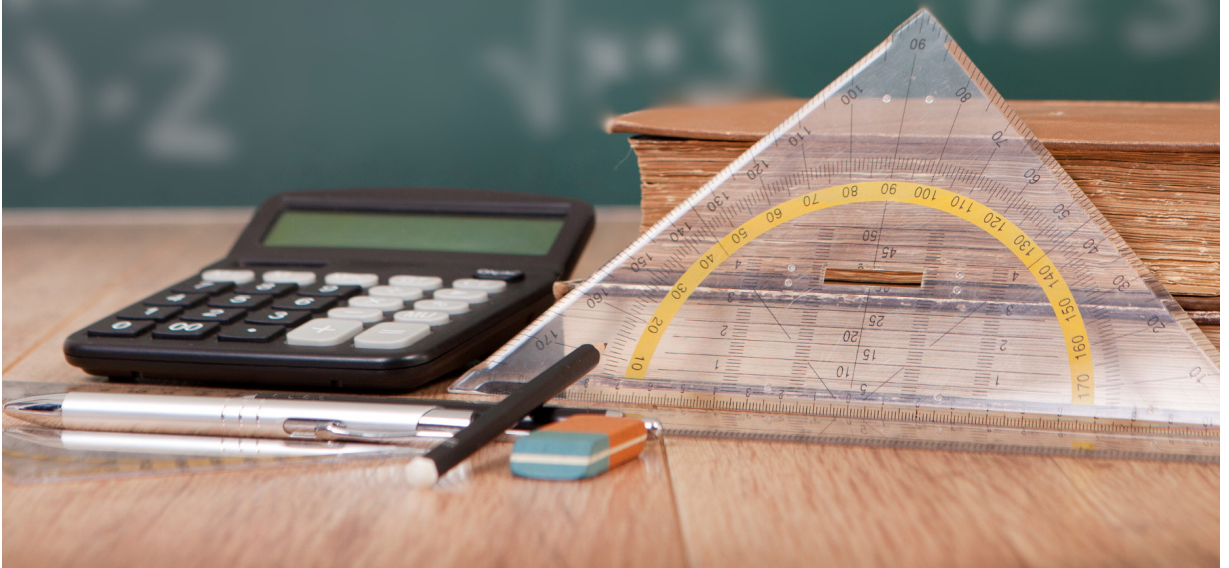




Connecting all to Christ to become  
healthy in God and courageous in love.

# PROVE IT!



# Traditional Worship - January 19, 2025 - 8:30 & 11:00 am

## Entering into the Spirit of Worship

Greeting 8:30 - Tom Beattie 11:00 - Monica Coventry

Prelude *I Trust in Jesus* Callahan

**\*Call to Worship** 8:30 - Lori Briggs  
11:00 - Richard Acker

*(taken from Psalm 27:13-14)*

Leader: Come, people of God, let us gather in faith and hope. Though the trials of life may weigh us down, we declare with the psalmist:

**People: "I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!"**

Leader: Wait for the Lord; trust in His promises. He is faithful and true. Let our hearts find courage in His presence and strength in His Word.

**People: "We will wait for the Lord; we will be strong and take heart, trusting in our God."**

Leader: Lift up your voices in praise! Let the goodness of the Lord fill this place as we worship Him.

**All: The Lord is our light and our salvation! We will sing, we will trust, we will wait for Him!**

**\*Hymn** *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (v. 1, 3, 5 & 7) #1

## The Uniting of our Hearts in Prayer

Prayer 8:30 - Pastor Robby Strock  
11:00 - Pastor Nancy Conley

### 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 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. Amen.**

## Proclaiming the Word of God

Anthem 8:30 *The Potter's Hand* Larson  
Sanctuary Choir

11:00 *Here I Am* Pote/Shrader  
Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading Isaiah 61:1-4 pg. 597

### Congregational Prayer

**Lord Jesus, we come before You with hearts full of trust. When doubts arise, remind us of Your goodness and power. You heal the sick, restore the broken, and bring good news to the poor. Strengthen our faith and help us follow You, trusting in Your plans even when we don't understand. May we carry Your light to those in need, sharing Your hope and healing with the world. We praise You, our Savior and King. Amen.**

**Offering our Gifts to God**

*Down to the River to Pray*  
Abe Gibson, voice; Jimmy Oakley, piano

Medema/McDonald

**\*Response in Song** (11:00 only)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (11:00 only)

**\*Hymn** (11:00 only)

*Jesus Calls Us* (v. 1 & 5)

#520

**Baptisms** (11:00 only)

**Response of Congregation for Baptism**

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you, and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ, and in this congregation of the Global Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

**Welcome Song**

**(Chorus)Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome to the family of God. Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome to the family of God!**

**You've been washed in the water and given a name; never again will you be quite the same! So, Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to the family of God! (Chorus)**

**You've been blessed by the Spirit and greeted with love; chosen and claimed by the Lord up above! So, Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to the family of God! The wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, wonderful family of God!**

**Scripture**

Matthew 11:2-6

pg. 786

**Message**

**Are You The One?**

Prove It

Pastor Jared Priset

### **Sending Forth**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*There's Within My Heart a Melody* (v. 1, 3 & 4)

#144

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Your Blessed Word, Our Savior*

Kolander

\*Those who are able, please stand

Choir Director - Abe Gibson; Organist/Accompanist - Jimmy Oakley

**Altar Flowers: are given by Women's Exchange**

**Acolytes: Andrew Nida & Ashton Ross**

# Sermon Outline

**Focus:** In Matthew 11, we see John the Baptist grapple with doubt as he asks, “Jesus, are you the One?” We each have situations in our lives that cause us to doubt, but through this passage, we learn that Jesus exceeds all of our expectations.

## I. Matthew 11:2-6

Frank Reich - 1993 Buffalo Bills playoff game

Jesus – the hero we didn’t expect **but** the one we needed

What can we learn in this passage?

### 1. Doubts are normal in difficult seasons

Jesus wasn’t meeting John’s expectations

Jesus responds not with rebuke, but with reassurance

Doubt isn’t the opposite of faith – despair is

Doubt is like weightlifting – building strength when we press into God

### 2. Jesus redefines our expectations

Jesus points to Isaiah 35 and 61 – his fulfillment of prophecy

Jesus’ mission was to restore what was broken

The Kingdom of NOW and NOT YET

Jesus doesn’t always meet our expectations – he exceeds them

### 3. The offense of Jesus’ mission

*“And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”* (v. 6)

Jesus addresses our deepest need – reconciliation with God

2 Kings 5 – Naaman

The scandal of grace is also our hope

### 4. The call to trust Jesus

Learning to swim: “Trust me, jump!”

Our doubts don’t disqualify us from His love

“Jesus, are you the One?” – what are you facing today that makes you ask that?

Charles Spurgeon - *“God is too good to be unkind, and He is too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart.”*

# Contemporary Worship - January 19, 2025 - 9:30 & 11:00 am

Praise Songs

*Lead on Good Shepherd*  
*Firm Foundation (He Won't)*

Welcome

9:30 - Matt Ritzert      Oasis - Julia Fabich

Worship Song & Offering

*Holy Spirit*

Prayer

9:30 - Pastor Robby Strock      Oasis - Pastor Bryan George

Scripture

Matthew 11:2-6

Message

**Are You The One?**

Prove it!

Pastor Bryan George

Closing Song

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Benediction

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## Sermon Outline

**Focus:** Jesus did not fit John's dreams and over time the Baptizer began to doubt the plans of the Lord. Sometimes our dreams are too small for God's amazing plan. Like John, we want a God who conforms to our desires rather than allowing ourselves to be conformed to God's desire.

I) Losing everything in California Wildfires

William Gonzales *"The flames have consumed all our dreams."*

II) John the Baptist's dreams for the Messiah (Matthew 3)

One who cuts down rather than plants (v. 10)

One who burns rather than builds (v. 12)

One confirmed with a heavenly voice (v. 17)

III) What has happened to John in Prison? (Matthew 11)

Doubtful *"Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"* (v. 3)

Before: *"Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"* (John 1:29)

There is no sin in doubt!

Buechner: *Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving."*

Jesus responds with signs to 'prove' he is the One chosen by God

Reference to Isaiah 35:4-5

Signs and Wonders for those with eyes to see and ears to hear!

The Challenge that Jesus offers to all who follow

*"Blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."* (v. 6)

Jesus is offensive to "religion" which believes you can earn your own salvation

IV) Embracing new vantage points when dreams go unfulfilled and doubts linger

The journey, not the destination, is the main event: Pay attention to the path

Re-examine open doors that were previously ignored: Did we miss something?

No promise that life would be easy: Yet nothing separates us from His Love

V) The View master perspective

The disappointment of fixating on the discs

The beauty of looking towards the light

## **Baptisms**

Today we celebrate the baptisms of Addiston Becker, Johnny Becker & Brooklyn Tyler at the 11:00 traditional service.

## **Hiring Sound & Audio Visual Coordinator**

This position is responsible for sound systems throughout the church as well as audio visual and sound volunteers for Sunday morning and holiday services.

A complete job description and application can be found at [churchofthelakes.org/job-postings](http://churchofthelakes.org/job-postings). To apply, submit the completed resume & application to [mardy@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:mardy@churchofthelakes.org) by *January 29th*. You may also get an application from the church office.

## **Child Care Registration Fall 2025**

Church of the Lakes members have the opportunity to register for the Child Care Center early. To get information, schedule a tour, or register call the child care office, 330-499-0500 or Lisa, 330-685-3288 before *January 30th* (when open registration begins).

# *Explore*

## **Zumba Class**

Join us for an upbeat exercise class led by church member Stephanie Getz, on **Sundays, January 19th & 26th**, 6:30 - 7:15 pm in the Activity Center. While this class is free, we will be collecting a freewill donation for HopeBridge. Register at [churchofthelakes.org/event/zumba-classes](http://churchofthelakes.org/event/zumba-classes).

## **Galentine's Day Extravaganza**

We will be having a Galentine's Day Extravaganza for single women on **Friday, February 14th**, 12:00 pm at Buggy's Italian Cuisine on Hills and Dales Road. Come join us for great food, games, laughter, and fun. RSVP to Sue Hoffmeyer 330-704-1774.

## **Valentine's Child Care from our Youth**

Many couples struggle to find time to go out on Valentine's day, and for others it simply isn't worth the hassle to find a babysitter. On **Friday, February 14th**, 5:00 - 8:00 pm, church youth will serve the children dinner followed by a night of fun. While the parents enjoy night of relaxation and time together. All are welcome. Register on our website by *February 7th*.

# *Serve*

## **Card Making Ministry**

Looking for volunteers to help start a new card-making ministry for GRACE6:8. 'The Encouragers' will meet regularly to make cards for foster children, care-giving parents, and social workers. Supplies will be furnished and no skills are needed just a willingness to learn. Contact Rosemary Lare, [bookstamp53@gmail.com](mailto:bookstamp53@gmail.com) or 330-818-1013.

## **TNT Service Project**

Items needed for a TNT Service project. Our children at TNT will be packing Hygiene bags for the Total Living Center on *February 5th*. Please use the QR code to sign up to donate the items needed for the hygiene bags. Items are needed by **January 29th**.



# **WAYS TO GIVE**

Visit [churchofthelakes.org/online-giving](http://churchofthelakes.org/online-giving) or text: **give to 330-961-5524**

Offering envelopes are located in the pew pad clipboards.

For EFT instructions contact Stephanie Strock, [stephanie@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:stephanie@churchofthelakes.org)



PRESENTED BY CHURCH OF THE LAKES

# FAMILY NIGHT

## FUN

### JESUS in the HOME

Bring the whole family to North Canton Entertainment Center for a night of fellowship and fun. Dinner provided

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24TH**  
**5:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Cost is just \$5 per person and includes roller skating, laser tag, bumper cars, rock wall and more

Register by January 19th  
[CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG](http://CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG)

North Canton Entertainment Center  
5475 Whipple Ave NW North Canton, OH 44720

# GALENTINE'S DAY BASH

WOMEN OF ALL AGES  
LAUGHTER - FUN - LOVE

**FEBRUARY 8TH**  
**1:00 - 3:00 PM**

CHURCH OF THE LAKES ACTIVITY CENTER



COST \$5 PER PERSON

REGISTER AT  
[CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG](http://CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG)

# WINTER CARNIVAL

**Sunday, February 16th**

**4:00 - 6:00 pm**

Church of the Lakes  
Activity Center

Games with prizes for  
Preschool - Elementary



# RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST**  
**9:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Sign up at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
Use sponsor code 'churchofthelakes'

# MEN'S MINISTRIES

# RETREAT

## Relationships

February 22nd  
Camp Wanake in Beach City

Cost is \$40  
includes 2 meals & snacks  
Register by February 7th  
Register at [churchofthelakes.org](http://churchofthelakes.org)

Submit your news, information or announcements to [betsi@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:betsi@churchofthelakes.org).



Please pray for: Rich Mohr, Millie Scales, Dianne West, and Sona Harrison.

To submit prayer requests call 330-499-8972 ext. 203 or email: [prayer@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:prayer@churchofthelakes.org).