

# GOSPEL OF JOHN

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are all written so that we might come to know Jesus. The different gospel stories work in different ways to get the same point across: that God has in and with and through Jesus done something new that changes all time and history, all people and all places. We can know this, believe this and live into this. But it won't be easy. It won't come without conviction and repentance, letting go of what we know and can control, what we are doing that we think makes us right.

We see that conflict today in John 5. Jesus heals a man and tells him to take up his mat and walk. One problem, it is a Sabbath. Most Jews were taught that carrying a load on the Sabbath was working, breaking the Sabbath, failing to keep God's command. Jesus knows that and still he tells the man to take up his mat. Jesus is provoking, prodding, and pushing.

He is pushing against our religious tendency to control and make ourselves right. The question for them was could they trust that Jesus was doing God's work as the Son of God? Can we? Can we let go of what we can control, what makes us good and be a part of the surprising thing Jesus is doing?

## Contact Information

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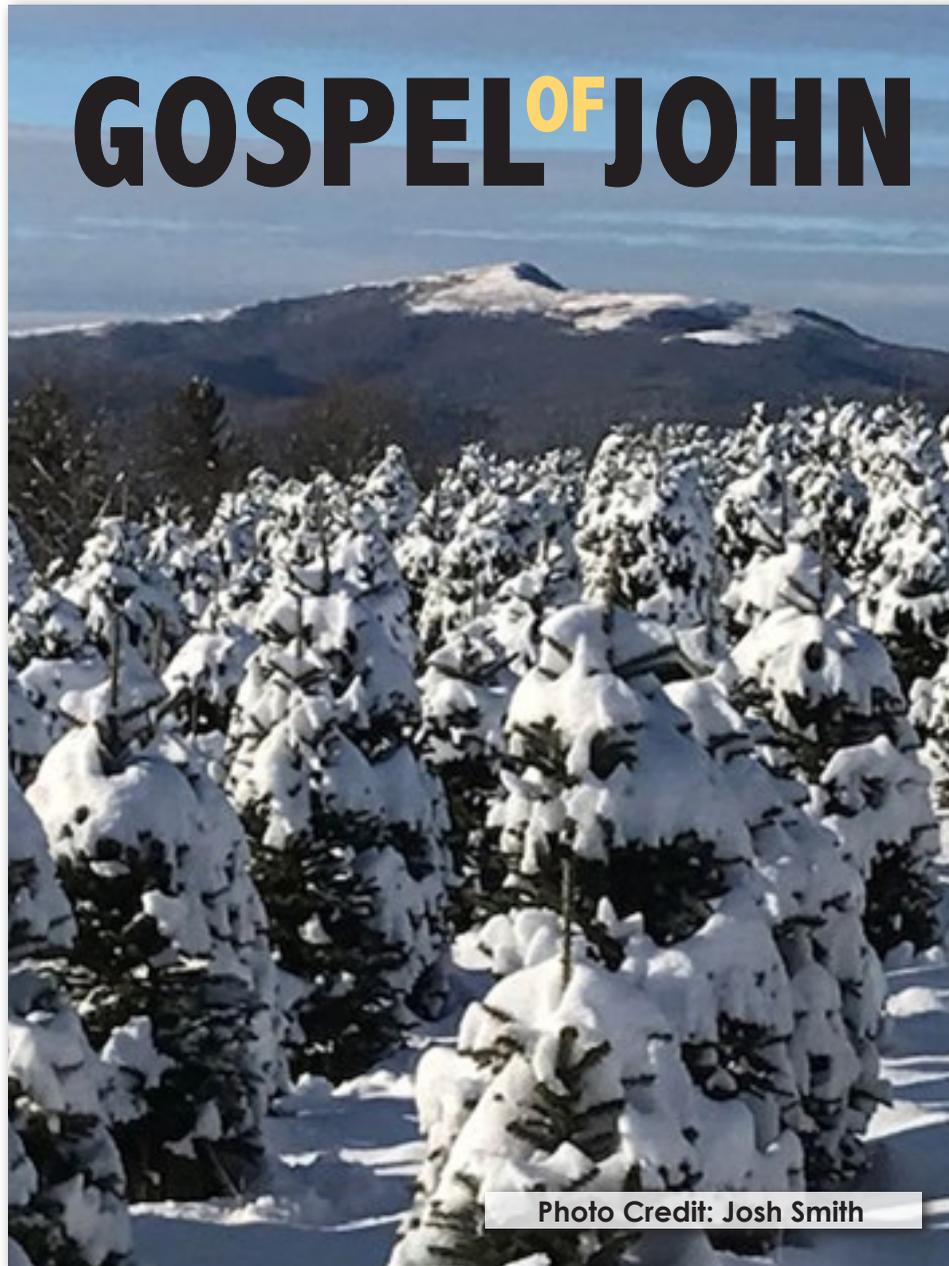


Photo Credit: Josh Smith



arbor dale PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 14, 2018

*Welcome!*

We are grateful that you joined us today for worship and would love to keep in touch.

We have a nursery for infants and toddlers. After the Passing of the Peace, Pre-K through 2nd Grade continue to worship upstairs.

After the service, please join us downstairs for refreshments provided by Arbor Dale's Peace.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please welcome our guest speaker** today: Jim Hart, Chaplain at Crossnore School.

**Refreshments for next Sunday:** Patience Group. Contact Patty Keeney, 828-393-9361

### Feeding Avery Families Schedule:

- ◆ January Packing - Friday Jan. 19 8:30 a.m.
- ◆ January Distribution - Friday Jan. 26 8:30 a.m.

Other Announcements:

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Service for the Lord's Day — January 14, 2018

*Prayer of preparation*

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place.

Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened.

Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged.

Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful find comfort.

Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed.

Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Personal thoughts and prayer reminders*

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\* Congregation Stands

**Greeting**

Leader: *The Lord be with you*

All: *And also with you.*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Call to Worship**

Leader: *Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you*

All: *See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,*

Leader: *but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.*

**\* Opening Hymn** #207 *We Have Come to Join in Worship*

**\* Opening Prayer**

**\* Hymn of Praise** #210 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

**\* Call to Confession**

*Today we celebrate that Jesus, our Lord, came to earth as a human, just like us but without sin. He came so that we who sin may be freed from sin. With the peace that comes from knowing Jesus came, let us confess our sins and be forgiven.*

**\* Confession**

*O God, our guide, who once used a star to lead people to Christ, we confess our poor sense of direction. We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose our way. We fail to follow the signs you provide. Forgive our waywardness, O God. Lead us to the Christ so that we may follow his way to you. Amen.*

**\* Assurance of Pardon** —John 1:9, 12, NIV

*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. Friends believe the gospel, we have been born again to live as children of God.*

**\* The Gloria Patri and Passing the Peace**

**Children's Sermon**

**Prayers of the People**

**Scripture and Sermon**

**Week 7** *John 5*

*Jim Hart, Chaplain at Crossnore School*

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Leader: *The Lord be with you*

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: *Lift up your hearts*

People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

**Offering and Offertory**

**\* Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles Creed*

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.*

**\* Hymn of Dedication**

#572 *Blessed Assurance*

**\* Benediction**