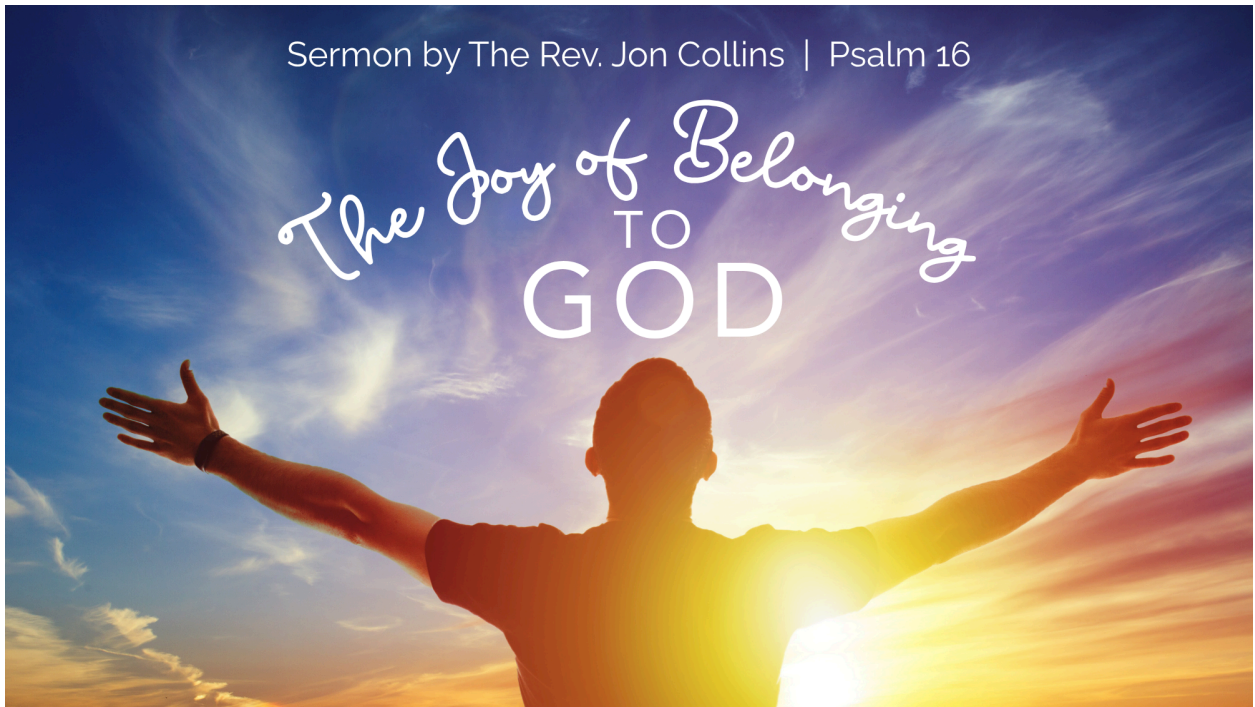


Sermon by The Rev. Jon Collins | Psalm 16

The Joy of Belonging TO GOD



The Joy of Belonging to God Psalm 16:1 - 11

This week, we explore *The Joy of Belonging to God* through Psalm 16 – a psalm of celebration written by David during times of deep struggle and conflict. In the same way that we seek to belong – to a team, a club, or a community – David shows us that our truest and most lasting sense of belonging is found in God. Despite trials and seasons of darkness, he found unwavering joy in knowing God as his refuge, guide, inheritance, and source of everlasting life. Joy, unlike fleeting happiness, is rooted in God’s constant presence, even in suffering and uncertainty. We must keep our eyes focused on God always.

1. What does “BELONGING” mean to you, and where have you most tangibly experienced that sense of belonging – either in a group, relationship, or season of life? How does your sense of BELONGING to God compare to those experiences?

2. Psalm 16 emphasizes security as a reason for joy. When you have uncertainty, where do you instinctively go for refuge? How can we become more consistent to turning to God first as our place of refuge?

3. Fr. Jon talked about a bold prayer of his while in college: "God, redirect my steps if I am not following Your Will." Have you ever prayed something like that? If so, what happened? If not, what makes that kind of prayer difficult? In what areas of your life now do you need to seek God's guidance more intentionally?

4. David says in vs. 5, "You alone are my inheritance." What does it mean for God to be our inheritance? If everything else in life was stripped away, but you still had God, how would your joy and identity be affected?

5. The sermon highlighted several types of difficult circumstances: Tasks, Change, Unanswered Prayer, Loss, and Physical Challenges. Which of these resonates with your life right now, and how can you see God working through it? How can others support you in finding joy during these challenges?

6. The Sermon touched on how our deepest security is found in belonging to God. If our "inheritance" is truly God Himself and His unwavering presence, what does that mean for how we approach our lives and decisions? How does understanding God as our ultimate inheritance change what we pursue, cherish, or rely on for security?

