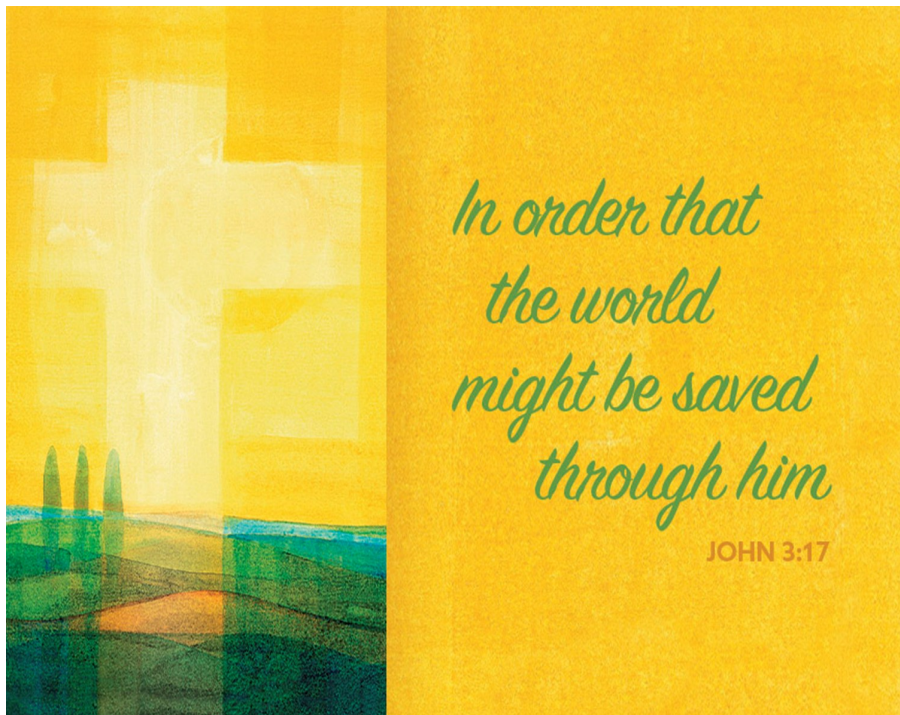




Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 14, 2025

St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville

5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road

Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937

Church 740-574-8028 or email: stjohn1875@gmail.com



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September 14, 2025

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service of the Word

Leader: People of St. John, what is our purpose?

All: To live for the Lord who made us, to love as Jesus taught us, and to serve where the Spirit leads us.

PRELUDE

+ GATHERING SONG

God of Grace and God of Glory

#415

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

+ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)

C And also with you.

P You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C a people holy to the Lord our God.

P Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children,

P Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P One does not live by bread alone,

C but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

+ SCRIPTURE SONG



Q Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



Q Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.



Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?



Q Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All
na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,
for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.
III Sal- va - tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

C O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children will be dismissed to Children's Church following the Children's Sermon

CHOIR ANTHEM

Thy Word

FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

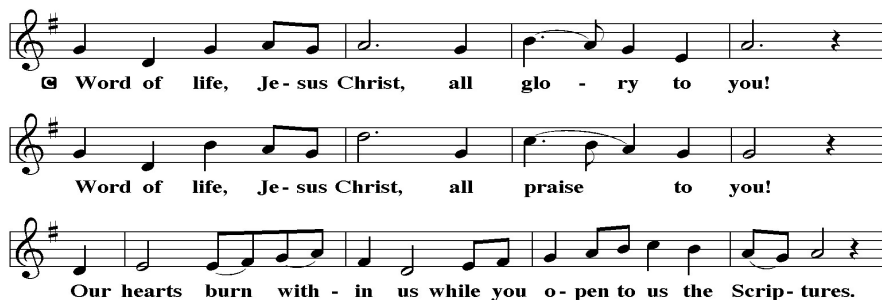
PSALM: 51:1-10

- P ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- C ² **Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- P ³ For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
- C ⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**
- P ⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- C ⁶ **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**
- P ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- C ⁸ **Let me hear ¹ joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- P ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- C ¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip - tures.



+ THE GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor Kruse

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

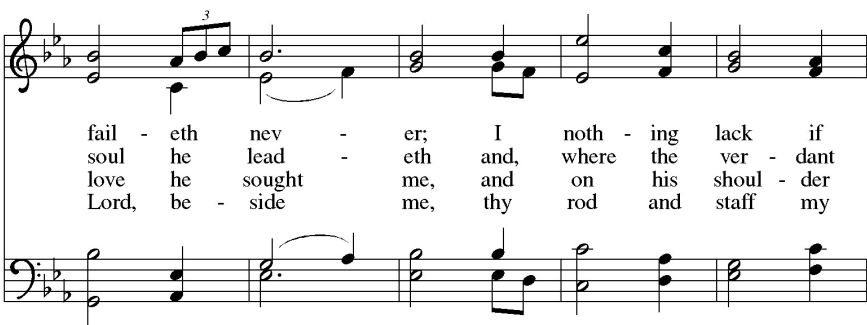
HYMN OF THE DAY

The King of Love

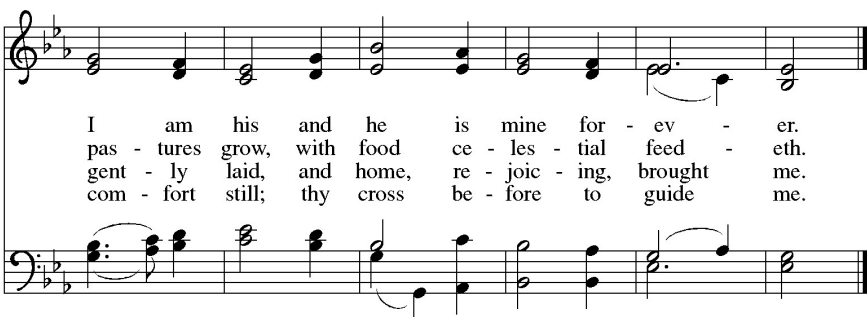
#456



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

+ RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

+ **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
C **pray in the Holy Spirit.** (*Jude 20*)

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;
C **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (*Jude 21*)

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
C **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**
(*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
C **Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.**

Silence for reflection and self examination.

P Gracious God,
C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen**

+ PEACE

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTHT, Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–1561

+ OFFERTORY

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

C **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

+ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain (*especially*). Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P “Raise up and send to us our next pastor (deacon). We pray for our call committee, that your wisdom will rest upon them, that they may know and recognize the person you are sending. Grant us patience and faith as we wait. Amen”

“We pray for the our call committee as they continue their work, that they may know your will, and have the faith and courage to follow your leading.”

“Grant that your Holy Spirit may rest upon our call committee as they listen for your will. Grant us patience and hope that comes by faith in you.” God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

+ THE LORD’S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

+ BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

+ SENDING SONG

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

#332



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
with a glo - ry in his bo - som that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on.
while God is march - ing on.



Refrain
Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910
Music: BATTLE HYMN, American, 19th cent.

+ Dismissal

P Go in peace.
Children Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+Stand as you are able

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SERVING TODAY

Organist
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
Shane Tieman
Kara Tieman
George & Brenda Moore
Amy Frauni, Kelly Skipworth
Rick Williams

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH. We are pleased you are here. If you are visiting with us this morning, please sign our guest book in the entrance area. We hope you will join us again very soon.

LET US PRAY FOR: Dale Ramey, Emily Smith, Peggy Butler, Roberta Sommer, Rosemarie Becker, Patricia Cavendish, Jim Skipworth, Galen Gleim, Paul Means, Grace Mootz, Marcella Mootz, Barb Coakley, Kay Staker, Kimberly Tolliver, Barbara Redmond, Brian & Carol Hicks, Tim Coldiron, Danica Clarkson, Bill Murphy, Frank Dodd, Michael Copeland, Linda Martin, Jane Bussler, Rena McIntyre, Bill Culver, Brenda Moore, Melaine Hawk, Don Moeser, Mike Mucha, Patty Poole, Kent Gifford, Nicholas Young, Jason Pierce, Beth Miller, Jane Staker, The Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts

PLEASE PRAY FOR the Call Committee and Church Council as we search for a new pastor. May God bless and guide them in this journey.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet today after worship.

IF YOU CAN USE scissors, tie a knot, or just want to join us for some fellowship come on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. as we work on our blanket projects. Everyone is welcome.

CHOIR PRACTICE on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

This Week at St. John

Today—*Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost*

9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

11:00 a.m. Church Council

Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Next Sunday—*Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Attendance

2025 Average 62

2024 Average 62

Serving Next Sunday, September 21

Organist

Leigh Ann Henry

Lay Reader

James Hayman

Prayer Leader

Greeter

Ashley Salyers

Altar Committee

Cindy Oakes, Debbie Clevenger

Council President

Rick Williams

CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF 9/7/2025

BIRTHDAYS: Cole Smith, Elizabeth Bailey

BAPTISMS: Mark Gleim, Laura Briggs, Tegyn Adams, Jacob Clevenger, Ashton Mullins, Nathan Richl

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim & Barb Larter

IF WE MISSED ANYONE please let Vicki Bradley know so we can add you to the list.

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Andy Otworth, Avery Miller, Roberta Sommer, Tom Bradley

BAPTISMS: Cathy Gleim, Wesley Briggs, Erika Riffe, Dustin Williams, Avery Miller, Pierson Neal

ANNIVERSARIES:

IF WE MISSED ANYONE please let Vicki Bradley know so we can add you to the list.

Coming Events

Sunday, September 14 at 9:00 a.m. Catechism Class
Sunday, September 14 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 16 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, September 23 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, September 28 at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Dennis King preaching
Reception following worship.

Tuesday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, October 5 at 10:00 a.m. Pastor Janet Hatch preaching
Reception following worship.

Tuesday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, October 11 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Sunday, October 14 at 10:00 a.m. Honoring Our 1st Responders

Tuesday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, November 16 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 21 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, November 2 at 10:00 a.m. Veterans Sunday

Wednesday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. St. John's 150th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, November 9 at 11:00 a.m. Potluck/carry-in dinner

Wednesday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday, November 16 at 10:00 a.m. we special music by Jacob Tolliver
Reception following worship.

Sunday, December 14 at 11:00 a.m. Annual Christmas Dinner
Followed by caroling

Wednesday, November 19 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Sunday, December 21 at 10:00 a.m. Children Christmas Program
Sunday, December 21 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Honoring Our First Responder

Sunday, October 12

Honoring Our Veterans

Sunday, November 2

**St. John's
150th Anniversary
Celebration**
Sunday, November 9
Potluck/carry-in dinner immediately following worship.

Sunday, December 14
Blessing of the Blankets
Annual Christmas Dinner immediately after worship
Following dinner Caroling

**Join us Wednesday,
December 24**
**At 7:00 p.m. for our annual
Christmas Eve Festival Service
of Candlelight and Holy Communion**

Sunday, January 11
Annual Congregational Meeting
Immediately following worship.