



The kingdom
of heaven
is like a
merchant
in search
of fine pearls

MATTHEW 13:45

Nineth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville

5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road

Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937

Vicar Tim Jordan

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



St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville
5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road
Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937
Vicar Tim Jordan

Church 740-574-8028 or email: stjoh1875@gmail.com

July 12, 2026

SEVENTH 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

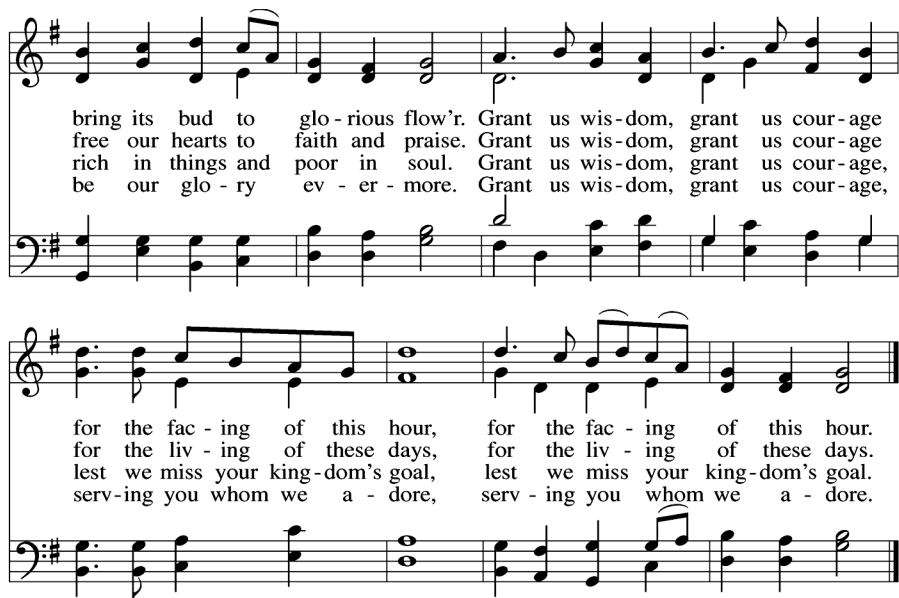
+ GATHERING SONG

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



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



☞ 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?

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

☐ 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.

☐ 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 Let us pray Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the **Lord** appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O **Lord** my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you

have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

PSALM: 119:129-136

P ¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

C ¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

P ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.

C ¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**

P ¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

C ¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**

P ¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.

C ¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

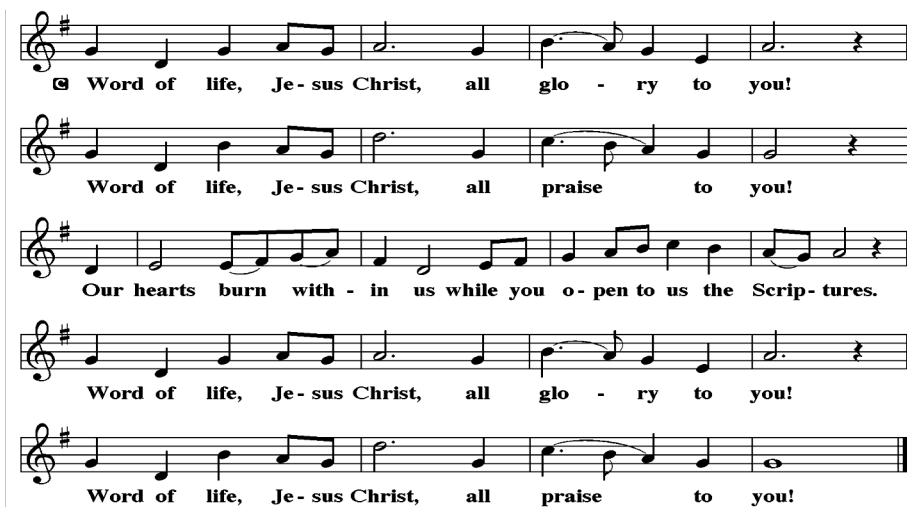
²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

37 No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.
38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

+ 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.

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

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

+ THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

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

31 [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

33 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” 52 And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Vicar Tim Jordan

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Speak to Us

#403

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
 2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
 3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
 4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
 wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
 pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
 til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

+ 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**

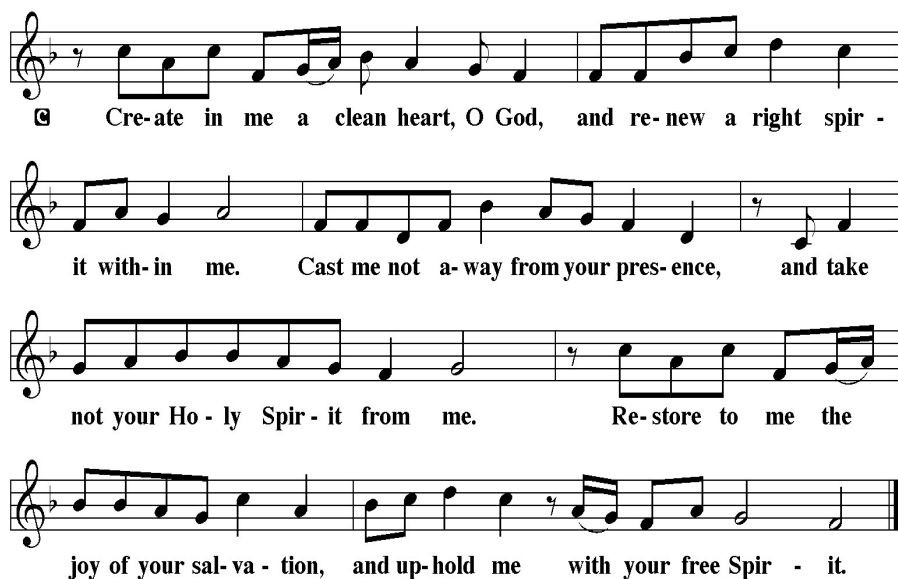
+ PEACE

- 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

+ OFFERTORY



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

+ 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 Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. (*We pray especially for . . .*) God of grace

C hear our prayer.

P God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus

C Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

**C 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 and ever. Amen**

+ BLESSING

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

C Amen

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.

Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

+ Dismissal

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

Postlude

+Stand as you are able

Reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship*, copyright 1978
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #8747-L
From sundaysandseasons.com.
Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

SERVING TODAY

Organist
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Acolytes
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
Vivian Riffel

Vicki Nye-Titus

Sonny & Sherry Mullins
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, Patricia Cavendish, Jim Skipworth, Galen Gleim, Grace Mootz, Marcella Mootz, Kay Staker, Kimberly Tolliver, Bill Murphy, Linda Martin, Melaine Hawk, Nicholas Young, Jason Pierce, Beth Miller, Jane Staker, Rod Schneider, Ed Hughes, Brenda Moore, Ken Staker, Greg Piguet, Mary McQuay, Chris Parish, Charles Ricketts, Chris Young,, Ginger Setverson, Tom Bussler, Kendra Hughes, Jeff Dettwiller, Virginia Nickel, Luke White, Jack Clevenger, Bob Rase, Glenn Rase, Jim Webb, Leah Willis, Dennis Klaiber, James & Kym Hayman, Bryan Hicks, Mackenzie Gleim, Derrick Gleim, Sharon McMackin, Cheryl Crank, udy Buknis, Shanna Garrett, Belford Sexson, Linda Sexson, Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts.

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Shaun Allen, Cassie Akers, Barb Larter, Jessica Stafford, Donita Eskridge, Keri Ann Gleim, James Skipworth

BAPTISMS: Eli DeGonzague, Blake Smith, Connie Conley, Tessa Crisp, Barb Larter

ANNIVERSARIES: John & Debbie Queen

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

VICAR TIM JORDAN'S ORDINATION SERVICE will be on Saturday.
August 8 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67
North 5th St., Newark, OH 43055

Address: Double Tree by Hilton
50 North 2 nd St.
Newark, OH 43055

If you participate in another chain's rewards program or have an interest in
historic inns, here are some additional options in other parts of the area:

Addresses: Courtyard by Marriott Holiday Inn Express & Suites

500 Highland Blvd. 1405 Hebron Rd.
Newark, OH 43055 Heath, OH 43056
(740) 344-1800 (740) 915-9999
Granville Inn Buxton Inn
314 E Broadway 313 E Broadway,
Granville, OH 43023 Granville, OH 43023
(740) 587-3333 (740) 587-0001

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
1405 Hebron Rd.
Heath, OH 43056
(740) 915-9999

Buxton Inn*
313 E Broadway,
Granville, OH 43023
(740) 587-0001

VICAR TIM JORDAN'S INSTALLATION SERVICE will be on Sunday,
August 9 during worship service We will celebrate with a potluck / carry-
in dinner immediately following.

This Week at St. John

Today—*Nineth Sunday of Pentecost*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**
Immediately after worship Youth Group swim Party
At the Ramey/Salyers. Lite lunch will be provided.

Next Sunday—*Tenth Sunday of Pentecost*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**—*Holy Communion*

Attendance

2026 Average	64
2025 Average	62

Serving Next Sunday, July 26

Organist
Worship Assistant
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Acolytes
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
Vivian Riffel
James Hayman
James Hayman
James & Kym Hayman

Debbie & Jerry Clevenger
Rick Williams

Coming Events

Sunday, July 26 immediately after worship Youth Group Pool Activity at the Ramey/Salyers pool

Saturday, August 8 Vicar Tim Jordan's Ordination at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 9 Vicar Tim Jordan's installation service at St. John
Potluck / carry-in dinner immediately after worship

Sunday, August 16 Church Council Meeting

Sunday, July 26

**Youth Group Pool Activity at the Ramey/Salyers
Immediately following worship. Lunch will be provided.**

Saturday, August 8

**Vicar Tim Jordan's Ordination Service at 11:00 a.m. at
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67 North 5th St.,
Newark, OH 43055**

Sunday, August 9

**Installation Service for Pastor Tim Jordan
Potluck / carry-in dinner immediately after worship
Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67 North 5th St., Newark,
OH 43055**