



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 6, 2026

**St. John Lutheran Church**

*Powellsville*

*5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road*

*Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937*

*Rev. Dr. Tim Jordan*

Church 740-574-8028 or email: [stjohn1875@gmail.com](mailto:stjohn1875@gmail.com)



# St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville  
5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road  
Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937

Rev. Dr. Tim Jordan

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

September 6, 2026

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

### + Confession and Forgiveness

*Stand The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

+ Apostolic Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

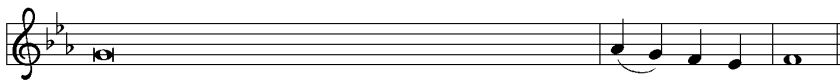
C And also with you.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



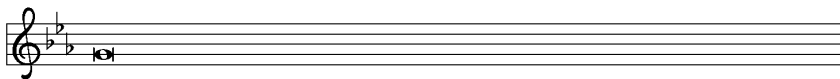
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



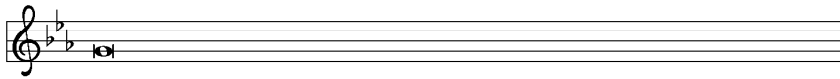
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

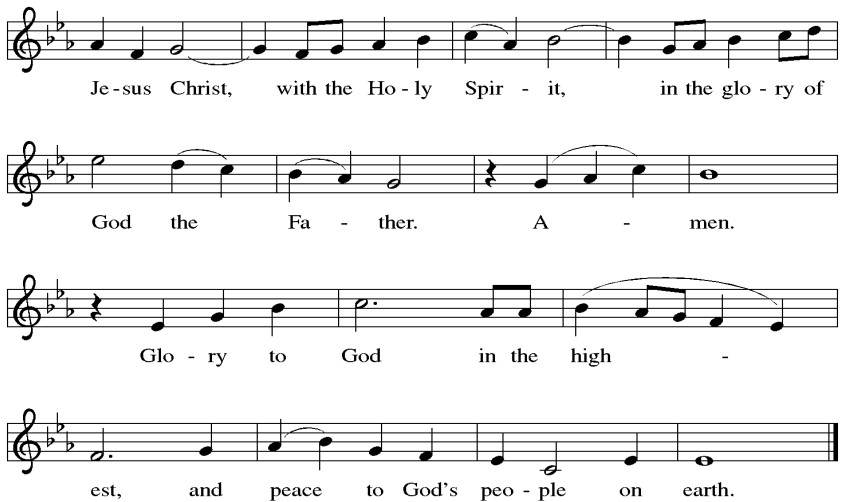
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



### + Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. . . **O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through 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: Ezekiel 33:7-11

<sup>7</sup> So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup> If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup> But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

<sup>10</sup> Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" <sup>11</sup> Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

### Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup> let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

## + Alleluia Verse

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

## + The Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ**

## Silence For Reflection

## Hymn of the Day

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

#503

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.  
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693



## + THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- P Let us pray.  
P Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers,  
confident that God hears us.

*A brief silence.*

- P Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce  
the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways.  
Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**  
P Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of  
all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal  
communities crying out after disaster (*especially*). Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**  
P Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away  
from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the  
good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**  
P Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore  
broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry  
with us. (*We pray especially for . . .*) Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**  
P Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your  
righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news  
known even through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

- P Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for  
the nearness of your salvation for (*name/s, and*) all who have gone before us.  
Hear us, O God.  
**C Your mercy is great.**  
P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and  
whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.  
**C Amen.**

## + The Peace

[shared among the congregation]

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always  
**C And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you

R Peace be with you.

## Parish Announcements

### Offering

+ **Offertory** *Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord* 1 Corinthians 10:16 & John 6:35



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### + The Prayer

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us  
ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
Receive them for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

Amen

## + The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Isaiah 6:3 & Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.  
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him  
should not perish, but have eternal life.  
We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **+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**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## The Holy Communion

*As the minister give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say:* **Amen**

*Music during the Communion:*

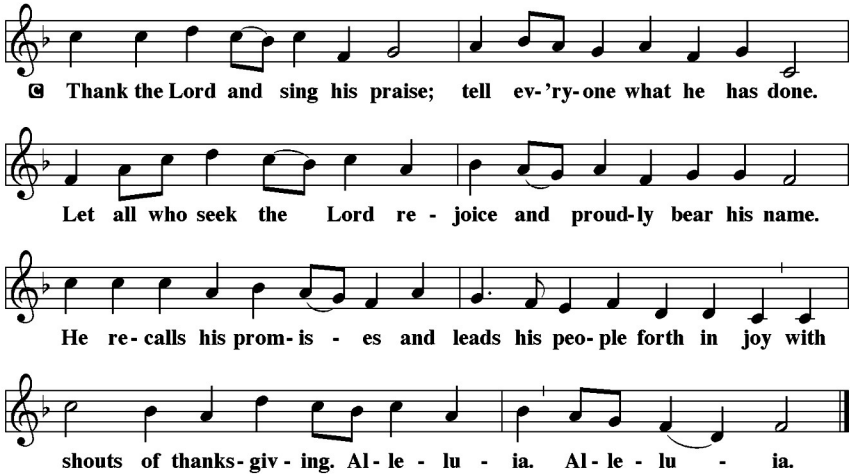
*Stand*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

## + Post-Communion Canticle

*Thank the Lord*



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## + Post Communion Prayer

Romans 5:5

**P** Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

## + The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

+ In the of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen

# + Closing Hymn

## Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

#389



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, as sol - diers of the cross,  
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; the trum - pet call o - bey;  
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, stand in his strength a - lone;  
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, the strife will not be long;



lift high his roy - al ban - ner; it must not suf - fer loss.  
 stand forth in might - y con - flict in this his glo - rious day.  
 the arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own.  
 this day the din of bat - tle, the next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry his ar - my he shall lead,  
 Let all his faith - ful serve him a - gainst un - num - bered foes;  
 Put on the gos - pel ar - mor; each piece put on with prayer.  
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, their crown of life shall see,



till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished and Christ is Lord in - deed.  
 let cour - age rise with dan - ger, and strength to strength op - pose.  
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, be nev - er want - ing there.  
 and with the King of glo - ry shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, 1818-1888, alt.  
 Music: WEBB, George J. Webb, 1803-1887

## + 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

### SERVING TODAY

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  
Sherry Mullins, Brenda Moore, Vicki Nye-Titus  
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.

**THIS MORNING WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION.** St John observes open communion. Christians of all Churches and all denominations are invited and encouraged to join us at our Lord's table. Grape juice is offered as an alternative to wine for those who wish it. Young children who have not yet gone through Preparation for Communion may be brought forward for a blessing.

These are the words of Martin Luther from The Small Catechism:

*The benefits of this sacrament are pointed out by the words, **given and shed for you for the remission of sins.** The words assure us that in the sacrament we receive forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. It is not eating and drinking that does this, but the words, **given and shed for you for the remission of sins.** These words, along with eating and drinking, are the main thing in the sacrament. And whoever believes these words has exactly what they say, forgiveness of sins.*

**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, Melanie Hawk, Nicholas Young, Rod Schneider, Brenda Moore, Ken Staker, Greg Piguett, Mary McQuay, Chris Parish, Tom Bussler, Luke White, Jack Clevenger, Bob Rase, Glenn Rase, Jim Webb, Leah Willis, Dennis Klaiber, Cheryl Crank, Judy Buknis, Shanna Garrett, Belford Sexson, Linda Sexson, Derrick Gleim, Dorrita Gleim, Mackenzie Gleim, Owen Wilburn, Wendi Waugh, Carol Easter, David Otworth, Ed Hughes, Brandon Cline, Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts.



**LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY** at the church. This Thursday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. We'll discuss the upcoming Sunday's scripture passages, making observations and asking questions.

**JOIN PASTOR TIM** for Coffee Hour this Saturday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. at Adam's Flying Pig. This coffee hour will be a weekly occurrence.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** for all ages at church next Sunday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m.

**BLANKET PROJECT GROUP** meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

## ***CELEBRATING THIS WEEK***

**BIRTHDAYS:** Cole Smith, Elizabeth Bailey

**BAPTISMS:** Cheryl Crank, Mark Gleim, Laura Briggs, Tegyn Adams, Jacob Clevenger, Ashton Mullins

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Jim & Barb Larter

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

## **This Week at St. John**

**Today**—*Fifteenth of Pentecost*

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

**Tuesday**

10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

**Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

**Thursday**

10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

**Saturday**

10:30 p.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Tim

**Next Sunday**—*Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost*

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

## Attendance

2026 Average 65

2025 Average 64

*Serving Next Sunday, September 13*

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

*Leigh Ann Henry  
Vivian Riffel  
Shane Tieman  
Kara Tieman*

*Sherry Mullins, Brenda Moore, Vicki Nye-Titus  
Rick Williams*

## Coming Events

Tuesday, September 8 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Thursday, September 10 at 6:00 p.m. Welcome & Witness Committee Meeting

Saturday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour with Pastor Tim  
at Adam's Flying Pig

Sunday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, September 15 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Sunday, September 20 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Sunday, September 20 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 22 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 24 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Saturday, September 26 at 4:30 p.m. Yard Games at St. John

Sunday, September 27 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, September 29 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Thursday, October 1 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Sunday, October 4 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

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

Thursday, October 8 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. Welcome & Witness Committee Meeting

Sunday, October 11 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Saturday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m. Fall Festival

Sunday, October 18 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Sunday, October 18 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 20 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, October 22 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

Sunday, October 25 at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Tuesday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

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

Thursday, October 29 at 10:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

## **Thursday, September 10**

Lectionary Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

## **Saturday, September 12**

Coffee Hour at 10:30 a.m.

with Pastor Tim

at Adam's Flying Pig, Wheelersburg

## **Sunday, September 13**

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. Game Night  
Sunday, November 15 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting  
Sunday, December 20 at 11:00 a.m. Annual Christmas Dinner  
Followed by caroling