

St. John

LUTHERAN CHURCH



A Whole Month of Thanksgiving!

November 15th, 2025 at 5:30 PM

November 16th, 2025 at 8:30 AM

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Alan & Marie Anderson in celebration of Emma and Ben's November birthdays!

Worship Leaders – Saturday, November 15, 2025 (5:30 pm)

Deacon	Kim Jensen
Usher	Steve Volkening
Piano	Rachel Uffelmann
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Welcome Center	Crystal Andel

Worship Leaders – Sunday, November 16, 2025 (8:30 am)

Deacon	Jill Doyle
Communion Assistant	Heather Specht
Greeter	Heather Specht, Addison Specht
Ushers	Doug Koerner, Marge West
Acolytes	Gabriella Incaudo, Alison Morris
Piano & Organ	Janet Blomquist
Music Director	Tori Hicks
Audio Board	Jon Blomquist
Livestream	Frank Norem
Counters	Frank Norem, Norm Roland
Altar Guild	Karen Becker, Chris Markwell, Joan Nunemaker
Welcome Center	Heather Basham
Nursery	Beth Marcum
Coffee Hour	Food Pantry Ministry

Contact Information

Pastor Robin Caldwell	robincaldwell@stjohnjoliet.org	630-408-1402
Pastor Evan Mayhew	evanmayhew@stjohnjoliet.org	262-366-3132
Tori Hicks	torihicks@stjohnjoliet.org	815-355-3205
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Pam Kornaus	pamkornaus@stjohnjoliet.org	815-439-2320
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Jon Blomquist, President	council@stjohnjoliet.org	630-631-8438

St. John Lutheran Church
2650 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL 60435
815-439-2320 contact@stjohnjoliet.org stjohnjoliet.org

 **St. John by the Mall – Joliet, IL**

 **St. John Lutheran Church, Joliet**

**Indicates Congregation, Please Stand*

Prelude

(5:30)

(8:30)

"Agnus Dei"

"Communion"

Smith

Trabaci

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C Amen.

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful and loving God,

**C we are your rebellious people.
We compete with those who have less than us.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from people who are in need.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.**

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"How Firm a Foundation"

796, Vs. 1 & 2

*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.**

*Kyrie

S 138

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.

*Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, you are the giver of wisdom and endurance. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Reading

Malachi 4:1-2a

D A reading from the book of Malachi, the fourth chapter.
Listen for the Word of the Lord.

C **Our hearts are open.**

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music (8:30)

"I Am"
St. John Chorale

Hayes

Psalm 98

D A responsive reading from the book of Psalms.

C **Our hearts are open.**

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

The LORD has made known his victory;

he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

Let the sea roar and all that fills it,
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy**

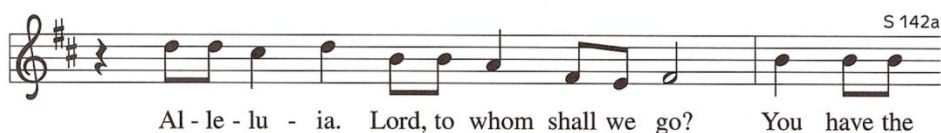
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

D Word of God, Word of Life!

C **Thanks be to God!**

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

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

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them."

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven."

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

P The gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon (8:30)

After the Children's Sermon, parents with children of all ages, may bring them to the Wiggle Room Leader standing at the end of the center aisle. They will then take the children to the Wiggle Room. The children will return to the sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

Sermon

Pastor Robin E. Caldwell

*Hymn of the Day

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

597, Vs. 1-4

Thanksgiving for Generosity *Filtered Water Bottle Drinking Fountain*

Fall Stewardship Appeal Update

*Tim Caldwell
Stewardship Team*

Litany of Gratitude

P Give thanks to the Lord, who is good!

C God's love is everlasting!

P Come, let us praise God joyfully!

C Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

P For the new drinking fountain, that it quenches our thirst, and gives us refreshment;

C That by refilling our water bottles, the oceans may be clean, animals safe, and our places free of litter;

P That the fountain remind us of our baptisms, and how precious water is;

C And may this gift inspire us to greater generosity.

P In the name of God's generous Son, whom we praise.

C Amen!

Prayers of the Church

In the hope of God's grace and salvation, the church prays for all the great needs of the world.

Your prayer requests may be shared silently during today's prayers, by filling out a green prayer request card in your pew or completing the Prayer Request form at stjohnjoliet.org.

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

Congregation Sings the response:

“Nothing Can Trouble”

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier © 1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taizé (France) International.
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**Nothing can trouble
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.**

The prayers conclude:

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

C **Amen.**

***Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

You may share the peace of Christ with others.

Those who choose to stay in their pew may wave or give signs of peace.

Ministry Highlight

Food Pantry Ministry

St. John Food Pantry is a volunteer run food ministry supporting our community with nutritional food distributions twice a week throughout the year. We have volunteer opportunities on Wednesday-Saturday to receive and prepare food donations for our Thursday afternoon distribution from 4-6pm and our Saturday distribution from 8-10am.

This time of year we appeal for additional donations toward Holiday Meals. \$25 will provide a family of 6 with a turkey and sides for Thanksgiving, or a ham plus sides for Christmas.

The Food Pantry Ministry and all our ministries are made possible by Jesus and the General Fund, supported by generous people like you. Thank you

Offertory

(5:30)

“The Heart of Worship”

Redman

(8:30)

“What a Friend We Have In Jesus”

Converse

Commitment to Community: A Spirit of Sharing

It feels good to give back and to “pay it forward!”

There is joy in being generous - giving to others from what God has blessed us with. Thank you for your generosity toward the ministries of St. John, which serve God, help our neighbors right here, bring aid to people in need across the country, and strengthen partnerships around the world.

Your gift of money and gift of presence are lifted up to God when you place your attendance sheet, prayer requests, and financial gifts in the offering plate. Thank you!



Now Accepting



*Offertory Response

207

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

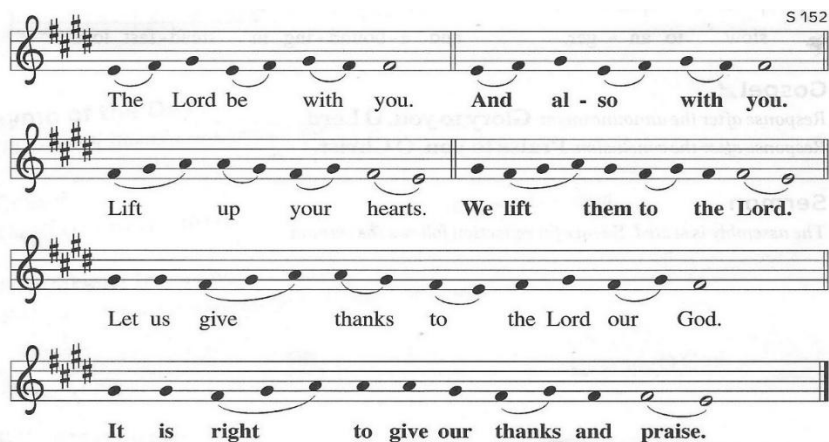
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923. Text and Music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
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Thankful hearts and voices raise;
Tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord
Rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises
And lead your people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

*Offertory Prayer

D Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, **we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving



S 152

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

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

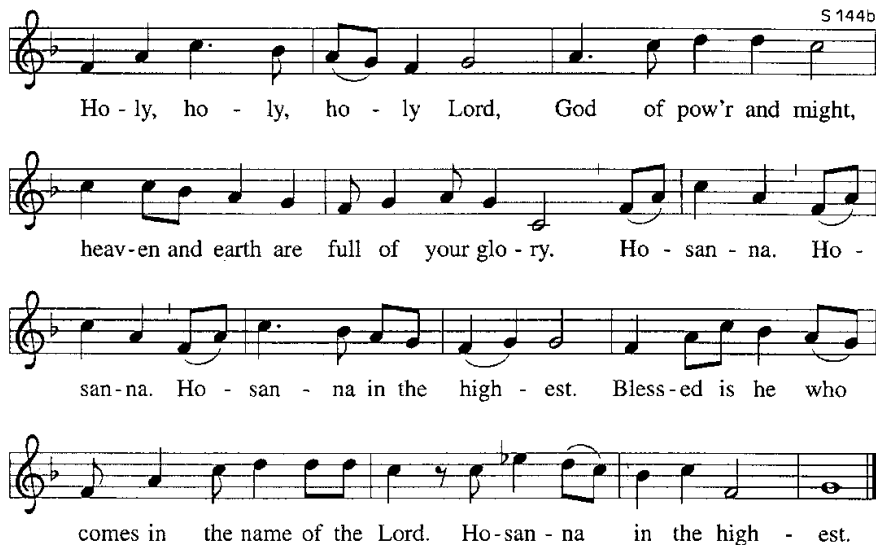
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy

S 144b



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

*Invitation to Communion

P Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come to this meal of mercy.
C Thanks be to God!

Distribution

*We believe Jesus Christ is the host of this table,
his true presence is in this meal, and you are welcome to receive
the bread and wine of resurrection.*

*If you prefer your child to receive a blessing,
place your hand upon their head or their hands.*

Communion Instruction

- You will be invited forward by the usher or pastor.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Inform the pastor when at the rail.
- Red wine is on the outer rings of the tray; white grape juice is on the inner rings of the tray.
- After receiving communion, place the used communion cup in the basket, and return to your pew via the side aisle.
- If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, communion pods are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. The pastor will say the words of distribution after the Invitation to Communion.

Lamb of God

S 146

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.

Communion Music

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#471, Vs. 1-3

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

708, Vs. 1- 4

***Blessing (8:30)**

C Amen.

***Prayer after Communion**

D Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

***Benediction**



***Sending Hymn**

632, Vs. 1-2

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

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Verse 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Verse 2 Under the shadow of your throne your saints have
dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

***Sending**

D Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
C **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

(5:30)	“Great is the Lord”	Smith
(8:30)	“Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing” (reprise)	

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November Special Offering
HELPING HANDS

Your generosity helps our people

-  **in their homes**
utility assistance
-  **at work**
transportation assistance
-  **stay healthy**
prescription assistance

Use a gold pew envelope labeled Helping Hands or click "give" at stjohnjoliet.org

St. John
LUTHERAN CHURCH



PARENT CARE GROUP MEETING

THIS SUNDAY in the Trinity Room

Sunday, November 16th

9:45AM - 10:45AM

St. John
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& FOOD PANTRY

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

SCAN 

www.stjohnfood.org | 2650 Plainfield Road Joliet, IL 60435 815.439.2320

We need YOUR help!

Looking for donations of "staple" items like:

Depends
Diapers
Wipes
Toilet Paper
Feminine Products
Pet Food

Peanut Butter & Jelly
Rice
Mac n Cheese
Spaghetti Sauce
Beans
Noodles

Your monetary donations go far!
Every \$1 donated to the food pantry provides
\$8 worth of groceries for a neighbor in need



**Commit your gifts to the 2026 mission of
St. John as we create a space of belonging
to share God's abundant grace**

**Full Stewardship Appeal
Commitment Card**

Please return the Commitment Card on COMMITMENT WEEKEND, October 25-26, 2025 or mail it to the church office.
To submit an online commitment card, visit stjohnfood.org
For questions, contact the church at contact@stjohnfood.org

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

2026 Offering to the General Fund: \$ _____

In 2026, I/We commit to ...

☐ Daily prayer ☐ Volunteering with the _____ ministry
☐ Attend worship more often ☐ Other: _____

Let your boards of the abundant grace of God, every one member with whatever gift each of you has received.
- 1 Peter 4:10

2026 Offering to the General Fund: \$ _____

In 2026, I/We commit to ...

Frequency: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Yearly
☐ I/We give online ☐ Send me offering envelopes

Frequency: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Yearly



OR

**Bring in your
Commitment Cards to
worship or turn into the
church office**

Still time to turn your Commitment Card!

Men's Ministry invites you to



PUB THEOLOGY

Catcher's Tap
1723 N. Center St. Crest Hill, IL

SUNDAY
November
16
12:00 - 3:30PM

Are you ready for an afternoon of Bears vs. Vikings, fellowship, and informal faith discussion? Join us for Pub Theology Night!

Men of the congregation and their significant others are welcome!

Questions? Contact Mark Frost, 815-353-5002

JOIN OUR TEAM

Maintenance Associate



Duties & Responsibilities

- Maintain church buildings and grounds safely and efficiently
- Perform routine and emergency repairs (lighting, plumbing, floors, carpets, banners)
- Set up and take down for meetings, elections, and events

Skills & Qualifications

- Passion for serving others
- Patience, kindness, and empathy
- Friendly and welcoming demeanor
- Flexible and adaptable schedule and attitude.
- Physically able to lift, carry, and move equipment or materials as needed.

Part-time, Approximately 12 hours/week

Apply Now *Please send your skills and experience to Alyssa Rosas: Operations@stjohnjoliet.org*




OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! THE OFFICE NEEDS YOUR HELP!



The St. John office actively Shares the Love of Christ all year-round, and we couldn't do it without the help of many volunteers.

If you can fill in a few hours to answer phones, greet guests, assemble bulletins and accomplish simple tasks, our staff would appreciate your help!

Contact Pam Kornauss today to learn more about volunteering in the church office.

**CALL THE OFFICE AT 815-439-2320
OR EMAIL PAM KORNAUS AT PAMKORNAUS@STJOHNJOLIET.ORG**

Thanksgiving Eve Worship *and* Pie Night

Wednesday, 11/26

Worship at 7pm | Pie Night at 8pm

Let us know you're coming at stjohnjoliet.org



Pie Donations Needed!

11/27-29 - Office Closed
11/23 - 12/2 - Food Pantry Closed

Family activity and learning event

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Family Advent Event

NOVEMBER 30TH

St. John LUTHERAN CHURCH

Karin Johnson Hall
9:45am-10:45am

SIGN UP



Church Christmas Decorating

November 30th, 10:30am-2pm
Adults Only Please

Sign up on the back of the attendance sheet
Questions? Contact Jackie Mansholt
at j.mansholt@gmail.com

SANDHILL CRANES FIELD TRIP

WWW.STJOHNJOLIET.ORG

DECEMBER 6TH, 2025

12:00PM - 8:00 PM

We will drive to Kankakee Sands to view bison and Jasper-Pulaski to see Sandhill Cranes. We will stop for dinner on the way back to Joliet!

The cost is FREE if you drive yourself or \$10 per person if you want to carpool in a rented van. Make checks payable to "St. John Lutheran Church" and turn it in to Pam in the church office. All are welcome to attend!

Questions? Contact Bill Bromer at 815-931-9696 or at wbromer@gmail.com

SIGN UP



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT:
COCOA & CAROLS
TREE LIGHTING**

DECEMBER 7TH, 2024

4:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Program, Sanctuary

4:30 pm Light Up the Night: Cocoa & Carols, Outside

5:00 pm Light Up the Night: Tree Lighting, Outside



November

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 *(Monthly Special Offering: Helping Hands)*

8:30am - 9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary
9:30am - 10:30am	Coffee Hour: Host is Food Pantry Ministry
9:45am - 10:00am	Sunday School Sings Rehearsal: Choir Room
9:45am - 10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, West Wing, Karin Johnson Hall
9:45am - 10:45am	Parent Care Group Meeting: Trinity Room
11:00am - 12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary (Sunday School Sings)
12:00pm - 2:30pm	Men's Ministry Pub Theology: Off-Site
12:15pm - 2:30pm	Tween GO!: Karin Johnson Hall
1:00pm - 3:00pm	MOMCO Craft & Connect: Trinity Room
1:30pm - 3:30pm	Youth Bowling Event: Off-Site
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Spanish Worship: Sanctuary

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

1:00pm - 3:00pm	Staff Meeting: Trinity Room
5:30pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Woman's Group: Karin Johnson Hall
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Monday Night Small Group: Trinity Room
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Al-Anon: West Wing 3&4
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Handbells: Sanctuary
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Handbell Ensemble: Sanctuary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

1:00pm - 3:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry: Youth Room
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Council Meeting: Trinity Room

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
7:00pm - 8:30pm	Confirmation: Building

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:00am - 11:30am	Coffee with Friends (Women): Youth Room
9:00am - 1:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
10:00am - 11:00am	Altar Guild Meeting: Trinity Room
2:00pm - 7:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Green Team Meeting: Narthex
6:45pm - 8:00pm	St. John Chorale: Choir Room
7:00pm - 8:00pm	A.A. Men's Group: Zoom
8:00pm - 9:00pm	Praise Team Rehearsal: Sanctuary

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

8:30am - 12:00pm	Food Pantry Volunteer Shift: Karin Johnson Hall
9:00am - 11:00am	Quilters: West Wing 5
9:00am - 10:30am	Meals on Wheels: Senior Services of Will County, Mark Frost
4:00pm - 5:00pm	HS Fall Retreat Depart: St. John Parking Lot
5:00pm - 9:30pm	4:12 Annual Meeting: Off-Site

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

7:00am - 11:00am	Food Pantry Volunteer Shifts: Narthex & Karin Johnson Hall
8:00am - 10:00am	Food Pantry Distribution Drive-Thru: Parking Lot
11:00am - 12:00pm	Mike Mihavics Visitation: Narthex
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Mike Mihavics Memorial Service: Sanctuary
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Mike Mihavics Luncheon: Building
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Worship: Sanctuary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8:30am - 9:30am	Worship: Sanctuary
9:45am - 10:00am	Sunday School Sings Rehearsal: Choir Room
9:45am - 10:45am	Sunday School: Sanctuary, West Wing, Karin Johnson Hall
11:00am - 12:00pm	Worship: Sanctuary
2:00pm - 3:00pm	HS Fall Retreat Returns: St. John Parking Lot
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Spanish Worship: Sanctuary

**Check "stjohnfood.org" for Food Pantry distribution times and volunteer opportunities.*