

**Anniversary:** Durwood Jackson & Diana Vidzes

**Friday's Calendar**

7:00 a.m.	AA "Hour of Power"
9:00 a.m.	A Way Out
9:30 a.m.	Life Group
10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
8:00 p.m.	Friday Night Young Peoples' AA

**Today's Ministry:** Capital Campaign

**Saturday, November 17**

James 2:1-13 *But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.* (v.9)

WWJD on a teenager's wristband stands for "What Would Jesus Do?" For kids who find themselves in settings where peer pressure could result in moral compromise, those four little letters can spell obedience to the royal law of God.

But it's not just outside the church walls where ethical dilemmas are posed. And it's not only kids who should be asking, "What would Jesus do?" According to James, that's a question we should consider every time we enter the sanctuary with the intention of worshipping the Lord.

Now, as then, people who gather on Sunday mornings come from diverse backgrounds. Some are well-to-do. Others are, well... you know. It's easy to spend time with those who are like us and ignore those who aren't. What we need to ask ourselves is this: "If Jesus were physically present in our gathering, who would he be inclined to spend time with? What would he do?" Why not try that tomorrow?

Joel 3:9-17; Psalms 87, 90; Luke 16:10-18

**Anniversary:** Tom & Sharon Hoffman

**Saturday's Calendar**

7:00 a.m.	AA "Hour of Power"
9:30 a.m.	AA Step Study for Women
5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**Today's Ministry:** Children's Choir

*By Greg Asimakoupoulos*

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**"Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with love"**

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**St. Mary's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love*

**Good News Daily**

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**Sunday, November 11**

1 Corinthians 14:1-12 *Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy.* (v.1 NIV)

Are we really to desire spiritual gifts? Is it right to approach God in hopes of being rewarded? At first blush the apostle's words sound uncharacteristically selfish. What gives? Remember these verses flow right out of the thirteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians. That's the chapter often read at weddings because it concerns love. But if you want to be precise, Paul's words about love have more to do with the way church members get along than they have to do with marriage. In fact, that famous "love chapter" is situated between two chapters dealing with the use of spiritual gifts in the local congregation. Just so the Corinthians are still tracking with Paul's train of thought, he begins chapter fourteen reminding them to "follow the way of love." In other words, if an other-centered concern characterizes our behavior, God delights in giving us gifts we can invest in the church. If, however, we are wanting to "speak in tongues" or do a miracle for the personal pleasure it provides us, we are acting more like spoiled children than maturing believers.

Ezekiel 14:1-14; Psalms 93, 96; Matthew 20:1-16

**Birthdays:** Vern Gibson, Treva Bevier, Chris Kalwa, Jack Norris

<b>Sunday's Calendar</b>	REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT SUNDAY
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m.	Contemporary Family Worship Service
9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	Coffee Hour - Smith Hall after 9:00 A.M. Services
11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
4:00 p.m.	Concert/Ventriloquist

**Today's Ministry:** Alpha Course

**Monday, November 12**

Revelation 18:15-24 *"Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets! God has judged her for the way she treated you."* (v.20b)

Veterans Day is a day we honor those who have been willing to

dress for battle in the uniform of a particular branch of service. It's a day we express gratitude for those who risked their lives and for those who gave their lives in order to protect our freedoms in a sinful world.

In today's passage of Scripture we see God Himself on the front lines of battle. Aware of the bloodshed and injustice that has marked humanity through history; He is determined to settle the score once and for all. It's D-Day as far as the Ancient of Days is concerned. Babylon (a symbolic name for godless powers that have ruled our world) is doomed. As you picture our Holy God as the ultimate Veteran, see Him with raised sword standing on your behalf. No injustice that you have suffered in your life will go unrequited. The just judge will eventually make it right. After all, His Son, with battled wounds evident on the palms of his hand and on his feet, attests to the fact that our Mighty Warrior must eventually win the battle. No wonder we are called to rejoice!

Joel 1:1-13; Psalm 80; Luke 14:12-24

**Birthdays:** Arthur Moran, Doug Resetar, Lisa Bach, Cadence Hart

#### Monday's Calendar

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
10:00 a.m. Apples to Apples  
5:30 p.m. ACA Families

**Today's Ministry:** Altar Guild

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#### Tuesday, November 13

Revelation 19:1-10 *Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!"* (v.9)

Don't you love to go to weddings? If you know the bride or groom is a personal friend, it's all the more meaningful. If you really like them, all the better. What is most fun is to attend a wedding where you have also been invited to a sit-down fancy dinner following the ceremony and reception. In such a setting you can't help but feel like a VIP. The guests of honor are the center of attention. But because you've been included in their celebration, you experience the benefits of all their special occasion involves. The same will be true some day for those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

Today's text provides us a peek through the keyhole of heaven. We see the most incredible party we'd be hard pressed to describe. More than a sit-down dinner, it's a fall-on-your-face smorgasbord of praise. The Savior decked out in all his glory will receive the gifts we freely offer as an expression of our love. And we will be there, because he invites "whosoever will come." But as with wedding invitations you receive in the mail, an RSVP is required.

Joel 1:15—2:11; Psalm 78:1-39; Luke 14:25-35

**Birthdays:** Bob Ditmars, John Lockwood, Jeff Tucker

#### Tuesday's Calendar

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing  
3:00 p.m. Finance Meeting  
6:00 p.m. Overeaters' Anonymous  
5:00 p.m. Facility Meeting

**Today's Ministry:** Backpack Buddies

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#### Wednesday, November 14

Revelation 19:11-21 *I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True.* (v.11a)

Saturday morning television in the fifties and sixties featured a masked cowboy and his Native American sidekick. As the William Tell Overture played in the background, the Lone Ranger galloped into view on his white horse "Silver." For those who had been wrongly treated and desired justice, the sound of Silver's hoofs heralded hope. For those who had broken the law, the approaching white horse and his rider was bad news. In much the same manner, in today's passage those who will see the white horse and his riders will not be happy campers. Unlike the black and white television show of a generation ago, the gruesome details sketched by the biblical writer are in living color. And yet what should our reaction be? For the believer in Christ, the lone response should be one of gratitude that we have been spared the imminent judgment that is coming for those who disregard the grace God has freely offered. No proud or haughty attitude is appropriate. Instead, we'd do well to get down off our high-horse and call unbelievers to reconsider their apathy to spiritual realities.

Joel 2:12-19; Psalm 119:97-120, 82; Luke 15:1-10

**Birthdays:** Marian Hartenstein

#### Wednesday's Calendar

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
10:00 a.m. Adult Life Group  
11:00 a.m. Stephen Ministry Care  
2:00 a.m. Mary's Book Group  
4:45 p.m. Mary's Kitchen  
5:30 p.m. AA "Daily Reflections"  
6:00 p.m. Life Groups  
6:30 p.m. Alpha Dinner and Course

**Today's Ministry:** Bell Choir

#### Thursday, November 15

James 1:1-15 *Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete not lacking anything.* (v.4)

The marathon of faith: when God calls, a gun sounds and a marathon begins. A life of service. A lifetime of measured steps, which (because of the distance to be covered) takes in stride the potholes along the way. Disappointment. Tears. Rejection. Exhaustion. Failure. Loss. A cross, I think Jesus called it. The One who finished first, who near the end of his own long-distance race (though winded) sighed, "I thirst!"

It was what he saw beyond the finish line that bade him stay his course. A faithful finish. And his Father's proud, "Well done!" It's true...persistence has its price tags. But also its rewards! Along the way, you learn endurance and, in the process, make a difference for Christ and his kingdom. Strong, not weak. Strong, not wilting. Not bailing out, but holding out to the end. Perseverance. Persistence. Going the distance. Finishing well.

Joel 2:21-27; Psalms 23, 27; Luke 15:1-2, 11-32

**Birthdays:** Bud Ripple, Lucy Schillinger, Linda Brown

**Anniversary:** Ted & Sally Murphy

#### Thursday's Calendar

7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
5:30 p.m. ACA Men's Group  
6:30 p.m. Choir  
7:00 p.m. AI-Anon "Stepping Stones"

**Today's Ministry:** Women's Cursillo

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#### Friday, November 16

James 1:16-27 *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.* (v.22)

Reading God's word is like looking in a mirror. It doesn't do much good if we don't act on what we discover. Our times of daily reflection don't mean much unless we put what we understand into practice.

The Greeks had a word for action. It's called *praxis*. If you could read the language in which the New Testament was originally written, you would notice that the book that follows John's Gospel is called "The Praxis of the Apostles." As important as it is to believe orthodox doctrine, it is far more essential to practice what we profess. Abstract truth never attracted anybody. But consistent compliance with the content of our creed will win a crowd any day. No wonder James insists that we take more than sermon notes on Sunday. There's a reason he calls us to take action. In other words, orthodoxy is good, but orthopraxy is better.

Joel 2:28—3:8; Psalm 88; Luke 16:1-9