



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 8, 2026 † 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are visiting this morning!

All are invited to **sign the welcome sheets** in the black folders at the end of the pews.

Please pass them to the center and then back

so you can greet those worshipping around you.

Ushers will gather these following worship.

In the red hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship), or purple hymnal (All Creation Sings), hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn section, and page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section.

An asterisk (*) invites you to stand as you are able.

■ Pastor, □ Leader (Assisting Minister), ▢ Congregation

Children are welcome to participate throughout our worship service, including at Holy Communion.

Parents, please assist children when they come forward for communion to extend their hands if they are to receive the bread and wine.

Children's Bibles and activity bags
are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary
and scribble cards are available in the pews.

Hearing assistance devices are available outside the Sanctuary or from an usher.
For those with hearing aids, the Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop.

Large print bulletins and hymns are available for worship services.



St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement, political affiliation, or religious background.

While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together, believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.

We warmly welcome you here.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “Aria”

H. Leslie Adams

Welcome and Announcements

(8:30) **Anthem** — “Hallelujah, Praise Ye the Lord”

Alleluia Choir

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 688

“Lord of Light”

Confession and Forgiveness

¶ Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

¶ Amen.

¶ Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

¶ **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

¶ The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in + Jesus' name. ¶ Amen.

*Greeting

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

¶ And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

¶ Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you.
By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and
power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

¶ Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Reading — Isaiah 58:1-12

Pew Bible, page 600

After the reading:

¶ The word of the Lord.
¶ Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 112:1-7, 9

Antiphon: Olaf Christiansen

*Antiphon: O Light everlasting, O Love never failing.
Illumine our darkness, and draw us to thee.*



¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who ¹fear the LORD
and have great delight in ¹God's commandments!

²Their descendants will be mighty ¹in the land;
the generation of the upright ¹will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches will be ¹in their house,
and their righteousness will ¹last forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness ¹for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full ¹of compassion.

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷They will not be afraid of any ¹evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting ¹in the LORD.

⁹They have given freely ¹to the poor,
they will hold up their ¹head with honor. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Pew Bible, page 927

After the reading:

- The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major, common time. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a dotted half note, a quarter note, a half note, a dotted half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia.' are placed under the notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note, followed by a half note, a quarter note, a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics 'Lord, to whom shall we go?' are placed under the notes. The third staff begins with a quarter note, followed by a half note, a quarter note, a half note, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The lyrics 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' are placed under the notes.

*Gospel — Matthew 5:13-20

Spark Story Bible, page 268

- The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 677

“This Little Light of Mine”

Stanza 4 — “This little light of ours, we’re goin’-a let it shine.”

*Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Children's Message

“Wonders of Worship”



WONDER OF
WORSHIP
WORD • WORSHIP • WORLD

I won-der. I won-der. The won-ders of wor-ship, what does it mean? I won-der. I
won-der. The won-ders of wor-ship, what does it mean? Come and see! Come now and see!

Text and Music: Anne Krentz Organ

*Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

- Lord, in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

*Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

You are invited to share God's peace with those around you.

Offering of Our Gifts

Music at the Offering

(8:30) "Each Road"

David C. Pike

Each road to Bethlehem, Jerusalem, or Calvary.

Each journey to Emmaus and to Bethany.

Each pilgrimage, each exile and uncertainty,

each march to end hate's legacy.

Stranger, friend, or refugee.

Love's presence, Love's epiphany.

— Jeannette M. Lindholm

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "This Little Light of Mine"

arr. Charles Callahan

*Offering Hymn — "As with Gladness Men of Old" stanza 3

DIX

As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,

so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,

all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

*Offering Prayer

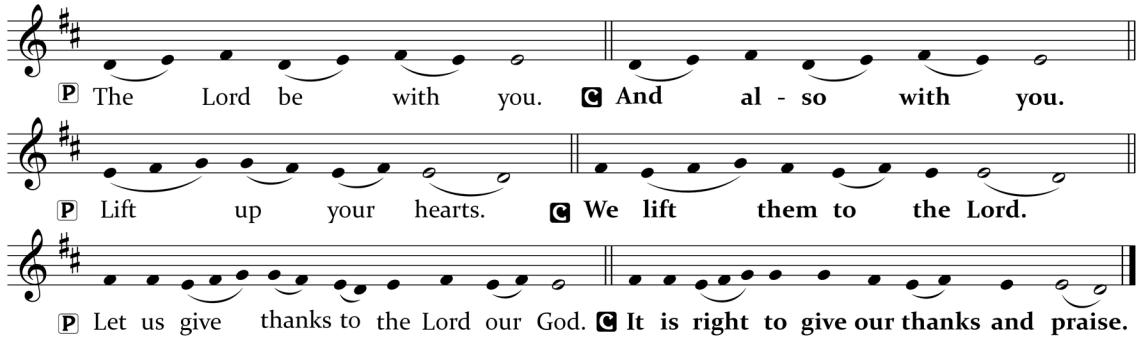
L Let us pray.

C Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.

As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

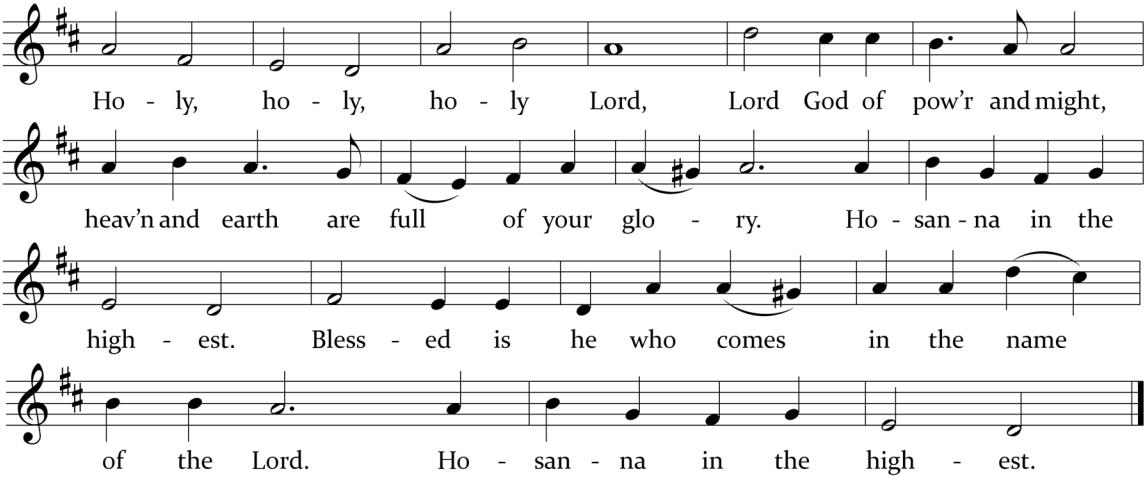
SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major, common time. The first staff contains the text: "P The Lord be with you. C And also with you." The second staff contains: "P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord." The third staff contains: "P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C It is right to give our thanks and praise." The notation uses quarter and eighth notes, with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

P It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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." The notation uses quarter and eighth notes, with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

*Words of Institution

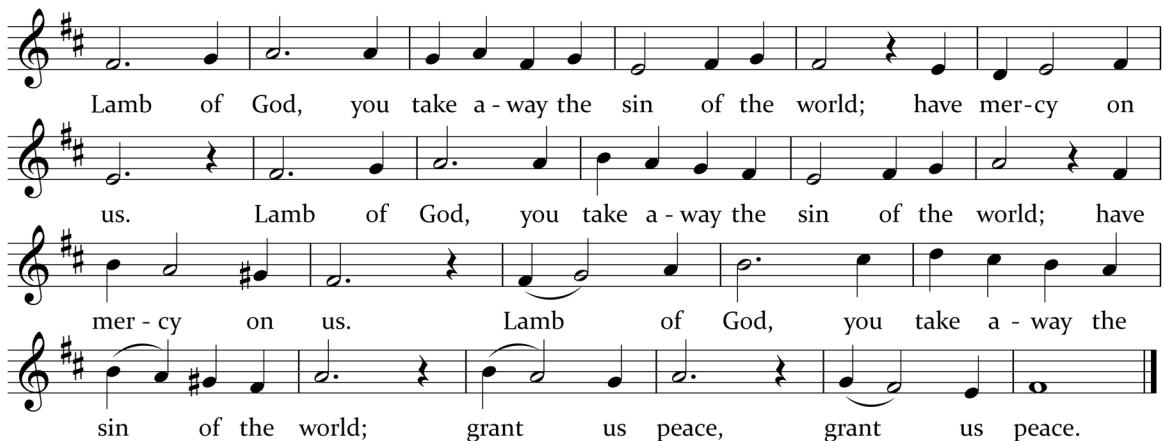
*The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Communion will be received standing at stations in the front of sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. Gluten-free wafers are available in the center. After you have been served the bread you will be offered wine or grape juice. The grape juice is white and is located in the center of the tray. If you are unable to come forward, let an usher know, and communion will be brought to you.

Music during Communion

“Lamb of God”



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.

Hymn — ELW No. 725

“When the Poor Ones”

Hymn — ELW No. 767

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

***Prayer after Communion**

L God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

C Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 665

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude — Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Vincent Lübeck Jr.



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 15):

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18 + **Psalm 2** + **2 Peter 1:16-21** + **Matthew 17:1-9**

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	(8:30) Pastor Pam Fickenscher; (10:45) Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Sandi Gerdes
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choirs	(8:30) Alleluia Choir; Arielle Loy, director (8:30) St. John's Chorale
Livestream	Dave Zdenek
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters	(8:30) Marie Benson, Deb Schoeb (10:45) Amy Tacheny, Noah Tacheny
Coffee Service	TBD
Treats	Carol Benson, Gerri Licke, Liz Rowley, Craig Schultz
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Janell Martin, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jon and Cindy McBroom, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Chris Tacheny, Andrew Tacheny

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (February 8)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room)
St. John's Forum (9:45-10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

Next Week (February 15)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room)
St. John's Forum (9:45-10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

Announcements

Additional announcements can be found in the weekly E-Voice.

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Lynn Matta on her upcoming 65th Valentine's Day birthday by Marilyn Matta and family. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Next available dates: March 29 and April 5, 19 & 26.

St. John's Forums in February

9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

- **Today: ISAIAH MN**

We are living in a time of crisis in our state and in our country. As people of faith, we are called to respond to the present moment by advocating for the values that our faith affirms. ISAIAH MN is taking action on several fronts and the St. John's ISAIAH leaders will report on some of these efforts. In addition, we want to address the emotional demands and challenges of our situation. St. John's member Dan Dimick will help us consider ways that we can cope with the stresses we face through self-care and productive conversations with others.

- **February 15: Epiphany-Seeing and Serving with Olaf & Christy Hall-Holt**

Olaf and Christy will be sharing their discoveries from recent trips to the country of Ghana in West Africa where Olaf used a sabbatical to teach computer science and Christy did some chaplaincy-related work.

- **February 22: Introduction to the Prophets**

Who are the prophets of Scripture and how do we read them? Too often prophets are seen as those who predict the future. The prophets of Scripture, however, are those called by God to give a word of warning or a word of comfort to the people of God. In preparation for our Lenten book read on the prophets, Pastors Pam and Jonathan will introduce us to the prophets of Scripture and how we might need their voice and their wisdom during a time of violence and despair.

Lenten Book Read: *The Tears of Things*

Our selection for this year's Lenten Book Read is Richard Rohr's *The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage* (2024). Reading the biblical prophetic books through the lens of his experience as a counselor and spiritual guide, Rohr pays close attention to the pattern of moving from anger through grief and lamentation toward hope in the prophetic books and Rohr meditates on how this pattern can help us deal with our own "tears of things"—the deep anger we experience in our own confusing times. As he notes, only grief and mourning can transform our anger into wisdom and hope as we seek to speak truth and act in love. Today we will begin selling books and signing people up for discussion groups, and continue through February 22. Two small discussion groups will meet at different times during the week—on Sundays between the services (March 1, 8, 15 & 22), and on Wednesday afternoons from 4:15–5:15 p.m. before supper (March 4, 11, 18 & 25).

Announcements (continued)

Next Sunday, February 15, is Quilt Sunday

The pews will be draped with quilts that are ready to be shipped to Lutheran World Relief, Global Health Ministries, or given to local places of need. LWR has expanded its quilt and kit ministry to disaster areas in the United States. Last year LWR shipped 114,000 quilts to 12 states impacted by floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, in addition to 200,000 quilts shipped internationally. In 2025, St. John's donated 245 quilts. Each quilt costs about \$10, in addition to the many donated supplies. Your donations of cash or checks on quilt Sunday will help cover these expenses. Write checks to St. John's WELCA, with quilts on the memo line. Thank you!

Manna and Mercy Retreat with Rev. Alan Storey, April 24–25

South African pastor Alan Storey is returning to St. John's to lead a *Manna and Mercy Retreat*. Alan is an ordained elder of the United Methodist Church of South Africa. Using Daniel Erlander's book *Manna and Mercy*, Alan Storey will take us on a journey from Genesis to Revelation over the course of two days, with sensitivity to the contexts in which the scriptures were written and of our present day. The cost for the weekend is on a sliding scale of \$50–100. We are asking people to pay what they can. There are scholarships available and the cost for students is \$25. Scan the QR Code to register or go to www.alanstoreyinminnesota.org.



Tickets Available in the Commons for the Open Door Preschool Fundraiser

Valentine's Weekend Omelet Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 15, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Northfield VFW
Enjoy breakfast at the VFW or take your omelet to go! Cost: \$12 adults, \$6 children (4+), free for children 3 and under.

Children and Youth

Sunday, February 15—Valentine Party during Sunday School

PreK–5th graders are invited to a Valentine's Party on February 15 during our regular Sunday school time. Enjoy games, treats, crafts, and a service project with a Valentine's theme. Parents are welcome to attend too.

Let's Go Bowling!

Monday, February 16, is a NO SCHOOL DAY so we're heading to the bowling alley!

Who: Grades 2–5, Friends are always welcome!

When: 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Where: Meet at Flaherty's Northfield Lanes

Cost: \$11.00 (Games+Shoes+Snacks) Scholarships available. Please pay with cash, or if by check, make it payable to Flaherty's Northfield Lanes. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Commons or downstairs by the Nursery. Parents: Please drop off and pick up your child at the bowling alley. If they need a ride or financial assistance to participate contact Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Parent or high school chaperones needed.

Prayer Requests

We are called to remember one another in prayer. The church office has been made aware of the following persons for whom we pray today. This list is also for your use this week.

Healing and Support

Those in the hospital or in need of healing

Duane Engstrom, Fred Huemoeller, Ingrid Alberding, Don Starkweather,
Maralee Sisson (mother of Tamara Jackman)

Those celebrating the birth of

Milo Benjamin Burgdorf, son of Kiki and Michael Burgdorf

Those with ongoing health concerns

David Halsor, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, David Norman,
Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff),
Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

All who are homebound, including

Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

Involved in the mission of the church who have ties to St. John's

The Savior (El Salvador) Lutheran Church in El Cocuy, Colombia;
Iambi Lutheran Church in Iambi, Tanzania; Katie Larson, ELCA missionary in Colombia

Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests

Stephen Ministry Requests

Call one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

Prayer Chain Requests

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or macisar@gmail.com, or contact a pastor.



**Served from 5:15–6:15 p.m.
in St. John's Hall**

Menu for Wednesday, February 11:
Chicken Wild Rice Casserole

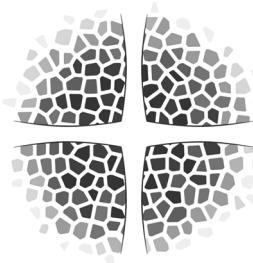
All are welcome!

*Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.
Dessert contributions are always welcome and needed!*

This Week At-a-Glance

The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Monday, Feb. 9	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Feb. 10	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Church Board Orientation, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Feb. 11	9:30 a.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Personnel Committee, Fireside Room
	11:30 a.m.	Gathering of Contemplation and Prayer, Fireside Room
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Buddy Get Together, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
		St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Feb. 12	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room
	1:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Suzuki Kids, Fellowship Hall / Room 19
		Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
	5:30 p.m.	Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Friday, Feb. 13	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Mary Circle, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Cookie Rally, Lower Level
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Feb. 14	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
	10:00 a.m.	Thrivent Event with Brenda Rabbe, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Feb. 15	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's

ELCA • NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Steve Harner, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Sally Lindell, *Faith Community Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*

Kristin Partlo, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

Arturo Rosas, *Custodial Associate*

David Sims, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

Call the church office or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.

*St. John's Lutheran Church stands on the
ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute band of the Dakota nation.
We respect and are grateful for the generations of native people who have cared for this land.*