



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2025 † 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.*

P Pastor, **L** Leader (Assisting Minister), **C** 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 — “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

Michael Helman

Rejoice Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 618

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

*Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

G Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations
of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

G you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty,
or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to
scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair
your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

G 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

- ☐ Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Jeremiah 17:5-10

Pew Bible, page 628

After the reading:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 1

Antiphon: John Bell

Antiphon: God has chosen me, and in my life is planted a seed God knows that I need: its fruit shall be joy.



¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel¹ of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats¹ of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law¹ of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching¹ day and night.** *Antiphon*

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that¹ do not wither;
everything they¹ do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so¹ with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind¹ blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed. Antiphon**

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Pew Bible, page 935

After the reading:

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

***Gospel Acclamation**



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

***Gospel** — Luke 6:17-26

- The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

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

Sermon

Kristin Partlo

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 725

“When the Poor Ones”

(8:30) *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.**

(10:45) **The Sacrament of Holy Baptism** — *Front of ELW hymnal, pages 227–231*

*The Triune God proclaims **Trey Allen Bilderback** as a beloved child
this morning in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Trey’s parents are
Krista Novak and Joshua Bilderback.*

Presentation

- ☐ People of God, do you promise to support Trey
and pray for him in his new life in Christ?
- ☑ We do.

***Profession of Faith** — *Front of ELW hymnal, page 229*

***Baptismal Hymn** — “You Have Put on Christ”



You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap-tized. Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.

Text: International Commission on English in the Liturgy © 1969; Music: Howard Hughes © 1977

(During the hymn, all children are invited to join the baptismal group at the font.)

***Thanksgiving at the Font** — *Front of ELW hymnal, page 230*

Baptism

Welcome

Baptismal Hymn — “You Have Put on Christ”

***Prayers of Intercession**

After each petition:

☒ Lord, in your mercy, ☒ **hear our prayer.**

***Peace**

☒ The peace of Christ be with you always. ☒ **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) “Scherzo” from *Second Suite for Handbells*

Michael Helman

(10:45) “Menuet” and “Berceuse” on THAXTED

Tom Trenney

***Offering Hymn** — “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” *stanza 1*

SALZBURG

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David’s stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**

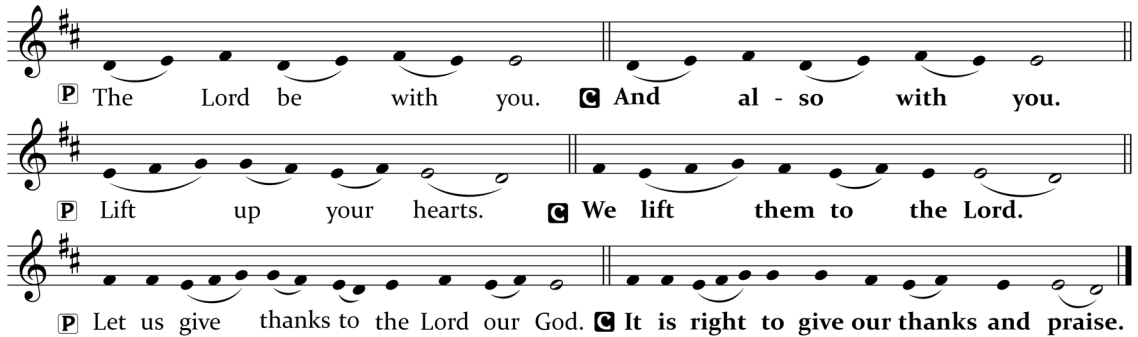
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

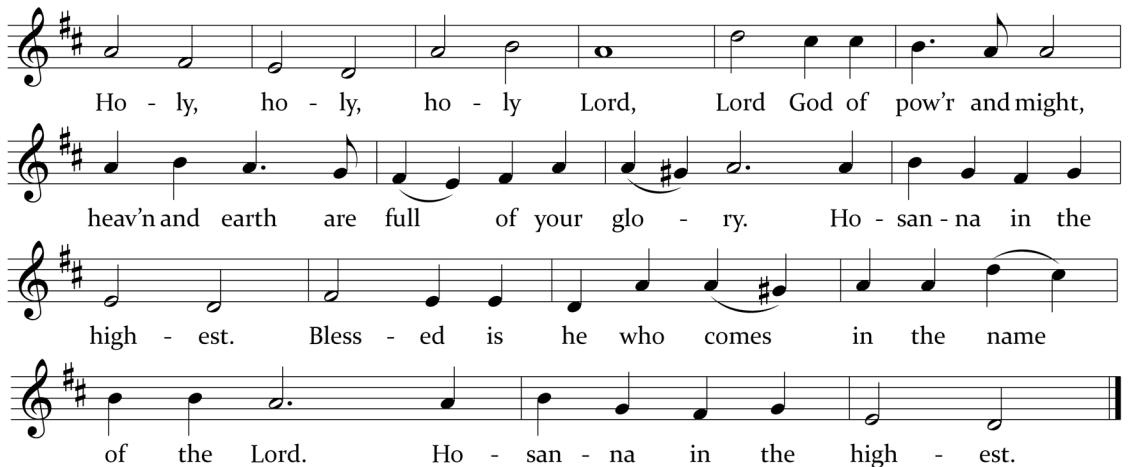


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



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.

*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. 712

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

Hymn — ELW No. 479

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
- ☩ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- ☩ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 88o

“O God Beyond All Praising”

***Dismissal**

- ℒ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- ☩ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — “Cornet Processional”

David Dahl



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 23):

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 † Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 † 1 Corinthians 15:35-38 † Luke 6:27-38

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis and Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Kristin Partlo
Assisting Minister	Ruthie Neuger
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	Rejoice Ringers; David Sims, director
Communion Prep	Craig Schultz
Communion Cleanup	Brenda Nelson
Greeters	(8:30) Gerri Licke and Patrice Nordstrand, Craig Schultz (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Ted Peterson, Karen Schuette
Refreshments	Deb Christensen, Doug Johnson, Andrea Hoff, Gerri Licke
Counters	TBD
Ushers	(8:30) John Ophaug, Cindy Clauson, Dave Neuger (10:45) Ruth Dahl, Susy Immel, Mike Bull

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (February 16)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

St. John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., 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)

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Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Karen Swenson from her 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), please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: February 23 and March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30.

“Carter Door” in the Commons

The Carter Door has been given to St. John's from Rice County Habitat for Humanity for display through today. It is a commemoration of the countless contributions that President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalyn Carter made to Habitat for Humanity organizations around the globe for nearly four decades. **All are invited to pay personal tribute to the Carters by signing your name or writing a personal message on this door.** After its stay at St. John's it will move on to another location in the county.

St. John's Forum

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Ascending the Mountain: Genesis 22 in Jewish and Christian Interpretations with Jason Ripley

God's command in Genesis 22 for Abraham to sacrifice Isaac is viewed by many as one of the more terrifying texts of the Bible, and yet it is also often upheld as the pinnacle of faithfulness. In this forum presentation, we will engage in a close reading of this short passage and the questions it poses, and then explore how the Jewish and Christian interpretive traditions have variously grappled with this powerful text. Professor Ripley, an associate professor of religion at St. Olaf College, is also a member of St. John's.

Lenten Book Read: *Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians*

Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians by Stephen Haynes and Lori Brandt Hale will be available for purchase between the services in St. John's Hall. Cost is \$20. Please also sign up for one of the two discussion groups: **Sunday mornings, March 9–30, between the services** during fellowship hour, or **Wednesday afternoons, March 12–April 2, 4:15–5:15 p.m.** The sign-up sheet will be at the book sales table.

“Revelation Unveiled: An Enduring Hope” Bible Study on Zoom

Tuesdays, February 18–April 15, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Beginning this Tuesday, an eight week Zoom Bible study on the book of Revelation, facilitated by Julie Zdenek, using, as a reference, her father's notes and lectures on the subject (which he taught here at St. John's in the early 1990s) as well as *Revelation for the Rest of Us* by Scott McKnight. Please contact Julie if you are interested: julie.zdenek@gmail.com or 618-698-4870.

Announcements (continued)

St. John's Forum: *Qur'anic Abrahams with Jamie Schillinger*

Next Sunday, February 23, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

This forum presentation explores the different ways in which the Abrahamic narratives appear in the Qur'an, how the Qur'anic depiction represents both continuity and change with the depiction in Genesis, and some ways that Muslims have interpreted both the Qur'anic and Genesis versions of Abraham. Professor Schillinger is chair of the religion department and the director of Middle East Studies at St. Olaf College.

A Grace-Based Approach to Anti-Racism

ELCA members from the Cannon River conference of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod are gathering to learn and build capacity for doing the work of inclusion with the Tending the Garden project. The St. John's Council is providing funding through the Foundation to allow St. John's members to take part at no cost. Contact a pastor if interested.

- Opening In-Person Retreat: Sunday, February 23 from 2:00–6:00 p.m. Good Earth Village

Children and Youth

Prayer Buddies for Grades 4 & 5 During the Lenten Season

Starting on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and continuing through the Lenten season, our 4th and 5th grade Catechism kids are paired with an adult member from our congregation to be their "Prayer Buddy." We ask Prayer Buddies to pray for their child during the Lenten season. With this program, we hope to create spiritual and caring connections with children and adults in our church community. If you are interested in being a Prayer Buddy or would like to continue being a Buddy please contact Julie Brehmer, children@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 645-4429. Thank you!

Good Earth Village Summer Camp Registrations are Now Open

Northfield Week is June 22–27

Good Earth Village, located in Spring Valley, has opened the 2025 summer registration site online. Check out the schedule and registration fees on Good Earth Village's website at <https://goodearthvillage.org/summer>. St. John's gifts each camper a portion of the fee.

Check out these Registration Discounts:

- Siblings can receive 25% off with code SIBLING2025
- Early Bird discount of 10% goes until March 2 with code EARLY2025

Summer 2025 Summer Trip

This summer's trip will be backpacking (for high school) and camping & hiking (for middle school) at Christikon in Montana. Youth and chaperones from St. John's, St. Peter's, and First UCC will adventure in the mountains July 19–27. Sign up by today!

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

Ingrid Alberding, Darlene Hand, Fred Huemoeller, Jo Kleber, Sue Renander,
Carol Schoen, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

Those celebrating the baptism

Trey Bilderback, son of Krista Novak and Joshua Bilderback

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Iva Dodson

Those with ongoing health concerns

Bill Carlson, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson,
Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Kathy Vang

All who are homebound, including

Billi Faillettaz, Janice Helgeson

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 19:
Scalloped Potatoes with Ham

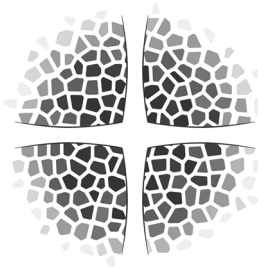
All are welcome!

*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. 17	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom BSA Troop #9313 and #7313 - Court of Awards, St. John's Hall BSA Troop #9313 Patrol Leader Meeting, Fireside Room
Tuesday, Feb. 18	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room "Revelation Unveiled" Bible Study via Zoom Northfield High School Nordic Team, St. John's Hall Stephen Ministers, St. John's Library and Fireside Room NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Feb. 19	3:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten - Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Evening Knitters, Fireside Room Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Feb. 20	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Visitation - Iva Dodson, Commons Funeral - Iva Dodson, Sanctuary Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Feb. 21	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Laura Baker Services Assoc. - Dinner Theater, St. John's Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Feb. 22		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Feb. 23	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i> Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD-MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*
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, *Parish 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.*