

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 † 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 — “Aria”

H. Leslie Adams

## Welcome and Announcements

\*Gathering Hymn — ELW No. 757

“All My Hope on God Is Founded”

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**C we confess that we are caught in cycles of sin  
and cannot break free. We hoard resources  
while our neighbors are hungry and cold.  
We speak in ways that silence others.  
We withdraw in despair when our  
presence could bring healing.  
We let hurts grow into hatred.  
For all these things and for sins only  
you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

**P** Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us, washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

### \*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.

### \*Prayer of the Day

**P** O God, by the passion of your blessed Son, you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Give us courage to take up our cross and follow you in the way that leads to life, the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Children's Message

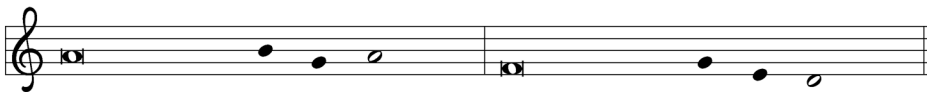
**First Reading** — Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16      Spark Story Bible, page 34; Pew Bible, page 11

*After the reading:*

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalmody** — Psalm 22:23-31



<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's <sup>|</sup> line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- <sup>|</sup> spring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is  
the LORD's face hid- <sup>|</sup> den from them;  
but when they cry out, <sup>|</sup> the LORD hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the <sup>|</sup> great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who <sup>|</sup> fear the LORD.

- <sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat<sup>1</sup> and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts<sup>1</sup> live forever!**
- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn<sup>1</sup> to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow<sup>1</sup> before God.
- <sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs<sup>1</sup> to the LORD,  
who rules o-<sup>1</sup>ver the nations.**
- <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow<sup>1</sup> down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be-<sup>1</sup>fore the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall<sup>1</sup> serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to genera-<sup>1</sup>tions to come.**
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people<sup>1</sup> yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The<sup>1</sup> LORD has acted!"

**Second Reading — Romans 4:13-25**

Pew Bible, page 916

*After the reading:*

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**



**\*Gospel — Mark 8:31-38**

- ☒ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- ☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon**

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 597**

**“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”**

**\*The 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.**

## \*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) "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

arr. Dale Wood

(10:45) "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

arr. John Ferguson

*For anthem text, see ELW No. 803.*

*St. John's Chorale*

## \*Offering Hymn — "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

FRANCKE



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your  
Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal -  
va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

### \*Offering Prayer

**L** Let us pray.

**C** Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered, that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

## SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

### \*Great Thanksgiving

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

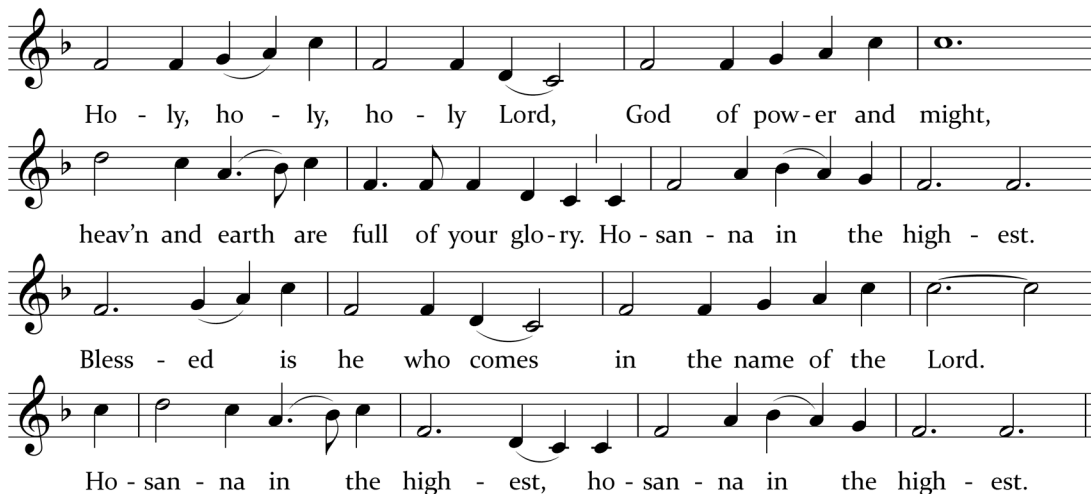
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**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, God of pow-er 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, 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"

Ho-ly Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Have mer - cy on us.

Ho-ly Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Have mer - cy on us.

Ho - ly Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.

Grant us your peace; grant us your peace; grant us your peace.

(10:45) **Anthem** — "Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake"

Richard Farrant

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives. To decline from sin, and incline to virtue, that we may walk with a humble heart before thee now and evermore. Amen.*

— J. Bull's *Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations*, 1568

**Hymn** — ELW No. 802

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

☞ Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

☞ Amen.

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

**\*Blessing**

*Response:* ☞ Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 796

“How Firm a Foundation”

**\*Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
☞ Thanks be to God!

**Postlude** — Prelude and Fugue in G Major

Dietrich Buxtehude



### **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (March 3):**

*Third Sunday in Lent*

Exodus 20:1-17 † Psalm 19 † 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 † John 2:13-22

## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:**

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Jane Turpin Moore and Gordon Moore (10:45) Brenda Nelson
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(10:45) St. John's Chorale
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Christy Hall-Holt
Greeters	(8:30) Cindy Clauson (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Herb and Pat Fick
Refreshments	Cindy Clauson
Counters	Reed Hagberg, Jane Rizzo, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt, Todd Menssen, Eric Sponheim

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover artwork by Judy Swanson.

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Liturgy setting: Setting Ten. "Lamb of God" by Yusuf Khill, Palestinian.

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## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This Week (February 25)***

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)

Lenten Book Read (9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room)

### ***Next Week (March 3)***

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

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)

Lenten Book Read (9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room)

Accompany (9:45–10:30 a.m., Undercroft)

# **Announcements**

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

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given by Rose Berthelsen in memory of Pastor Art Bertelsen. 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](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: March 28, 29 & 31.

## **Pub Theology**

**Monday, February 26, 6:00–7:30 p.m., The Contented Cow**

Topic: *Do denominations matter?*

Surveys show that American Christians are less interested in denominational “brands” than in the past. What has been your experience with being part of a particular faith tradition? What do you see as the benefits and challenges of being rooted in a particular faith tradition? Or in a particular institutional embodiment of that tradition? Join us for a deconstructed Pub Theology where you'll be invited to share your own experience in small conversations with others.

## **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Thrivent members can benefit St. John's at no cost to them by designating their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's. 2023 funds need to be directed by March 31. Log in to your account at [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) to direct funds.

## **New Writing Group: “Inspired Pens”**

**Last Tuesday of the Month, September–May, 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m., St. John's Library**

- Participants: Anyone interested in doing more writing as part of their faith journey.
- Leadership: Chris Engstrom and Barb Kuhlman
- What to expect: Quote of the day to set the theme, a short reading to discuss, free writing exercise based on the reading followed by a writing exercise.

**Erik Boehning would like to cordially invite the congregation to his Boy Scout Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, March 3, at 2:00 p.m. in St. John's Hall.**

## **Courageous Conversations: *Hope is a Muscle***

**Thursday, March 7, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall**

Dive into the transformative story of Dr. Artika R. Tyner as she fights America's literacy crisis, one book at a time. Discover the passion and dedication that drives her mission to combat the literacy crisis in America through the power of literature. Dr. Tyner is a passionate educator, award-winning author, sought-after speaker, and advocate for justice. At the University of St. Thomas, Dr. Tyner serves as the Associate Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion. She is committed to training students to serve. Join us in celebrating the impact of Dr. Tyner's work, where every page turned becomes a step toward a brighter, more literate future for all.

## LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: *IMAGES OF GOD*

*“Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.’ ” —Genesis 1:26*

In the creation story, we hear what some have called the *original blessing*—that we are made in the image of God. But what does it mean to be made in the image of God, especially when the Bible has so many different images of God? In the back of our purple hymnal, *All Creation Sings*, there is a robust list of one hundred different images of God found in scripture.

Among these many images used in Scripture to describe God—parent, lawgiver, dove, monster-slayer, midwife, vine-grower, bear—which ones most help you know that you are God’s beloved, created in God’s image, in *imago Dei*? How might different images of God help others know that they, too, are included in this love?

This year, five St. John’s members (both new and long-time members) have been invited to pick an image of God from scripture to reflect on and connect to their story of faith.

Lenten Vespers—taken from the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy—will take place each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. from February 21 through March 20.

- February 28: Paul Gleason
- March 6: Green Bouzard
- March 13: Dan Dimick
- March 20: Maggie Odell

## Children and Youth

### It’s Kids’ Night Out at St. John’s!

Friday, March 15, 5:30–8:30 p.m., St. John’s Hall

- Who: K–5<sup>th</sup> graders
- Admission: A snack to share with the group

Games, pizza, crafts, and a movie! Friends are welcome! Please sign up on the bulletin board in either the upper or lower Commons or email [Julie Brehmer](mailto:Julie.Brehmer) by Sunday, March 10. Thanks!

### Northfield Week at Good Earth Village along with Bethel and St. Peter’s Churches

June 23–28, 2024

Good Earth Village offers camps for grades 2–7 with 2 or 5 night options (depending on grade). Use code NORTHFIELD24 for an additional \$100 off a full week or \$50 off a half week as a “campership” from St. John’s. Visit <https://goodearthvillage.org/northfield> for details or contact Julie or Kristin with questions.

### Contact information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children’s Ministry at [childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at [youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

## **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*

John Ferguson, Judy Karlson, Janice Kasa, Roberta Morse, Wendy Scholz

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Georgia Braulick, Jo Chambers, Jo Dahlin, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Bruce Hella, Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson), George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

*All who are homebound, including*

David and Pat Halsor, Elouise Quinnell

*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](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor.



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

Menu for Wednesday, February 28:  
White Chicken Chili  
Black Bean Soup

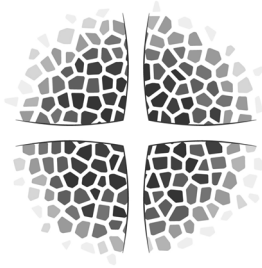
**All are welcome!**

*Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.*

# **This Week At-a-Glance**

*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed  
on our website at [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

<b>Monday, Feb. 26</b>	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, The Contented Cow
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 27</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 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 Church Council, Undercroft Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 28</b>	10:45 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Dr., Offsite Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Lenten Book Read, Fireside Room Lenten Soup Supper, St. John's Hall Spotlight Bible Study, Room 20 Lenten Vespers, Sanctuary Confirmation and High School Youth Group St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Feb. 29</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Spotlight Bible Study, Offsite Book Buddies, St. John's Library Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
<b>Friday, Mar. 1</b>	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Mar. 2</b>	4:30 p.m.	Boomers Group, Offsite at Home of Pam Groves-Gaggioli
<b>Sunday, Mar. 3</b>	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary (For the schedule between services, please see page 11.) Worship, Sanctuary



**St. John's**  
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

**500 Third Street West  
Northfield, MN 55057  
507-645-4429**

**office@StJohnsNorthfield.org  
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  
David Sims and Will Fecko, Directors 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.*