

MAKE A  
SERPENT  
AND SET IT  
ON A POLE  
EVERYONE  
WHO IS  
BITTEN  
SHALL LOOK  
AT IT AND  
LIVE  
*Numbers 21:8*



*Just as Moses  
lifted up the Serpent  
in the wilderness, so  
must the Son of Man  
be lifted up that whoever believes  
in him may have eternal life. John 3:14*

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 10, 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** — “Adoration”

Florence B. Price

(8:30) *Jeremiah Knudson, organ*

## Welcome and Announcements

(10:45) **Anthem** — “All Night, All Day”

arr. Aaron David Miller

*Alleluia Choir*

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 666

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

## \*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.

**G 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,

**G 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.

**G 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, rich in mercy, the world lifted your Son upon the cross and yet your love for this world remains. We were dead in sin and yet you have made us alive through grace. Help us to live into who you made us to be—people whose deeds reflect your love, through 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** — Numbers 21:4-9

Pew Bible, page 122

*After the reading:*

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalmody** — Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22



<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the <sup>|</sup> LORD is good,  
for God’s mercy en- <sup>|</sup> dures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the <sup>|</sup> LORD proclaim**  
**that God redeemed them from the hand <sup>|</sup> of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in <sup>|</sup> from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and <sup>|</sup> from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took re- <sup>|</sup> bellious paths;**  
**through their sins they <sup>|</sup> were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all man-<sup>1</sup>ner of food  
and drew near<sup>1</sup> to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried<sup>1</sup> to the LORD  
and you delivered them from<sup>1</sup> their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your<sup>1</sup> word and healed them  
and rescued them<sup>1</sup> from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your<sup>1</sup> steadfast love  
and your wonderful works<sup>1</sup> for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices<sup>1</sup> of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with<sup>1</sup> shouts of joy.

## Second Reading — Ephesians 2:1-10

Pew Bible, page 949

*After the reading:*

☐ The word of the Lord.

☒ Thanks be to God.

## \*Gospel Acclamation



## \*Gospel — John 3:14-21

Spark Story Bible, page 416

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds

were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**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** — ACS No. 973 “The Word Who Sang the Light into Creation”

### **\*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:*

**L** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** 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) "God So Loved the World"

Libby Larsen

*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that who so believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

– John 3:16-17

*St. John's Chorale*

(10:45) "What Wondrous Love Is This"

Mary Howarth

## \*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.

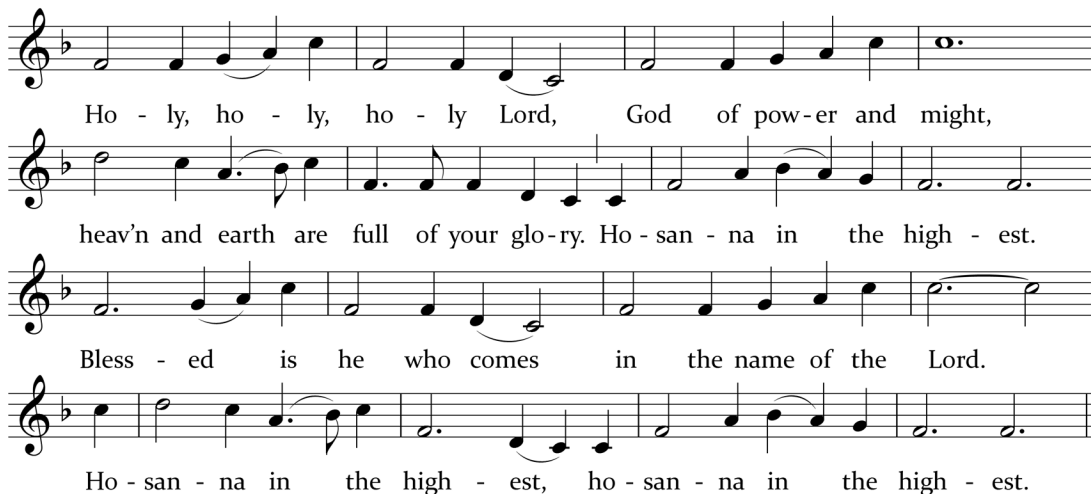
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**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:



The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

(8:30) **Anthem** — "Ubi caritas"

Maurice Duruflé

*Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him. Let us fear and let us love the living God.  
And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Amen.  
Sung in Latin.*

**Hymn** — ELW No. 323

"God Loved the World"

**\*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. 660

“Lift High the Cross”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude** — on CRUCIFER

Roberta Rowland-Raybold



### **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (March 17):**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Jeremiah 31:31-34 † Psalm 51:1-12 † Hebrews 5:5-10 † John 12:20-33

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

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	David Sims
Organists	Nathan Proctor (8:30) Jeremiah Knudson, Church Music Intern
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Communion Prep	Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters	(8:30) Pam Groves-Gaggioli (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Refreshments	Marie Benson, Donna Hunecke, Leif Knecht, Gerri Licke
Counters	Vicki Otis, Bob Tabery, Mark Ulmer, Pippa Younger
Ushers	(8:30) Jon & Cindy McBroom, Dan Franklin, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Keri Peterson, Joran Peterson

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover artwork by Judy Swanson.

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

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## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This Week (March 10)***

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)

Toddler Time (9:45–10:30 a.m., Room 14)

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

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

### ***Next Week (March 17)***

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: Ruth's House (9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Stephen Ministers (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 in memory of Ken Struss and Elmer & Cora Schultz by Marie Struss 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), please contact Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: March 28, 29 & 31.

**Gathering of Thanksgiving and Blessing for Benson & Langehough Funeral Home** (201 Fourth St E) Since 1955, the building known to most of us as *Benson & Langehough Funeral Home* has been a place of deep care for those who have died and their families who grieve. With the recent transition to *Bierman, Benson, & Langehough Funeral Home*, this building has been sold and will be used for a different purpose in the community. In light of this, the Northfield community is invited to gather on **Thursday, March 14, from 4:30–6:00 p.m.** to give thanks for the place of care this building has been for so many. A short program will begin at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome.

## **Easter Garden 2024**

In a change from previous years, St. John's members are invited to make a \$10.00 donation to the Easter Garden with the option to include their name and the name of the person(s) to be remembered, honored, or in gratitude. Please submit donations by Sunday, March 24. Anyone wishing to take a lily may do so after the second service on Easter Sunday. Forms are available in the Commons.

## **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.

## **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.

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., through March 20.

March 13: Dan Dimick

March 20: Maggie Odell

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **St. John's Forum in March**

**Sunday, March 17, 9:45–10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

### ***Ruth's House—Transitional Housing for Women and Families***

Ruth's House provides help and hope for women and families in crisis. Located in Faribault, Ruth's House has helped clients facing domestic violence, poverty, substance abuse disorder, health challenges, or other issues. Join us as Susan Stout, Ruth's House Outreach Coordinator, tells us more about this ministry.

## **Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign**

The Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC) Minnesota FoodShare Campaign is underway through April 6. Minnesota FoodShare envisions a future where all Minnesotans have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. You are invited to join its efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity. You may use the St. John's special offering envelope for the CAC Food Shelf. Please write your check to St. John's and indicate CAC Food Shelf on the memo line. You can also give online through the St. John's website.

## **Mission Morning**

**Saturday, April 20, 9:00 a.m.–Noon, Meet in St. John's Hall**

Calling all women! Have a fun morning of kit packing, quilt tying, bandage rolling, fellowship, making new friends, and changing the world for the better...one kit at a time. To contribute items for the kits, pick up a list under the Women's bulletin board in the Commons, or go to this link: <https://stjohnsnorthfield.org/files/List2024.jpg>. Please bring in donated items by April 14. Cash is also welcome. Make check payable to St. John's WELCA, Mission Morning on the memo line.

## **Reminder of Deadlines**

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

## **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](#) by Sunday, March 10. Thanks!

### **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, March 30, 9:30 a.m. at St. John's**

Families with kids 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger are welcome to hunt. Invite friends and neighbors too! Can you help? We need individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs. Donation baskets are in the upper and lower Commons. Thanks so much!

# 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*

Barbara Dettle, John Ferguson, Jane Gelle, Judy Karlson, Janice Kasa,  
Paul Klinefelter, Roberta Morse, Wendy Scholz

*Those mourning the loss of a loved one*

Family of Lois Wolff (sister of Marie Benson)

*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*

VaLois Mandsager, Richard Olson, 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*

Everyone needs a loving listener they can rely on. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact 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, March 13:  
*Creamy Turkey Wild Rice Soup*  
*Rosemary Garlic White Bean Soup*

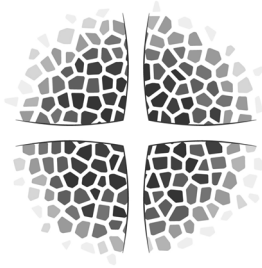
**All are welcome!**

*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, Mar. 11</b>	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Wellspring Circle, Fireside Room
<b>Tuesday, Mar. 12</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30 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 Sustaining Grace Fund Drive Ambassador Training, Fireside Room Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
<b>Wednesday, Mar. 13</b>	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m.  7:00 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Lenten Book Read, Fireside Room Lenten Soup Supper, St. John's Hall Lenten Vespers, Sanctuary Confirmation and High School Youth Group St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Mar. 14</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom Rejoice Ringers, Balcony Nfld Congregations Holden Visit Interest Meeting, Bethel Church
<b>Friday, Mar. 15</b>	9:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Kids Night Out, St. John's NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Mar. 16</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, Mar. 17</b>	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

**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.*