



SERVICE OF THE WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 3, 2020 † 8:30 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this morning!

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.

Video of this week's service will be available from the home page of our website www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website. If you wish to have a text copy of the sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office. Other helpful links and resources will be posted as they become available at the St. John's Facebook page.



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 — “...beside the still waters.” from *Windows of Comfort*

Dan Locklair

Welcome and Announcements

- 📖 Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- 📖 Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

*Gathering Hymn — “My Shepherd, You Supply My Need”

RESIGNATION

My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly
When I walk through the shades of death, your pres - ence
The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me

is your name. In pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be -
is my stay; one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives
all my days; oh, may your house be my a - bode and

side the liv - ing stream. You bring my wan - d'ring spir - it
all my fears a - way. Your hand, in sight of all my
all my work be praise. Here would I find a set - tled

back when I for - sake your ways, and lead me,
foes, does still my ta - ble spread; my cup with
rest, while oth - ers go and come; no more a

for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
bless - ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.
strang - er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Text: Isaac Watts, based on Psalm 23

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

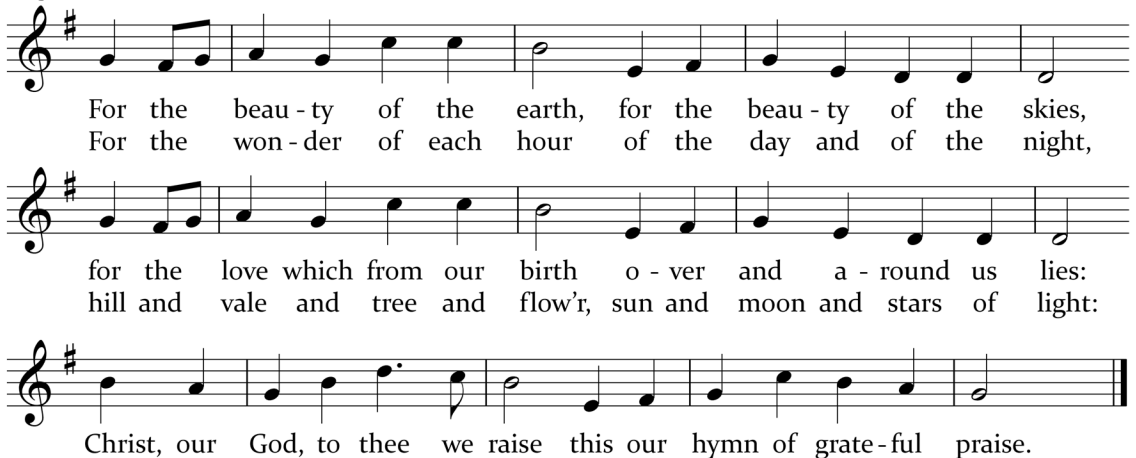
☐ Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in
your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

*Hymn of Praise — “For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX



For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint

*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

- ☐ O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Acts 2:42-47

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

- ☐ 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 — John 10:1-10**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Katie Schroerer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded”

IN DIR IST FREUDE

Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the
news, the gos - pel spread! Day of all won - der, day of all
splen - dor, praise Christ ris - en from the dead! Sing of the
Sing now of
sun from dark - ness ap - pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth
mourn - ing turned in - to danc - ing; sing now the mys - tery, hope of our
green - ing; sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the
glo - ry; sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of
stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in wa - ter made
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor last - ing for -
ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc.

***The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. 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:

“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”

Wayne L. Wold

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

- Ⓟ God of infinite mercy, God of everlasting promise,
we thank you for your Word,
which gives us life and light,
which brings healing and hope.
Strengthen us to wait in faith for your peace and justice
until that day when your creation is born anew, freed from affliction,
through our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.
- Ⓞ **Amen.**

***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.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

Blessing and Sending of High School Seniors

*Blessing

Response: Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

AR HYD Y NOS



“Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
“Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
“Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.”
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.”
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

*Dismissal

- Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**
- Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection.
- Thanks be to God!**



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Katie Schroeer
Assisting Ministers	Jack Rizzo Jane and Bill Rizzo Will Schroeer
Organist	Nathan Proctor

Congratulations to Our Graduating High School Seniors!

Cate Carson, Alex Dell, Peter Neeb, Alex Redetzke, Jack Rizzo, Katie Schroeer

We are proud of all of their accomplishments and
wish them grace and peace for their journeys ahead.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art by Justin Pascua, Class of 2020, art student of Katherine Norrie.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Duane and Marie Benson. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: July 5, 12, 19 & 26. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV) - cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Video of this week's service along with previous weeks (from March 29 until current) are available from the home page at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website. If you wish to have a text copy of the sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office. Other helpful links and resources will be posted as they become available on the COVID-19 page on the St. John's website and on the St. John's Facebook page.

Today we honor our high school graduates in the radio worship at 8:30 a.m. At 11:00 a.m. we will gather by Zoom for a remote Holy Communion service. You will have an opportunity to congratulate these graduates in the Zoom gathering and see the faces of these young people graduating. An email with the link for this special worship gathering was sent earlier this week.

Northfield Area Fire & Rescue "Feed the Need"

Today, 9:00-11:00 a.m., 1651 Jefferson Parkway

The Annual Northfield Area Fire Department food drive has taken on a new "look" this year! Even though they can't go door to door throughout our community with fire trucks and volunteers, they know that the Community Action Center's Food Shelf needs our support now more than ever, as many families in our community are impacted by COVID-19. To that end, they are working with CAC to organize a "Feed the Need" opportunity where anyone from the community can bring food donations directly to CAC's Food Shelf. CAC has created a safe way to simply drive up and leave donations outside. And many health and safety precautions are in place at the food shelf to safely receive donations. The food shelf is happy to accept non-perishable donations within 2 years of the "best by" date.

2020 Census

As we stay at home, there is one activity that you can do to help promote the completion of the census. If you have not done so, please fill yours out now or as soon as it arrives in your mailbox. It is so important to Minnesota, Rice County, Northfield, and the school district that everyone be counted. It is easy to do online or via phone. The count is used to distribute future federal funds to our state, redistricting at federal, state, county, and local levels, planning for development, etc. Without an accurate count, we could lose a lot. So go online, or call 844-330-2020 to respond via phone. The web site is my2020census.gov.

How Can You Help?

This question continues to be asked everyday. It's heartening to know that we have a community that is ready to step up in a crisis.

- First and foremost, stay at home as much as possible during the Governor's stay-at-home order, which currently extends to May 18. Secondly, connect with neighbors and friends, especially health care workers, those who are at risk, and people with small children who suddenly find themselves 24/7 together.
- St. John's continues to need your **regular financial gifts**. Although we can't be with you all in person, we want to continue to pay our staff. Giving online is easy at StJohnsNorthfield.org. Contact the church office at 507-645-4429 to set up automatic gifts. Or mailed offerings will continue to be welcomed. If you are in a position to pay ahead on your annual pledge, that will also help us get through this difficult time. Contact Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 if you would like to set-up automatic online giving.
- Local sewers are making **cloth face masks** for use by health care and other essential workers. Material can be picked up in the St. John's parking lot from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. each Monday. Finished masks are returned to the same spot. For details on this effort and to get instructions, email Kathy Ness at KJL.Ness@gmail.com.
- Many **prayer shawls** made by our knitters were distributed to members who are on lockdown in care facilities. If you would like to make one (the patterns are easy), contact Sue Sharrow to learn how.
- Our Sunday School's **Blessing Box** is seeing a high level of both donations and people receiving these blessings. Nonperishable foods, cleaning supplies, feminine hygiene supplies, and toilet paper are especially welcome donations.
- The **Red Cross** still needs blood, maybe now more than ever. The Red Cross is holding a blood drive at St. John's on Thursday, May 14. We continue to encourage members who are at risk to stay home. If you are eligible to give blood and have a mask to wear, please know safety protocols and distancing are being practiced at blood drives.
- The **Community Action Center** is preparing for a deluge of needs. The quickest way to help is to donate financially. The CAC can make those gifts go further than your own grocery store donations. They are also building their volunteer base. [For more information visit their website.](#)
- **Local businesses**, especially the ones that are usually social hangouts, are trying to quickly pivot to serve you in different ways. Take advantage of all those take-out and delivery options. And if you can't use them now, buy a gift card that you can use in the future.

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

Marlene Engstrom

Becca Liv Neuger (daughter-in-law of Dave and Ruthie Neuger)

Bob Scholz

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Marvis Canon

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Gene and Delores Nelson,

Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Joanne Sommers, Tom Sorenson,

Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Virley Brown, Sigrid Gronning, 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;

Mark Rich and Cynthia Holder Rich, ELCA missionaries in Tanzania

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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (May 10):

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60 † Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 † 1 Peter 2:2-10 † John 14:1-14

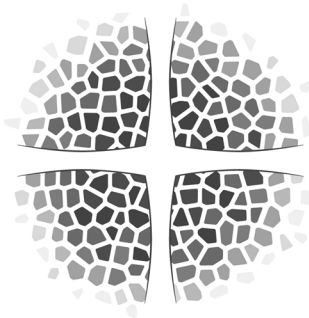
This Week At-a-Glance

*The calendar below contains only St. John's events.
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

**We continue to follow state guidelines for public gatherings as long as social distancing continues.
We expect all Sunday worship to be on the radio or online at least through May 17.
Wednesday after-school programming is canceled for the rest of the year,
in concert with schools doing distance learning for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.**

The 8:30 a.m. worship services will be radio broadcasts (www.kymnradio.net).

Monday, May 4	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Women of St. John's Executive Board Meeting via Zoom Youth Open Door: Virtual Brunch Break & Worship via Zoom Virtual Manna & Mercy Text Study via Zoom Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, May 5	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting Via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Tuesday Zoom Coffee Break
Wednesday, May 6	10:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Confirmation / High School Youth Group Hour via Zoom
Thursday, May 7	11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Youth Open Door: Virtual Brunch Break & Worship via Zoom Executive Committee via Zoom Thursday Zoom Coffee Break via Zoom
Friday, May 8	10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Friday Zoom Coffee Break via Zoom Middle School Zoom Deeper Connections High School Zoom Deeper Connections
Saturday, May 9		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, May 10	8:30 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Carol Benson, *Director of Jubilate Choir*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*

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

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Christy Hall-Holt, *Welcome Ministry Coordinator*

Emmanuel Kaghondi, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Director of Alleluia Choir*

Zachery Pelletier, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, *Security and Custodial Assistants*

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

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