



SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 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 — “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life” R. V. Williams, arr. Jacob Weber

*Come, my way, my truth, my life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.*

- George Herbert

Welcome and Announcements

🎶 Alleluia! Christ is risen.

🎶 Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

***Gathering Hymn** — “The Earth Adorned in Verdant Robe”

AHLÉN

The earth a - dorned in ver - dant robe sends prais - es up - ward
From out the wood, the birds now sing and each its song now
O God, a - mid these joys of life, cre - a - tion's glo - ry
surg - ing, while soft winds breathe on fra - grant flow'rs from win - ter
rais - es, to join with all the u - ni - verse in voic - ing
beam - ing, grant us the grace to keep your Word and live in
now e - merg - ing. The sun - shine bright gives warmth and light to
thank - ful prais - es. With hope and joy their songs em - ploy a
love re - deem - ing. All flesh is grass, the flow - ers fade, and
bud - ding blos - soms ten - der, pro - claim - ing sum - mer splen - dor.
rap - turous ex - ul - ta - tion in praise of God's cre - a - tion.
time is fleet - ing ev - er; God's Word re - mains for - ev - er.

Text: Carl David Wirsén; tr. Carolyn Jennings and Kenneth Jennings; Music: Waldemar Åhlén
Text and music © 1934, 1974 A. B. Nordiska Musikförlaget, admin. Walton Music.

***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.**

***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**

- ☐ Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.
Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments,
and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Antiphon: Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit.



In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;
deliver me | in your righteousness.

²**Incline your | ear to me;**
make haste to de- | liver me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,**
for you are my tow- | er of strength. *Antiphon*

⁵Into your hands I com- | mend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, | God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are | in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who | persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — John 14:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenschier

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — "I Know That My Redeemer Lives!"

DUKE STREET

I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to
 He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; he lives, and
 He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives, ex - alt - ed,
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my
 I shall con - quer death; he lives my man - sion
 Sav - ior, still the same; what joy this blest as -

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.
 to pre - pare; he lives to bring me safe - ly there.
 sur - ance gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt..



***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:

“Andante tranquillo” from *Sonata III*

Felix Mendelssohn

***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

Response:

C Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Come, Sing of Years Gone By”

MARION

This hymn was commissioned for the 150th anniversary of St. John's in October, 2019.

Come, sing of years gone by, ac - claim our fore - bears bold,
And still the world has need for those who hear God's call
We join our fore - bears now; our time has come to choose:
To walk the way of Christ, though daunt - ing, is not grim,
their roots in faith and hope and love, of God's own flock and fold.
to rise in faith and hope and love, seek jus - tice, grace for all.
what val - ues shall our lives up - hold? Which claim, and which re - fuse?
but rich in bless - ing, full of love, a joy - ous liv - ing hymn.
A - men. A - men, to them we say, A - men.
A - men. A - men, to this we say, A - men.
To faith and hope and love we say, A - men.
A - men, A - men. Sing, shout, live out A - men!

Text: W. Bruce Benson, © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

*Dismissal

L Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

L Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection.

C Thanks be to God!



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenschier
Assisting Minister	Scott Swanson
Organist	Nathan Proctor

Thank You St. John’s Chorale and Music Interns

Those singing during the 2019-20 season:

Sopranos

Elizabeth Bade
Eleanor Coolidge
Jennifer Edwins
Jo Franklin
Anita Hellie
Mary Holleque
Nancy Ordahl Kmoch
Ruth Legvold
Bev Mahachek
Kristi Wermager

Altos

Ruth Smestad-Anglin
Karen Appeldoorn
Mary Hoff
Carol Hollen
Barb Kuhlman
Patsy Ophaug
Jo Ann Polley
Dawn Tommerdahl
Emily Westerback
Julie Zdenek

Tenors

Terry Gilbertson
Chuck Hellie
Erik Holleque

Church Music Interns

Amanda Goldberg, soprano
Emily Chmielewski, alto
Noah Han, tenor
Richard Spahn, tenor
Eugene Sandel, bass

Basses

Jerry Appeldoorn
John Bade
Paul Beck
Jim Cederberg
Fletcher Coolidge
Brad Kmoch
David Legvold
Jorgan Legvold
Don Niehaus
Rob Quanbeck
Mark Ulmer

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in honor of all of the medical workers helping all of us by Bill and Char Carlson. 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 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.

Congratulations to Pastor Jonathan Davis on 5 years of service at St. John's!

Thank You from the Stewardship Board

We, your Stewardship Board, would like to give an extra thank you to our many volunteers during this troubling time of the pandemic. This would include those involved in making prayer shawls, making masks, calling and/or emailing our congregation members to keep in touch and those contributing to CAC, the Blessing Box, and other needed donations. A special thank you to our staff, leading and guiding us through many unprecedented changes. Together, our stewardship in its many manifestations truly does make a difference!

Lutheran World Relief Needs Our Help

Since 1945, Lutheran World Relief has been at the forefront of effective, transformational global development. LWR provides aid in emergencies and helps families restore their lives. Partnering with communities to build and grow rural economies, LWR breaks the cycle of poverty so families and communities can thrive. Right now, your support is needed more than ever. Coronavirus is expected to spread at a catastrophic rate across Africa. Health systems are not prepared to take on an outbreak. Health workers are vulnerable to infection as they work to treat others. And families, who already suffer with poor health, poverty and hunger, are at extreme risk. We can help the world's most vulnerable families stay safe - but only with your support. LWR urgently needs to raise \$250,000 to fund a response. Families are counting on you. Please donate either by check, noting Lutheran World Relief on the memo line, or donate online. Thank you.

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

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. Go to the Red Cross website at www.redcross.com if you are eligible to donate. Drives are still happening locally, including one at St. John's on May 14.
- 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 web-site.
- **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

Carol Carlson

Marlene Engstrom

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

Bob Scholz

Wally Wegner

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Eunice Swanson (sister of Vern Koester)

Family of Brent Hofman (nephew of Cindy McBroom)

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

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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 17):

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31 + Psalm 66:8-20 + 1 Peter 3:13-22 + John 14:15-21

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 11	11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Youth Open Door: Virtual Brunch Break & Worship via Zoom Virtual Manna & Mercy Text Study via Zoom Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, May 12	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 13	10:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Confirmation / High School Youth Group Hour via Zoom Virtual Children's Board Meeting
Thursday, May 14	11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Youth Open Door: Virtual Brunch Break & Worship via Zoom Executive Committee via Zoom American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall Thursday Zoom Coffee Break via Zoom
Friday, May 15	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 16		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, May 17	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast Kitchen & Worship with Youth and Families via Zoom



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

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.