



# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 18, 2025 † 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

# *Welcome to worship at St. John's!*

***We especially welcome all who are visiting this morning!***

*All are invited to **sign the welcome sheets** in the black folders at the end of the pews.*

*Please pass them to the center and then back  
so you can greet those worshipping around you.  
Ushers will gather these following worship.*

*In the red hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship), or purple hymnal  
(All Creation Sings), hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn section,  
and page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section.*

*An asterisk (\*) invites you to stand as you are able.*

**P** Pastor, **L** Leader (Assisting Minister), **C** Congregation

***Children are welcome*** to participate throughout our  
worship service, including at Holy Communion.

*Parents, please assist children when they come forward for communion  
to extend their hands if they are to receive the bread and wine.*

***Children's Bibles and activity bags***  
*are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary  
and scribble cards are available in the pews.*

*Hearing assistance devices are available outside the Sanctuary or from an usher.  
For those with hearing aids, the Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop.*

*Large print bulletins and hymns are available for worship services.*



*St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace  
and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as  
we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance,  
sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or  
relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement,  
political affiliation, or religious background.*

*While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together,  
believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.*

*We warmly welcome you here.*

# GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

**Prelude** — “Pastorale”

Bob Burroughs

*Mark Ulmer, horn*

*Rejoice Ringers*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 834

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

## **\*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 Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing.  
Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive  
by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son,  
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**

<sup>1</sup>Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

 The word of the Lord.

 Thanks be to God.

## Psalmody — Psalm 148

Antiphon: Carl Schalk

*For antiphon text, see ELW No. 740, “God of the Sparrow.”*



<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD <sup>1</sup>from the heavens;  
praise God <sup>1</sup>in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all you angels;  
sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup>hosts of heaven.

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, <sup>1</sup>sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you <sup>1</sup>shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>Praise the LORD, heav- <sup>1</sup>en of heavens,  
and you waters a- <sup>1</sup>bove the heavens.

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name <sup>|</sup> of the LORD,  
 who commanded, and they <sup>|</sup> were created,  
<sup>6</sup>who made them stand fast forev- <sup>|</sup> er and ever,  
 giving them a law that shall not <sup>|</sup> pass away. *Antiphon*  
<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD <sup>|</sup> from the earth,  
 you sea monsters <sup>|</sup> and all deeps;  
<sup>8</sup>fire and hail, <sup>|</sup> snow and fog,  
 tempestuous wind, do- <sup>|</sup> ing God's will;  
<sup>9</sup>**mountains <sup>|</sup> and all hills,**  
**fruit trees <sup>|</sup> and all cedars;**  
<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts <sup>|</sup> and all cattle,**  
**creeping things and <sup>|</sup> flying birds;**  
<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth <sup>|</sup> and all peoples,  
 princes and all rulers <sup>|</sup> of the world;  
<sup>12</sup>young <sup>|</sup> men and maidens,  
 old and <sup>|</sup> young together.  
<sup>13</sup>**Let them praise the name <sup>|</sup> of the LORD,**  
**whose name only is over <sup>|</sup> earth and heaven.**  
<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength <sup>|</sup> for the people,**  
**a people who are near the LORD. <sup>|</sup> Hallelujah! Antiphon**

**Second Reading — Revelation 21:1-6**

Pew Bible, page 1007

*After the reading:*

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

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*Gospel — John 13:31-35**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**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 — ELW No. 651**

“Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

**\*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*

(8:30) "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Douglas Wagner

(10:45) "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Timothy Albrecht

**\*Offering Hymn** — "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## \*Offering Prayer

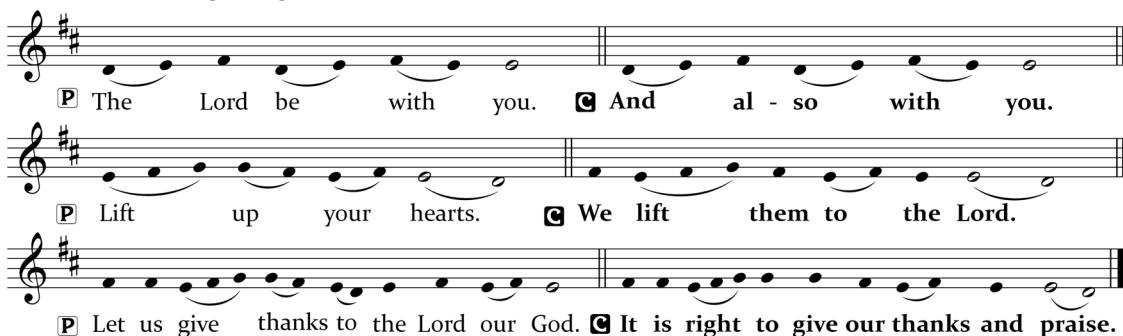
**L** Let us pray.

**C** Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

# SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

## \*Great Thanksgiving

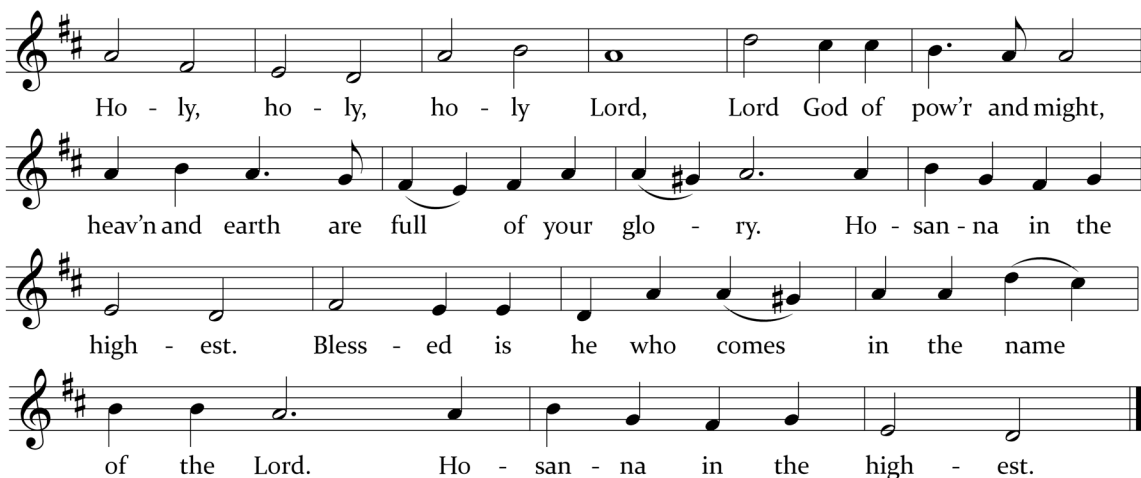


**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

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

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## \*Words of Institution

## \*The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from  
the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*Communion will be received standing at stations in the front of sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the center. After you have been served the bread you will be offered wine or grape juice. The grape juice is white and is located in the center of the tray. **If you are unable to come forward, let an usher know, and communion will be brought to you.***

## Music during Communion

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymn — ELW No. 359

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn — ELW No. 469

"By Your Hand You Feed Your People"

## \*Post-Communion Blessing

**\*Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

- ℣ Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,  
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- ✠ Amen.

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

**\*Thanksgiving at the Retirement of a Debt**

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

- ✠ Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 389

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude** — on TRURO

Jonathan Reuss



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

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Becker-Nelson Family (10:45) Brenda Nelson
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	Rejoice Ringers; David Sims, director
Horn	Mark Ulmer
Cantors	Nancy Ordahl-Kmoch, Kristine Maes
Communion Service	Angie Gehring
Greeters	(8:30) TBD (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Counters	David Becker, Sue Brockman, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Cindy Clauson, Ruthie Neuger, John Ophaug (10:45) Mike Bull, Ruth Dahl, Susan Immel

## **Thank You Rejoice Ringers!**

Those ringing during the 2024–25 season:

Rod Christensen	Carrie Dauner
Dan Dauner	Alison Kavanaugh
Patsy Ophaug	Nancy Ordahl-Kmoch
Jane Rinehart	Susan Rudser
Lisa Silkey	Julie Zdenek

Heather Wallace, Church Music Intern  
David Sims, Director

Special thanks to all who filled in as subs this year.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover photograph by Daniel Edwins.

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# **Announcements**

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

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given by Barbara Dettle in deep appreciation of the livestream. 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), contact Leah Garlie. Next available dates: June 1 & 8 and July 20 & 27.

## **Celebrating a Debt-Free St. John's!**

Join us today between services to celebrate that St. John's will no longer be making a mortgage payment! We paid our last obligation to Thrivent in April for the loan that built St. John's Hall. We'll give thanks for the vision that built St. John's Hall, the work to retire the second mortgage with the Unbinding Campaign, and the ongoing generosity of this congregation that has brought us to this day.

## **Summer Worship Schedule Begins Next Sunday, May 25**

This summer from Memorial Day, May 25, through Defeat of Jesse James Days, September 7, we will have one service at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and fellowship following the service.

## **Lower Level Project Continues This Week**

Work continues this next week to replace the tile on the downstairs level in classrooms and hallways (not the Fellowship Hall). Groups that use the lower level should be advised that entering Fellowship Hall will be easiest from the outside doors. If you use the elevator to the lower level, be mindful that accessibility can change from day to day until the project is complete. This is one of our Sustaining Grace projects to update the "new" wing of St. John's. Thanks for your support!

## **Church Softball League Double Header Tonight at Sechler 1**

**Sunday, May 18, 6:00 p.m., St. John's vs. St. Dominic White / 7:05 p.m., St. John's vs. Cornerstone**

Join the fun! Come cheer our team on! For the full summer schedule, go to

<https://sites.google.com/site/northfieldchurchsoftballleague/home>.

## **Organ Recital at St. John's**

**Today, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

Featuring organist Stephen May and soloist Abby Carter and music by Bach, Buxtehude, Scheidt, and Rheinberger.

## **Hymn Sing at NRC**

Pastor Charles Anderson is celebrating his 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination **today at 2:30 p.m. at the Northfield Retirement Center Chapel**. All are invited to praise God with some favorite hymns together.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **Pub Theology**

**Monday, May 19, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Chapel Brewing (15 Hester St. Dundas)**

Topic: *ELCA's Draft Social Message on Child Protection*

With the election of a new pope this month, there has been a lot of news and conversations around child protection and the larger Church's complicity in the maltreatment of children. The ELCA has a new Draft Social Message on Child Protection. Social messages are ELCA teaching documents that draw from existing social teaching but focus direct attention on a particular social issue. The ELCA is currently in the public comment period, through June 30. Let's discuss this draft social statement together. Copies are available at the Welcome Desk.

## **High School Senior Recognition Sunday – June 15**

On Sunday, June 15, we will recognize our High School Seniors and bless them on their road ahead. Following worship, we will host a brunch for High School Seniors and their families. Please join us in worship on June 15 to celebrate and congratulate them!

## **Reminder of Deadlines**

Please send all submissions electronically to Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

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

## **Children and Youth**

### **Road Trip: On the Go with God!**

VBS is hosted by St. John's, Bethel, and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches and Emmaus Church.

When: Monday, June 9–Thursday, June 12, from 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Ages: Entering K–Grade 3, Fall 2025

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

Cost: \$15/child; \$30/family, payable the first day of VBS

Scan the QR code to register.



### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Bridge Event**

**Wednesday, May 28, 5:30–7:30 p.m., St. John's**

As 5<sup>th</sup> graders prepare to move to middle school next year, they'll have lots of questions. They will also be moving from Children's programming at St. John's to Youth programming. Likewise, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are finishing up a big year of changes. We'll get together with pizza, games, and a chance for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to connect around this time of transition.

### **Contact information for Children and Youth**

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at [children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:children@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*

Marie Benson, Fred Huemoeller, Mary Ellen North, Kent Rommereim,  
Jenn Cohorst, Lainey Smith (granddaughter of Dodie and Gordie Mickelsen)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Bill Carlson, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Kathy Vang,  
Ruth Smestad Anglin, Ingrid Alberding, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

*All who are homebound, including*

Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings

*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*

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.

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (May 25):**

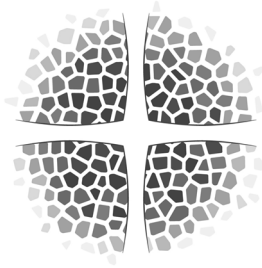
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 16:9-15 † Psalm 67 † Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5 † John 14:23-29

# **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, May 19</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Chapel Brewing Boy Scout Pack #300, Undercroft BSA Troop #9313 Patrol Leader Meeting, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts (Troop #9313), Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday, May 20</b>	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	5:15 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, St. John's Library and Fireside Room
	6:45 p.m.	Boy Scout Troops #7313/#9313, Rooms 4 and 3
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
<b>Wednesday, May 21</b>	6:00 p.m.	Evening Knitters, Fireside Room
<b>Thursday, May 22</b>	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
<b>Friday, May 23</b>	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, May 24</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, May 25</b>	9:30 a.m.	Worship (Baptism - Addison Monson), Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
	2:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #27500, Classroom 12
	4:00 p.m.	BSA Troop #7313, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #27455, Fellowship Hall



St. John's  
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*  
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*  
Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*  
Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*  
Steve Harner, *Facility Manager*  
Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*  
Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*  
Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*  
Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*  
Kristin Partlo, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*  
Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*  
Arturo Rosas, *Custodial Associate*  
David Sims, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

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

*St. John's Lutheran Church stands on the  
ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute band of the Dakota nation.  
We respect and are grateful for the generations of native people who have cared for this land.*