



SERVICE OF THE WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 24, 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.

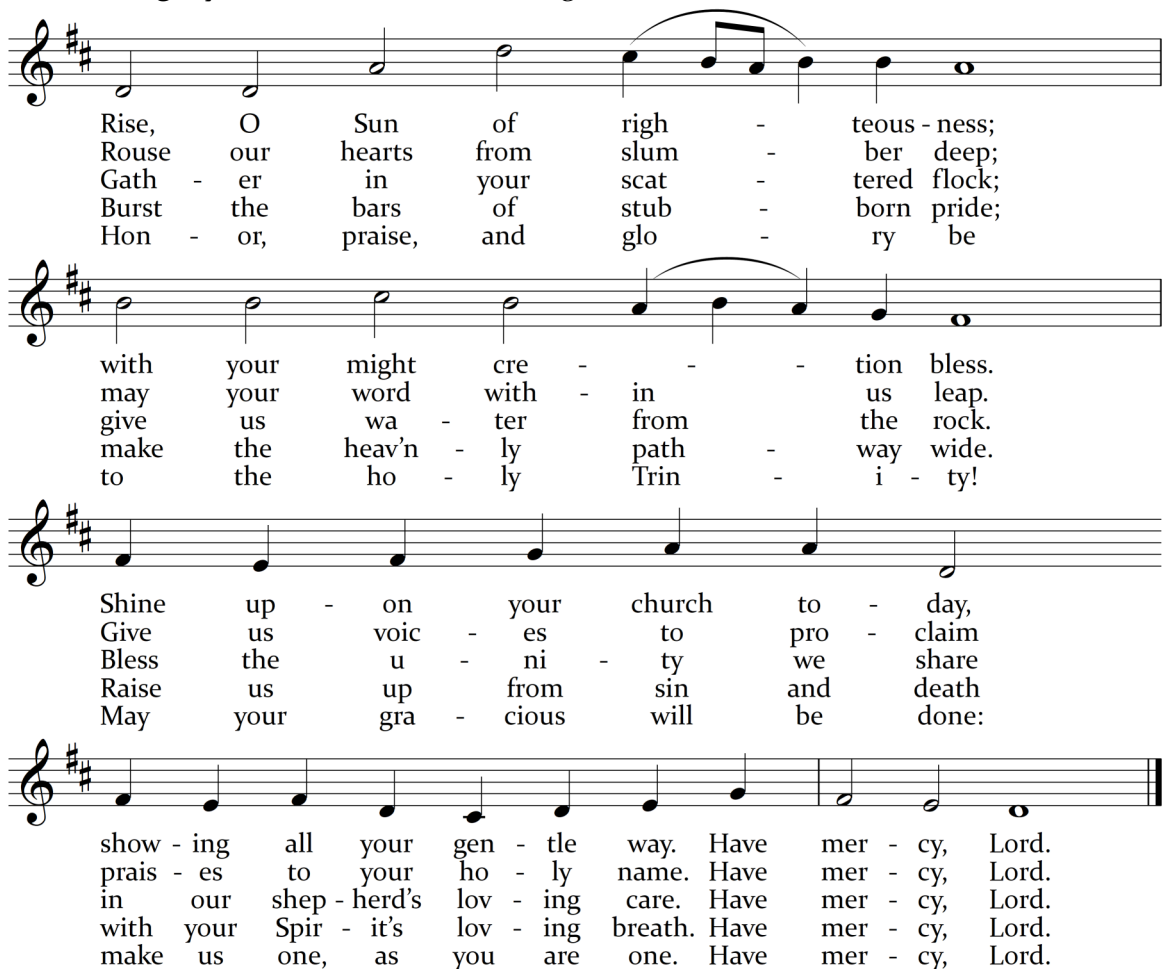
GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — Three settings of “Rise, O Sun of Righteousness” SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT
Charles W. Ore, John Ferguson, David Schack

Welcome and Announcements

P Alleluia! Christ is risen. **C** Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

***Gathering Hymn** — “Rise, O Sun of Righteousness” SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT



Rise, O Sun of righteousness;
Rouse our hearts from slumber deep;
Gath-er in your scat-tered flock;
Burst the bars of our pride;
Hon-or, praise, and glo-ry be
with your might-cre-ation bless.
may your word with in us leap.
give us wa-ter from the rock.
make the heav'n-ly path way wide.
to the ho-ly Trin-i-ty!

Shine up-on your church to-day,
Give us voic-es to pro-claim
Bless the u-ni-ty we share
Raise us up from sin and death
May your gra-cious will be done:

show-ing all your gen-tle way. Have mer-cy, Lord.
prais-es to your ho-ly name. Have mer-cy, Lord.
in our shep-herd's lov-ing care. Have mer-cy, Lord.
with your Spir-it's lov-ing breath. Have mer-cy, Lord.
make us one, as you are one. Have mer-cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank Stoldt, © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

- P** 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.

C Amen.

***Greeting**

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

- P** O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to
your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and
in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence,
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 — Acts 1:6-14

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

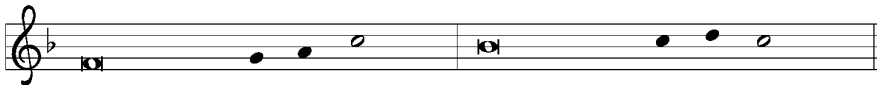
¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L The word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 47:1-8

Antiphon: Walter Pelz

Antiphon: God has gone up with a shout! Sing praise to God, sing praises.



¹Clap your hands, | all you peoples;
shout to God with a | joyful sound.

**²For the LORD Most High is | to be feared:
a great king over | all the earth,**

³who subdues the | peoples under us,
and the nations un- | der our feet;

4who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves. *Antiphon*

⁵God has gone up | with a shout,
the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.

⁶Sing praises to | God, sing praises;
sing praises to our | king, sing praises.
⁷For God is king of | all the earth;
sing praises | with a song.
⁸God reigns o- | ver the nations;
God is en- | throned on high. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.

¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L The word of the Lord. **G** Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — John 17:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter. **G** Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now,

Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.”⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to you, O Christ.

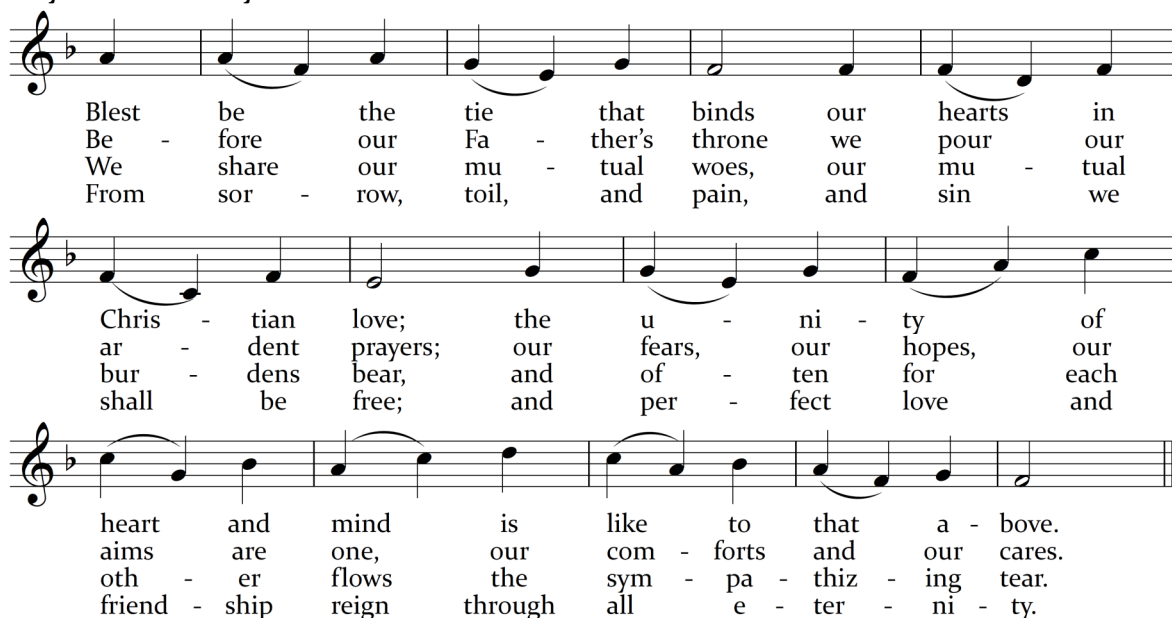
Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

DENNIS



Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual
 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love; the u - ni - ty of
 ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear, and of - ten for each
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, 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:

"Carol" from *Five Bagatelles*

Gerald Finzi, arr. Robert Gower

***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 — “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

TRURO

Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
In ev - 'ry in - sult, and rift, and war, where col - or,
Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to
emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and
prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

*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 Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	David and Ruth Legvold
Cantor	Ruth Legvold
Organist	Nathan Proctor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Bulletin cover from *Icon 1*. Used with permission.

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Rhubarb Celebration with Family & Neighbors

Even though we cannot gather for Rhubarb Sunday, let's carry on St. John's annual tradition.

Want Rhubarb to Make & Share Desserts?

Pick up rhubarb today between 10:00-11:30 a.m.
in St. John's north parking lot (off 2nd Street).

Tell those who share your rhubarb treat about the tradition of enjoying rhubarb desserts together at St. John's. This year we get to share the tradition with friends & neighbors.

Share your recipes and photos with St. John's!

Send pictures of recipes and/or your rhubarb celebration to photos@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Dennis and Jane Rinehart in honor of the pastors and staff at St. John's. 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: August 16, 23, & 30. 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.

Pub Theology will take a break for this Monday, Memorial Day. We will resume meeting on Zoom on Monday, June 1.

Communion and Welcome of New Members

Sunday, May 31, 11:00 a.m.

There will be another opportunity for communion by remote connection on Sunday, May 31. We will gather by Zoom for Holy Communion and a time of introduction and blessing of new members. An email with the link for this worship gathering will be sent next week.

A Safe Operating Task Force has been formed to plan for safe operations for St. John's during the ongoing pandemic. Pastor Pam Fickenschier, Pastor Jonathan Davis, Vice-President Ruth Dahl, and Dr. Rod Christensen will be meeting regularly to help the Church Council and staff plan for ministry in the weeks and months ahead. Members should be prepared for significant changes in how we do ministry, even as the stay-at-home order comes to an end. Staff will continue to work from home through the end of the May as we make plans to operate within physical distancing guidelines.

Giving Statements will be mailed to the congregation along with a mini-newsletter at the end of the month. Because print newsletters are difficult to keep up-to-date in our quickly changing environment, publication of the print Voice is suspended for the time being, but members should contact staff about announcements of interest to the whole community. Our website, especially the COVID link at the top of the home page, remains the most up-to-date source for church information.

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.
- 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 celebrating the marriage of

Bailey Dell and Joel Balko

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Myron Dack

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

Dorothy Ostlie, Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson

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 31):

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 + Psalm 104 + 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 + John 20:19-23

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.*

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts on Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
through Pentecost, Sunday, May 31.**

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

Monday, May 25		Memorial Day - Church Office Closed
Tuesday, May 26	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday, May 27	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
	6:15 p.m.	Middle / High School Youth Group Hour via Zoom
Thursday, May 28		No Scheduled Activities
Friday, May 29		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, May 30		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, May 31	8:30 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast
	11:00 a.m.	Kitchen & Worship with Youth and Families via Zoom

Thank You Rejoice Ringers!

Those ringing during the 2019-20 season:

Deb Loe	Jane Rinehart	<u>Invaluable Reserves:</u>
Joan Koester	Julie Zdenek	Megan Bougie
Katie Helgen	Nancy Ordahl-Kmoch	Mary Kay Bougie
Patsy Ophaug	Rod Christensen	Elizabeth Bade
Susan Rudser	Teri Grosz	Carol Hollen
Tracy Kochendorfer		
Eric Kvasnicka, Church Music Intern		

Zachery Pelletier, director



St. John's
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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.