



# SERVICE OF THE WORD

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 13, 2021 † 9:00 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!*

*As we enter a new phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to follow CDC guidelines for public gatherings. We feel the different impacts of this time on our community and long for a time when we will be able to safely share in Holy Communion indoors, and to socialize without concern for public health. Whether this morning finds you in the sanctuary or joining in worship from home, please know that this is not our “new normal,” but a time of gradually learning how to be together in-person while we wait for more vaccinations and fewer COVID infections in our community.*

*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.*



*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** — “Meditation” from *Thais*

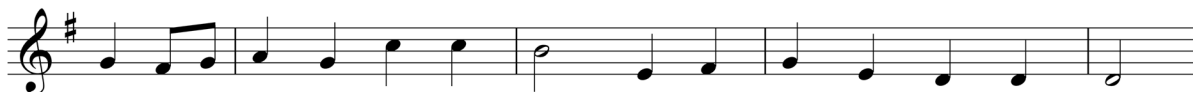
Jules Massenet

*Cate Carson, violin*

## Welcome and Announcements

**\*Gathering Hymn** — “For the Beauty of the Earth” (#879)

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 joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill the vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



*Refrain*  
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint; Music: Conrad Kocher

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity, one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

☞ Amen.

- P** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

- C** **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**  
**We question your ways when they differ from the ways**  
**of the world in which we live.**  
**We turn to our own understanding**  
**rather than trusting in you.**  
**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**  
**Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?**  
**Share with us the words of eternal life**  
**and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

- P** Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.  
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.  
Through Jesus, ✙ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

- 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, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world.  
Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your  
truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

## Children's Message

### First Reading — Ezekiel 17:22-24

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree,

I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

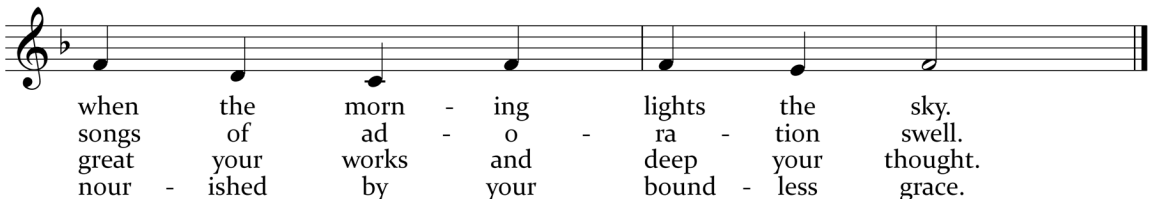
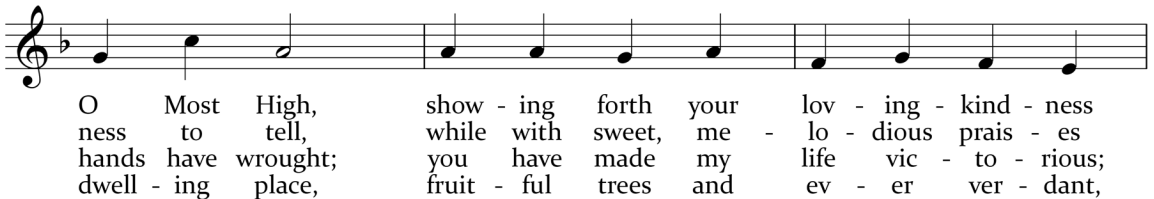
I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalmody — Psalm 92, "It Is Good to Sing Your Praises"

STUTT GART



Text: *The Psalter*, 1912, alt.; Music: attr. Christian F. Witt, adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett

## Second Reading — 2 Corinthians 6-10, 14-17

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

## \*Gospel Acclamation — “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” (#172)

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal-le - lu-jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

## \*Gospel — Mark 4:26-34

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it;  
<sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

- 📖 The Gospel of the Lord.
- 🎵 Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “God of the Fertile Fields” (ACS #1063)

ITALIAN HYMN

God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of  
 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in  
 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that  
 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
 trust from you all that you give; help us in  
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our  
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
 love to share, teach us like you to care  
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,  
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.  
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.  
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.  
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, alt.; © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing; Music: Felice de Giardini

### **\*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:*

*"Air" from Orchestral Suite #3*

*J. S. Bach*



### **\*Thanksgiving for the Word**

**P** Glory to you, O God, for your creative Word:  
making and mending all things,  
evoking the cosmic hymn of praise,  
and singing a love-song for your beloved—  
your vineyard, your flock, your people.

Clothe us in your loving Spirit,  
flowing from the Crucified and Risen One,  
and keep us awake to your presence  
in the people and places you call us to serve.  
Glory, praise, and blessing are yours, Holy God,  
now and forever.

**C** 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 — “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” (#547)**



THE ASH GROVE



Sent forth by and God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing, the  
With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing, the  
peo-ple of our God from this dwell-ing take leave.  
tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—  
The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed the  
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing, em -  
fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve. The seed of Christ's  
brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race. With your feast you  
teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for  
feed us, with your light now lead us; u-nite us as one in this  
God and for all. Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u -  
life that we share. Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks -  
nite us to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.  
giv-ing give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf © 1964 World Library Publications; Music: Welsh folk

**\*Dismissal**

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



## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:**

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Emily Westerback
Organist	Joanne Rodland
Violin	Cate Carson

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover photograph by Pam Fickenscher, Carleton Arboretum, 2021.

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# **Announcements**

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given by Marie Struss in celebration of all fathers especially Elmer Schultz and Ken Struss. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:00-10:00 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 612-532-6863. Next available dates: August 1, 8 & 15. 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.

**For Worship in the Sanctuary**, we will continue to wear face masks during services throughout the month of June, as we get use to gathering and singing together again. Overflow space is also available in St. John's Hall. More information about our safety protocols and plans can be found on the COVID-19 page on our [website](#).

## **As We Prepare to Resume Holy Communion...**

Including Holy Communion in our Sunday worship services will require assistance each weekend with the set-up and clean-up of the individual glass cups for the wine and juice. Set-up can be accomplished a few minutes before the first service, or ahead of time on Saturday (if preferred). Clean-up happens right after the second service, or on Monday (if preferred). If you can volunteer to help with communion sometime in July or August, or have an interest in learning more about it, please contact [sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or call the church office. No prior experience is necessary. We are happy to show you how it's done.

## **Ushers Needed for Worship**

We are always in need of ushers, and we are currently putting together usher teams for first and second services (9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.). Usher schedules are flexible and based on personal availability. If you are interested in learning about ushering, please contact Christy Hall-Holt at [connect@StJohnsNorthfield.com](mailto:connect@StJohnsNorthfield.com), or call the church office at 507-645-4429.

## **Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom**

### **Mondays, Noon–1:00 p.m.**

Check in with fellow church friends and enjoy a biblical discussion each week on a variety of topics.

## **"Patio Theology" (Pub Theology Summer Edition)**

### **Mondays, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Home of Pastor Jonathan Davis**

We gather together outside for community and conversation led by the pastors around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. The topic and location will be emailed prior to the meeting. If you would like to be on the Patio Theology email list, please contact Pastor Jonathan at [jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

## **Announcements (continued)**

### **Youth and Family Food Scavenger Hunt**

**Wednesday, June 16, 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

A joint family event between St. John's, Bethel, and St. Peter's Lutheran churches. We are a family! We will hunt for food in the neighborhood for the CAC. The winner gets a prize!

### **Youth Summer Meet-Up**

**Wednesday, June 23, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

A joint HS/MS event between St. John's, First English Lutheran Church in Faribault, and Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Owatonna. Meet at the River Bed Nature Center in Faribault for games, connection building, and worship.

### **Bingo, Bubbles, and Root Beer Night**

**Wednesday, June 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Brockman/Evenson Farm**

The Children's Board is hosting Bingo, Bubbles, and Beer Night (root beer, that is). Bring the whole family for a fun night outdoors together. Bring a blanket, a mask, and an item or two for the Blessing Box. Questions? Contact Julie Brehmer at [children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:children@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

### **International Travel Opportunity to Germany: Next Summer, July 6-16, 2022**

Next July, new St. John's members, Pastor Grant and Ruth Bretheim Aaseng will be leading a tour of Lutheran heritage sites, as well as the COVID-19 re-scheduled performance of *In the Steps of Martin Luther and the Passion Play of Oberammergau*, flying from Minneapolis. The cost is \$4,717 per person. Contact Grant or Ruth Aaseng for more information or to express interest in signing up for this trip at: [glbaaseng@charter.net](mailto:glbaaseng@charter.net).

### **Fair Trade Coffee, Tea & Chocolates, and Thistle Farms Soaps**

Contact [dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com) to place your order for contactless delivery.

### **Thank You for supporting the Blessing Box at St. John's!**

The Blessing Box is located on the north side of St. John's and contains hygiene and food products as a "stop and go" location for anyone needing a helping hand. It's been a busy site this past year and the need is great at this time! All donations have been greatly appreciated. Items that go quickly are: toilet paper, hand soap/sanitizer, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant and feminine products, as well as take and eat food items. Feel free to donate items directly to the Blessing Box. Questions? Email Julie Brehmer at [children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:children@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*

Brad Kmoch, Andy and Izzie Nelson

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James,  
Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Jim Thompson,  
Howard Thorsheim, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

*All who are homebound, including*

Arlene Sivanich, Joan Carlson, Richard Olson

*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](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor.

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (June 20):**

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Job 38:1-11   †   Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32   †   2 Corinthians 6:1-13   †   Mark 4:35-41**

## **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, June 14</b>	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Patio Theology, Home of Pastor Jonathan Davis
<b>Tuesday, June 15</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Stephen Ministers via Zoom
<b>Wednesday, June 16</b>	7:00 p.m.	Youth and Family Food Scavenger Hunt
<b>Thursday, June 17</b>	7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Executive Committee via Zoom Quilters, Fellowship Hall
<b>Friday, June 18</b>	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday, June 19</b>	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service - Pauline Fagre, Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, June 20</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Worship, Sanctuary

## **Church Office Hours**

During the summer, the office will be staffed Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Phones will be answered until 5:00 p.m. The building will be accessible outside of office hours by appointment or if you have a scheduled meeting. Groups may schedule events in the church building, following current CDC guidelines, which recommends masks for all unvaccinated persons.



St. John's  
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://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.