



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 16, 2024 † 9:30 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 — Sonata III

Johann Ernst Galliard

- I. Largo
- II. Allegro
- III. Spiritoso

Jo Ann Polley, bass clarinet

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 879

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Stanzas 2–4 may be sung in harmony.

***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, 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.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus 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. ²³On 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. ²⁴All 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.

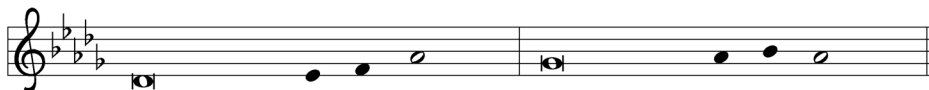
L The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Antiphon: John Bell

*Antiphon: God has chosen me, and in my life is planted a seed
God knows that I need: its fruit shall be joy.*



¹It is a good thing to give thanks [|] to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, [|] O Most High;

²**to herald your love [|] in the morning
and your faithful- [|] ness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and [|] on the lyre,
and to the melody [|] of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your [|] acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works [|] of your hands. *Antiphon***

¹²The righteous shall flourish [|] like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a ce- [|] dar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house [|] of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts [|] of our God;**

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit [|] in old age;
they shall be [|] green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how up- [|] right the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is [|] no injustice. *Antiphon***

Second Reading — 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For 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. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶From 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. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel — Mark 4:26-34

Spark Story Bible, page 320

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter. **C** Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet 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.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 1046

“As Rivers Flow from a Distant Spring”

*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

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

Grand Concerto in F Major

Johann Nepomunk Hummel

II. Romanza: Andantino e cantabile

*Offering Hymn — “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of 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, God of pow-er and might,



heav-en 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. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

*Words of Institution

***Prayer after Communion**

☞ O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

☞ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 551

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude — Prelude and Fugue in F Major

J. S. Bach



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Co-Presiding	Kristin Partlo
Assisting Minister	Sandi Gerdes
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Bass Clarinet	Jo Ann Polley
Cantor	Julie Zdenek
Communion Prep	TBD
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters	Gary and Christine Engstrom, Julie Thorsheim
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Jeff Wood
Refreshments	Rhonda Reece, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Julie Thorsheim
Nursery	Emma Kmoch
Counters	Gary Engstrom, Judd Lohmann, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	Chuck Cannon, Bob Nyvall, John Ophaug, Dean Schoeb

We had a wonderful week at VBS with the theme, "Camp Firelight"!

Thank you to Bethel Lutheran Church and their Children's Ministry Director, Brenda Rabbe, for collaborating with St. John's to make this a special week for our children and volunteers.

Thank you to our fantastic St. John's volunteers:
Stephanie Bennett, Madelynn Bennett, Lauren Blumhoefer, Jonathan Davis,
Charlotte De Vries, Kristy Harms, Arielle Loy, Imogene Jackman,
Marin McBroom, Izzy Rudser, Maddy Rudser, Greta Skoglund

See you next summer for VBS!

~ Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Bulletin artwork by Judy Swanson.

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Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Louis & Lucille Vang, Lana Hammer, and Harold Vang by Kathy Vang. 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), please contact Leah Garlie at 645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Available dates: June 23 & 30 and August 18 & 25.

Church Softball League Games

Tonight, 9:15 p.m., Sechler 1

St. John's vs. Canvas

Join the fun! Come cheer our team on! For the full summer schedule, go to <https://sites.google.com/site/northfieldchurchsoftballleague/home>.

Pub Theology Summer Theme—*Humbler Faith, Bigger God*

June 17, 6:00–7:30 p.m., The Contented Cow

Pub Theology has returned to its weekly schedule (except for a few here and there) on Mondays. This summer we will walk through the topics of Sam Wells's new book *Humbler Faith, Bigger God: Finding a Story to Live By*. In this book, Sam Wells tries to speak to the skepticism and doubts of people by addressing ten difficult questions about Christianity. Questions like: *Is Christianity just a fairytale for the young? Can faith and science co-exist? Why is there so much suffering in the world? Is Christianity just one faith path among many?* Each week we will discuss these questions. Reading the book for each week is not a requirement, but it might help. If you would like to purchase this book, please reach out to Content Bookstore. If you would like to be added to our Pub Theology e-mail list, please reach out to Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Solar Panel Installation is Beginning!

Thanks to your generosity in the Sustaining Grace Campaign, All Solar Energy begins its work this week installing our solar array on the flat roof portions of our building. Installation is estimated to take three weeks. Thanks in advance for your patience as we operate around the inevitable disruptions of this work. Contact Leah Garlie at the church office if you have questions about the project's impact on your own use of the building.

Summer Fun Event for Youth

Youth from St. John's, Bethel, and St. Peter's get together in the summer months for some fun and service work. Here is the June event:

- What: Feed My Starving Children
- Who: All Youth (Grades 6–12)
- When: Thursday, June 20, exact time TBA (start around 4:30 p.m.)
- Where: We'll carpool and will send out an RSVP as the date gets closer.

Announcements (continued)

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, June 21, from 12:00–5:00 p.m.

Please consider helping by donating blood at our upcoming blood drive. Sign up at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html> or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Summer Choir Invitation

This summer you are invited to two summer choir opportunities. Come join your friends or try out the choir for the first time. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the choir room to rehearse and then sing for the 9:30 a.m. service. Anyone is welcome to participate! You don't have to be in the St. John's Chorale to join us.

- Next Sunday, June 23
- Sunday, August 18

Any questions, contact Nathan Proctor at music@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Fields of Promise: Sally and Peder Lindell share about their time in Ethiopia

Sunday, June 23, 10:45 a.m., St. John's Hall

Sally and Peder Lindell were able to travel to the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia in January of 2024 with a non-profit called Fields of Promise that works with orphans and the visually impaired. Join us for a short time of sharing stories and hearing about children and blind students in need of monthly sponsorship as well as other ways you may get involved and enjoy some photos from their trip. To learn more, visit www.fieldsofpromise.org.

St. John's Summer Suppers are Back

Sign up to be either a guest or a host for a St. John's Summer Supper after the worship service. The Adult Ministry & Education Board is organizing suppers in the homes or backyards of congregation members on Sunday, July 21, and Wednesday, July 24. It's a fun way to get to know others at St. John's!

Laura Baker—Volunteers Needed

Laura Baker Services is looking for volunteers for their monthly respite program. On the second Saturday of every month (1:00–5:00 p.m.), this program offers a monthly 4-hour Saturday Fun/Respite event where families and caregivers of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities can drop off their loved one (age 5 through adulthood) for social interactions, activities, walks, outdoor and indoor activities, and snacks while they then get some much-needed time to recharge and reset. Volunteer responsibilities include: interacting with individuals throughout the event, ensuring participant safety, assisting individuals playing games and doing arts & crafts, and supporting other various indoor and outdoor activities. Ready to volunteer? Still have questions? Contact Keri Pofahl at Laura Baker Services Association at 507-323-5147 or Kpofahl@laurabaker.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

Ingrid Alderding, Fred Huemoeller, Roberta Morse, David Sponheim

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Connie Gunderson

Family of Winnifred Alberg

Those with ongoing health concerns

Georgia Braulick, Jo Chambers, Jo Dahlin, Billi Faillettaz, John Ferguson, Bob Flaten, Paul Klinefelter, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Laila Burns Hedstrom, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

All who are homebound, including

Lois Pearson, 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; Katie Larson, ELCA missionary in Colombia

Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests

Stephen Ministry Requests

St. John's Stephen Ministers offer care to those in a variety of difficult situations. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors at 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 (June 23):

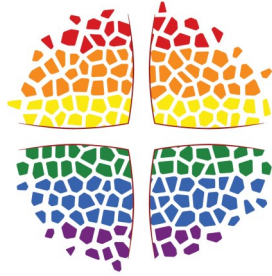
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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.*

Monday, June 17	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, The Contented Cow Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, June 18	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Stephen Ministers, St. John's Library and Fireside Room NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, June 19	1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Juneteenth Holiday - Church Office Closed Faith, Fact & Fiction Book Group, St. John's Library Evening Knitters, Fireside Room
Thursday, June 20	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Executive Committee via Zoom Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
Friday, June 21	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, June 22	8:00 a.m.	WELCA Executive Board Retreat, St. John's Hall
Sunday, June 23	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 209 Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall Sally and Peter Lindell Share About Ethiopia and Fields of Promise, St. John's Hall



St. John's

ELCA • NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

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*
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.*