



SERVICE OF THE WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 28, 2020 † 9:30 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 — Processional in B-Flat

David N. Johnson

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — “All Are Welcome” (#641)

TWO OAKS



Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are strong and
Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the strang - er bear the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
im - age of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
faith and songs of grace, let this house pro - claim from floor to raf - ter:



All are wel - come, all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

*Lamenting Injustice

- P** With the Israelite slaves of old we cry out:
Always one group is deprived of freedoms.
The poor are forced to serve the oppressor.
O God, why are some laws so marked by unfairness?



Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

Music: Avon Gillespie, © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

- P** With people of this country of every color we confess.
Our nation groans under the sinful legacy of slavery.
Our present is tormented with the reality of racism.
O God, when will the chains of oppression be broken?



Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

P Hear us, O God:

C Hear us, O God.

P Form us by your justice:

C Form us by your justice.

P Give us your life:

C Give us your life.

P Hear these words, and receive their power:

God the Father promises a kingdom of justice and joy.

God the Son lived and died for the least of our sisters and brothers.

God the Spirit inspires us to build a city of peace.

C Thanks be to God.

*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

- ☐ O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Jeremiah 28:5-9

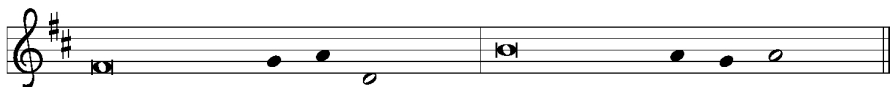
⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

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

Psalmody — Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Antiphon: Michael Krentz

Antiphon: Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing.



- ¹Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will pro- | claim your faithfulness.
- ²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab- | lished forever;**
you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.
- ³I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:
- ⁴**I will establish your | line forever,**
and preserve your throne for all | generations.’” Antiphon

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the | festal shout!
 They walk, O LORD, in the light | of your presence.
¹⁶**They rejoice daily | in your name;**
they are jubilant | in your righteousness.
¹⁷For you are the glory | of their strength,
 and by your favor our might | is exalted.
¹⁸**Truly, our shield belongs | to the LORD;**
our king to the Holy | One of Israel. Antiphon

Second Reading — Romans 6:12-23

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.
¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

***Gospel Acclamation — “Alleluia”** South African, arr. Gobingca Mxadana

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

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

*Gospel — Matthew 10:40-42

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10th chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “God, Give Us Peace that Lasts”

LOVE UNKNOWN



God, give us peace that lasts not through the fear of might, but
God, give us love that lasts, which makes of stran - gers, guests; which
God, give us hope that lasts through pas - sion and through pain, through
And all these things we ask in knowl - edge of your grace which



through the force of love and love of life and right. Where
star - tles hurt with hope and for the weak pro - tests: what
dan - ger, doubt, and death till life is raised a - gain. When
gave the earth its birth and bore a hu - man face; and



cost - ly wars and weap-ons lure, show us our Lord a - mong the poor.
hate or guilt - i - ness em-boss, con - front with Je - sus and the cross.
dread and pes - si - mi - sm loom, di - rect us to the emp - ty tomb.
with our prayers we give our word to serve and fol - low Christ our Lord.

Text: John L. Bell, © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: John Ireland, © 1924, admin. The John Ireland Trust

***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:

"All Are Welcome"

David Maxwell

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

Ⓐ O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our
way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory forever.

Ⓑ **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

☐ Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

☑ Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “The Church of Christ, in Every Age” (#729)

WAREHAM

The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry
A - cross the world, a - cross the
Then let the ser - vant church a -
For he a - lone, whose blood was
We have no mis - sion but to

age be - set by change, but Spir - it - led, must
street, the vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry for
rise, a car - ing church that longs to be a
shed, can cure the fe - ver in our blood, and
serve in full o - be - dience to our Lord; to

claim and test its her - i - tage and
shel - ter and in for bread to eat, and
part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and
teach - us how to share our bread and
care for all, with - out re - serve, and

keep on ris - ing from the dead.
nev - er live be - fore they die.
clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

*Dismissal

- Ⓐ Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Ⓒ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — Fanfare

Michael Helman



Our Worship Today

In our gospel text, we hear about hospitality and welcome as Jesus instructs the disciples as they embark upon their new ministry. Christians, then and now, continue this teaching as we look for ways to welcome the stranger or share with those who are in need. The idea of welcome is so important that we wear name tags and think about signage in our church building so that anyone new to our community hopefully feels our hospitality. But what does hospitality look like now in this season of physical isolation? In the opening hymn, how can we sing “all are welcome in this place” when we can’t be inside *this* building together? Where, now, is “this place?” Maybe a gift in this time is discovering that when we sing, memory and imagination are side by side. Even if we can’t be together, we remember an embrace of welcome from the past and dream toward what the future will feel like. In the Hymn of the Day, we are reminded in a text by John Bell that God is the ultimate Welcomer, and through grace has poured out the gifts of peace, love, and hope so generously to us. While we may not be within the church walls, these gifts are ours to share in every place we find ourselves.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	Chuck and Anita Hellie
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	Chuck Hellie

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Edgar Larson by Helen Larson and family. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Sundays thru August. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: October 18 & 25. 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 will be 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.

New Guidelines for Funerals have been developed by the Safe Operating Task Force, which will be valid at least until July 31. They are posted at the bottom of the COVID-19 page at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

How St. John's is Making a Difference

In the past month, St. John's has been able to help with challenges unique to this time of pandemic. Thank you to all who have given above and beyond their usual offerings during this time of community crisis.

- Benevolence Committee made an additional gift of \$1,000 to the Community Action Center for their emergency housing assistance, which has seen a 700% increase in demand this year.
- We were able to help cover rent for members who were furloughed during the pandemic.
- In cooperation with another congregation, St. John's provided an unemployed family with assistance in funeral expenses when their mother died of COVID-19.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, and Chocolates Continue

Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to place your order for contactless delivery.

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Our website contains additional information regarding events and programs, along with a link to our online church directory, Church Community Builder (CCB), in the top right hand corner. You can also access the church calendar.

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 safe and follow state guidelines for distancing. Connect with neighbors and friends and support each other remotely.
- 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.
- **Relief Efforts for the Neighborhoods** of Minneapolis and St. Paul that have experienced fire and destruction are popping up in many places locally. St. John's will continue to listen for how to help our cities' partners. Our sister congregation Holy Trinity Lutheran on Lake Street has been at the center of relief. If you'd like to make a financial contribution to their relief efforts, you can do so through their website, htlcmpls.org - choose "other" in the fund designation options, and type in the word "justice." 100% of gifts will be used to help meet community needs.

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, Elsie Nelsen

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 (July 5):

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Zechariah 9:9-12 † Psalm 145:8-14 † Romans 7:15-25a † Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

This Week At-a-Glance

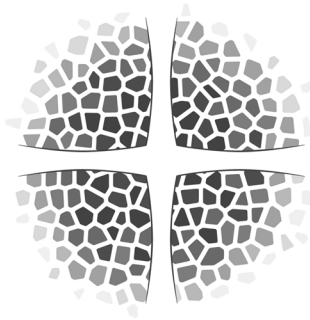
*The calendar below contains only St. John's events.
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts
on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. through August 30 (www.kymnradio.net).**

Monday, June 29	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, June 30	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
Wednesday, July 1	10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit Bible Study via Zoom
Thursday, July 2	10:00 a.m.	Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit Bible Study via Zoom
Friday, July 3		Observance of July 4 th Holiday - Church Office Closed
Saturday, July 4		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, July 5	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast Kitchen & Worship with Youth and Families via Zoom

**The church council has decided that the building will be closed
to in-person gatherings through at least the end of July.**

**The Safe Operating Task Force has recommended that
all access to the building be monitored during this time.
If you have a key or access code, please contact the church office
about the new protocols.**



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

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Northfield, MN 55057

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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.