

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 16, 2023 † 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**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 733

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**\*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**

- ☐ Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.  
By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and  
grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Children's Message**

**First Reading** — Isaiah 55:10-13

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

℣ The word of the Lord.

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody** — Psalm 65:9-13

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.*



<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; the river of God is | full of water.  
You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.**

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year | with your goodness,  
and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

<sup>12</sup>**May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,  
and the hills be | clothed with joy.**

<sup>13</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak  
them- | selves with grain;  
let them shout for | joy and sing. *Antiphon*

**Second Reading** — Romans 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the

mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** 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. Al - le - lu - ia!

### \*Gospel — Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

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

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!"

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account

of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

**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 — ELW No. 679

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

### \*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:*

"You Cannot Lose My Love"

Sara Groves

You will lose your baby teeth. At times, you'll lose your faith in me. You will  
lose a lot of things, But you cannot lose my love.

You may lose your appetite, Your guiding sense of wrong and right. You may  
lose your will to fight, But you cannot lose my love.

You will lose your confidence. In times of trial, your common sense. You may  
lose your innocence, But you cannot lose my love.

Many things can be misplaced; Your very memories be erased. No matter  
what the time or space, You cannot lose my love.

## \*Offering Hymn — "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing.

Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the

bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -

nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## \*Offering Prayer

**L** Let us pray.

**C** God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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'r and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san - na. 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.

### "Prayer of the Norwegian Child"

**Richard Kountz and Olaf Trojargson**

I lay me down upon the ground and think on my Lord Jesus. Each flower and tree tells me of thee and praises thee, Lord Jesus. Lord Jesus, think on me. Make my soul like unto thee.

I rest my head upon my bed and think on my Lord Jesus. Send angels down to kneel around my bed at night, Lord Jesus. Lord Jesus, think on me! Make my soul like unto thee.

Richard Kountz and Olaf Trojargson © 1928 (renewed) by G. Schirmer, Inc. (ASCAP) New York, NY

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

- Ⓛ We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☩ Amen.

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

- ☩ Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn — ACS No. 1063**

“God of the Fertile Fields”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude**



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

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Kathleen Shea
Pianist	Christina Brantner
Cantor	Julie Zdenek
Communion Assistants	Grant Aaseng, Ruth Bretheim Aaseng, Dan Franklin, Jo Franklin
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Pam Groves-Gaggioli
Greeters	TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Counters	Sue Brockman, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	Dave and Ruthie Neuger, John Ophaug

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover artwork "Sower and Seed" by John Maakestad, 2002.

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## **From the Stewardship Board**

Stewardship involves the responsible care of precious resources. Time is a precious resource, and the Adult Ministry & Education Board's goal is to bring members of St John's together in both an educational setting as well as a social setting.

Over the last several years the committee oversaw the reorganization of the St. John's Library including adding shelves and making the room appear brighter. This space is now used for book groups, knitting groups as well as meetings...essential in bringing people together.

In 2022 and 2023, Adult Ministry organized an ice cream social on the evening of the Summer Solstice. In 2022, 55 people traveled to Valley Grove to hear speakers on the History of Valley Grove, tour the cemetery, and hear about their prairie restoration project. In June 2023, over 60 people attended a joint ice cream social at Vang Lutheran. A lot of information about Vang's history was shared, a couple of hymns were sung, and ice cream sundaes and root beer floats were enjoyed by all. The conversations were endless and new connections were made.

# **Announcements**

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

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in memory of Milo Quinnell by Elouise Quinnell and family. 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 507-645-4429 or [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). Available Dates: September 24 and October 8, 15 & 29.

## **Church Softball League Games**

**Today, 8:15 p.m., Sechler Park, Field 1**

***St. John's vs. Hosanna***

Join the fun! Come cheer our team on! For the full summer schedule, check the bulletin board in the Commons.

## **Pub Theology: ELCA Study on Civic Life and Faith**

**Monday, July 17, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Culver's (in the private meeting room)**

A robust group from Bethel, St. John's, and St. Peter's met on June 26 and July 10 to discuss the development of the ELCA's Civic Life and Faith social statement. These were 2 of 3 sessions led by the commission's co-chair, Anthony Bateza. The last meeting is Monday, July 17, at 6:00 p.m. Grab dinner or dessert and come learn with us.

## **Birthday Brunch: All are invited!**

Please join us for brunch following worship on Sunday, August 6, in honor of the late Ruth Hansen's posthumous 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Whether she knew you or not, she would have insisted that you come!

*~Ruth's Family & St. John's Staff*

## **Adult Ministry & Education Board and the Northfield Retired Educators invite you to attend *Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans***

**Monday, July 24, 9 a.m.-noon, St. John's Hall.**

This month's speakers will be Sean Simonson, Engineering Manager for the City of Northfield, and Northfield Chief of Police Mark Elliott addressing Biking and Bike Path Safety. Our second speaker will be Lin Bruce who is a motivational speaker encouraging us with a talk entitled "Yes, I Think I Can." This will be a morning of information, conversation, and fellowship beginning with coffee, having a half-hour break with refreshments and coffee, and at the end of the speakers a sandwich lunch provided by Hideaway Vault. Cost for the morning is \$15 payable the morning of the event. Please register by Thursday, July 20, by calling 507-301-9094 or emailing [outnabout022@gmail.com](mailto:outnabout022@gmail.com) and include your name and contact number.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals**

**Wednesday, July 19, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Boe Memorial Chapel at St. Olaf College (1523 Campus Dr.)**

**Organist: Aaron Looney**

## **Bundles of Joy**

WELCA invites you to help build desperately-needed baby kits one item at a time. **This week: July 16 - Sweatshirts or Sweaters** (6-24 months). **Next week: July 23 - Catch Up Week.** A monetary donation is also welcome. Please make checks payable to St. John's WELCA with baby care kits on the memo line. Thank you for giving a baby a better start in life! Questions? Email Pam Groves-Gaggioli at [ladylynneg@gmail.com](mailto:ladylynneg@gmail.com) or call her at 562-237-3781.

## **Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed**

St. John's is committed to delivering Meals on Wheels from September 11 through October 8. Meals on Wheels is a Northfield Hospital supported volunteer organization dedicated to meeting the nutritional needs of the community through volunteer drivers. You can sign up online thru CCB ([https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group\\_detail.php?group\\_id=97](https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group_detail.php?group_id=97)). If you aren't a CCB user, you may contact the church office to schedule your delivery date(s). Printed driver instructions and information will be available at the Welcome Desk in the Commons. If you have any questions about volunteering please contact Peter Skoglund at [skoglund.peter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skoglund.peter@sbcglobal.net) or 925-989-6131, or Cynthia Neubecker at [reduncan936@gmail.com](mailto:reduncan936@gmail.com) or 612-327-0169. Thank you!

## **Rice County Habitat for Humanity: Message Update**

Volunteer builders and lunch providers are still needed this summer. We're working on the last 3 houses throughout July and August and really need your help! We can easily take 12 construction volunteers in a group on Saturdays, ages 18 and older – no prior construction experience is necessary. Lunch providers for the work crews are currently needed on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. All volunteers can sign up to help on the Habitat for Humanity website at [habitatricecounty.org](http://habitatricecounty.org) or contact Jodi Wagner at 507-403-7868. Volunteers will receive an email with further information. Your help makes a big difference!

## **Oral History Update**

Available now on the St. John's website is a 2019 oral history interview with Carol Schoen and Greg Colby. Carol and Greg share stories of their membership at St. John's and the many ways the church has made an enduring difference in their lives. You can hear the interviews by clicking on the "About" tab on the main page of the website, and then scroll down to "Oral Histories."

## 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*

John Ferguson, Keke Judge, Aiden Mandsager, Greta Matzner-Gore,  
David Quarberg, Carol Schoen, Wendy Scholz, Noah Tracy, Karen Wingate,  
Aarin Morse (son of Roberta Morse), George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Scott Barvir, Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Donna James,  
Carolyn Jennings, Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Paul Peterson,  
John Quam, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom,  
Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

*All who are homebound, including*

Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

*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*

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 (July 23):

*Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

Isaiah 44:6-8 + Psalm 86:11-17 + Romans 8:12-25 + Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

# **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).*

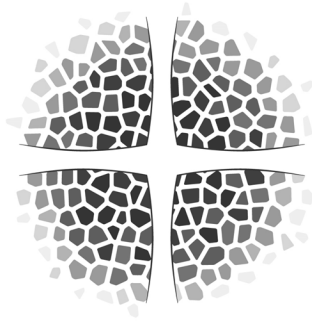
<b>Monday, July 17</b>	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Culver's Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
<b>Tuesday, July 18</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Stephen Ministers, St. John's Library NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
<b>Wednesday, July 19</b>	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Meeting, Undercroft
<b>Thursday, July 20</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Faith, Fact & Fiction Book Group, St. John's Library Executive Committee via Zoom
<b>Friday, July 21</b>	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, July 22</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, July 23</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

## **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.

*The Voice* (August 2023 Edition): Due by July 15



# St. John's

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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*

Emmanuel Kaghondi, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*

Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

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