

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 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

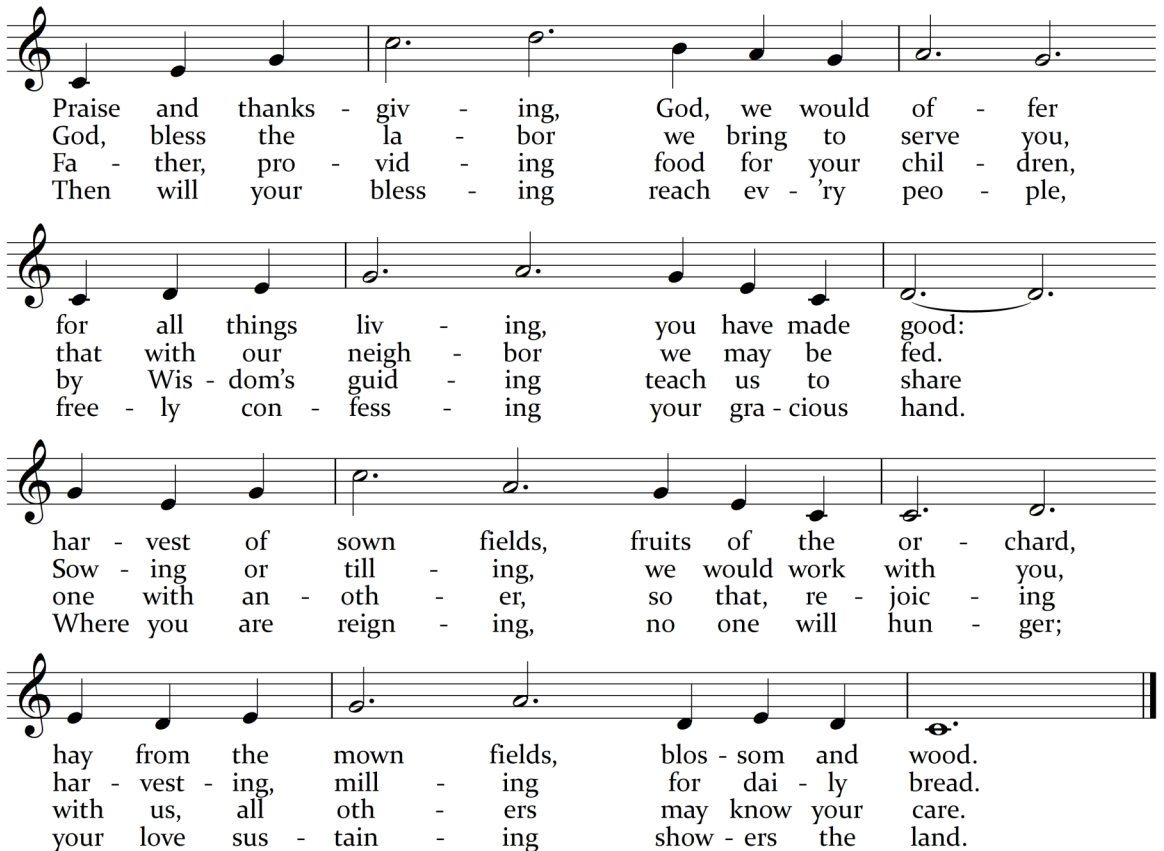
Prelude — "Morning Prayer"

Nicholas Palmer

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — "Praise and Thanksgiving" (#689)

BUNESSAN



Praise and thanks - giv - ing, God, we would of - fer
God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you,
Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren,
Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple,

for all things liv - ing, you have made good:
that with our neigh - bor we may be fed.
by Wis - dom's guid - ing teach us to share
free - ly con - fess - ing your gra - cious hand.

har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the or - chard,
Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work with you,
one with an - oth - er, so that, re - joic - ing
Where you are reign - ing, no one will hun - ger;

hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly © Oxford University Press; Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

*Thanksgiving at the Font

P We praise you, O God, for water—
the Cannon and Mississippi rivers,
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,
the water for drinking and bathing.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We remember the waters of Jesus—
baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee,
drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda,
washing the disciples' feet.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We praise you, O God, for this font.
Breathe into this water, wash away our sin,
and bring Wesley anew into your peace and joy.

C We praise you, O God, for baptism.

P O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.
O God, you are the River, saving us from death.
O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.
We praise you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
today, tomorrow, forever.

C Amen.

*Hymn — "Remember and Rejoice"

ST. THOMAS

Re - mem-ber and re - joice; re - newed by floods of grace.
God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.

We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.
Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

*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** Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with
firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your
kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.
C Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Psalmody — Psalm 86:11-17

Antiphon: Mark Sedio

Antiphon: Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth



- ¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.
¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore.

¹³For great is your | love toward me;
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.

¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent people | seeks my life;
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes. *Antiphon***

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me
may see it and be | put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation — “Alleluia”**

South African, arr. Gobingca Mxadana



***Gospel — Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

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

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Bishop Regina Hassanally

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — "O God in Whom All Life Begins"

RESIGNATION



O God in whom all life be - gins, who births the seed to fruit,
U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
Through tears and laugh - ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;
be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.
Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your name
Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;
de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
then send us forth in love and faith to live the word we say.

Text: Carl Daw, © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism — *Front of hymnal pages 227-231*

The Triune God proclaims Wesley Isaac Barvir as a beloved child this morning in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Wesley's parents are Amy Kraushaar and Scott Barvir, and his sponsors are Claire Tschaan and Britney Haugh.

Presentation

- ☐ People of God, do you promise to support Wesley Isaac and pray for him in his new life in Christ?
- ☒ We do.

*Profession of Faith

- ☐ Do you believe in God the Father?
- ☒ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

A 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

A 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.

***Thanksgiving at the Font**

Baptism

Welcome

P People of God, Wesley is our new brother in Christ,
Let the people say, Amen! **A** Amen!

P He is a worker with you in the kingdom of God,
Let the people say, Welcome! **A** Welcome!

P Wesley belongs to God forever,
Let the people shout, Alleluia! **A** Alleluia!

***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:

"Beloved, God's Chosen"

Edwin Childs

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

P O God of growth and abundance,
like a mustard seed sown in a field,
the smallest of all the seeds becomes a tree,
so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches,

C **The kingdom of God is here, and coming.**

P Like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with
three measures of flour until all was leavened,

C **The kingdom of God is here, and coming.**

P Like a merchant in search of fine pearls, finding one of great value,
sells all their possessions and buys the pearl,

C **The kingdom of God is here, and coming.**

P We thank you for your Word,
which has come and is coming,
and continues to grow within us.

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**

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

C **Amen.**

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ’s teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God’s children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Text: Omer Westendorf, © 1964 World Library Publications.

***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.



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis and Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Rev. Regina Hassanally, Bishop Southeastern Minnesota Synod
Assisting Minister	Hassanally Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art "Wheat and Weeds" by John Maakestad, 2002.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Milo Quinnell by his wife 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: November 15, 22 & 29. 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.

Announcements (continued)

Grief Gathering

Tuesday, July 21, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom

It can be strange to mourn a loved one without all the usual rituals of gathering with others, eating and sharing stories. Normally each summer St. John's invites those who have lost a loved one in the last year to gather in the Fireside Room. This year, for now, we are gathering via Zoom on Tuesday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m. We will tell stories about our lost ones, share the experiences of the past months, and pray. If you have lost someone you love during this pandemic (whether or not they are family), you are invited to join us. Contact Pastor Pam to RSVP.

RSVP for Outdoor Worship on Sunday, August 2.

St. John's will gather at Goodtree Farmstead northwest of Northfield for a physically distanced outdoor service. We will pray and have Holy Communion together following the radio worship. In order to plan for appropriate physical distancing, we would appreciate your RSVP. Please use this form: <https://forms.gle/8UUHHvj19j1fOiHsz>. We will begin gathering at 11:00 a.m., with a short service beginning around 11:30 a.m. All attendees will be asked to wear masks and to bring their own bread and cup for communion. Ushers will assist you to seat appropriately in family groups. We will not hold the service in excessive heat or if storms threaten. The rain date is August 9.

Adult VBS: Seeing Genesis with Grown-Up Eyes

Many of us learned the stories of Genesis as small children in Sunday School or VBS. But when we read them with adult eyes, all sorts of issues pop out that might not have been so vivid before: sibling rivalry, fertility issues, marital strife, family dysfunction in abundance. And yet, these are the families God chooses to bless the world. Join us for a PG-13 look at the foremothers and fathers. Two times will be offered:

- Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., August 12, 19 & 26
- Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m., August 6, 13 & 20

Sign up at: <https://forms.gle/eGTfmP5xWzB9AAjYA>

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

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

Those celebrating the baptism of

Wesley Isaac Barvir, son of Amy Kraushaar and Scott Barvir

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Mary Pelletier (mother of Zack Pelletier)

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

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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 26):

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5-12 + Psalm 119:129-136 + Romans 8:26-39 + Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

This Week At-a-Glance

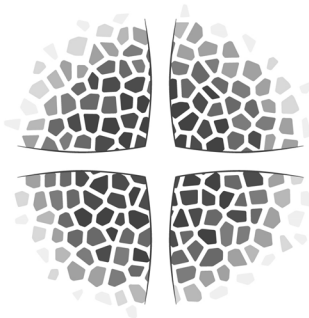
*The calendar below contains only St. John's events.
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

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

Monday, July 20	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, July 21	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Grief Gathering via Zoom
Wednesday, July 22	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
Thursday, July 23		No Scheduled Activities
Friday, July 24		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, July 25		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, July 26	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
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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.