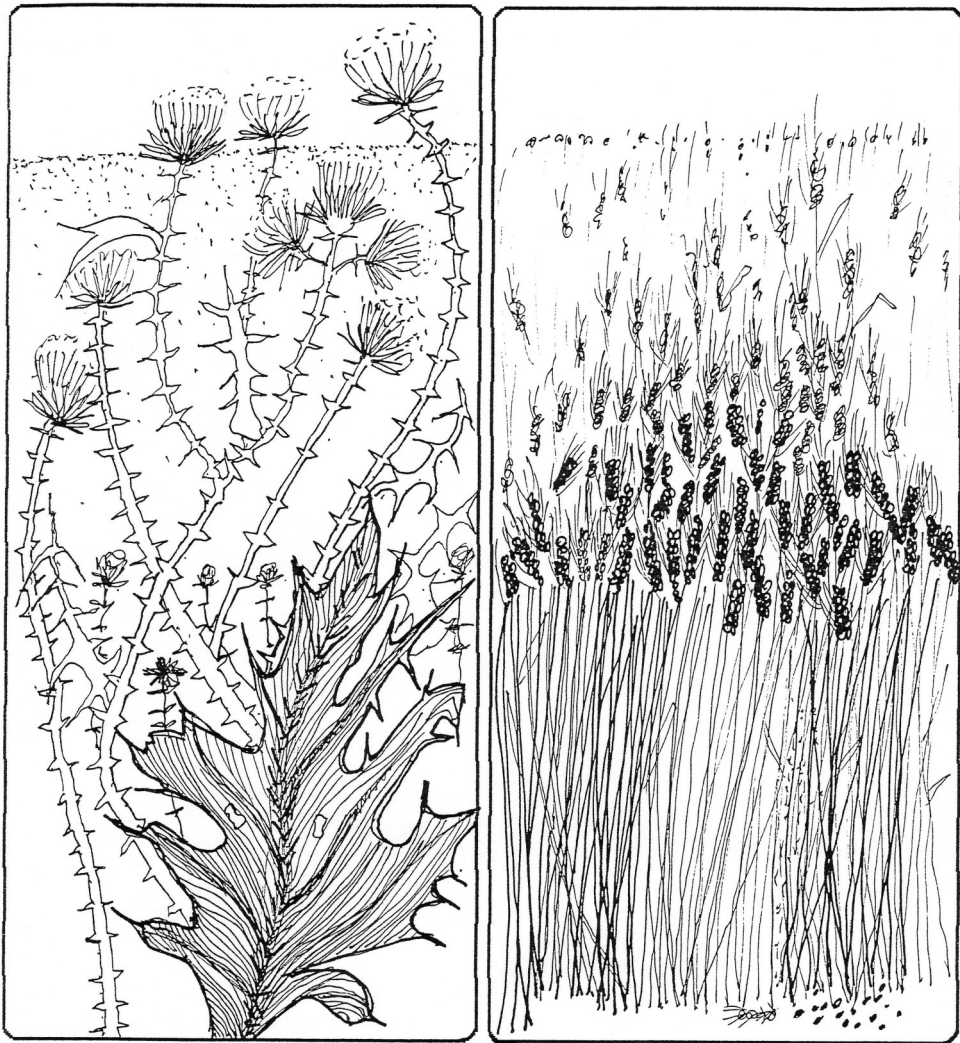




SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 2026 † 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 — on WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

Egil Hovland

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 786

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

*Greeting

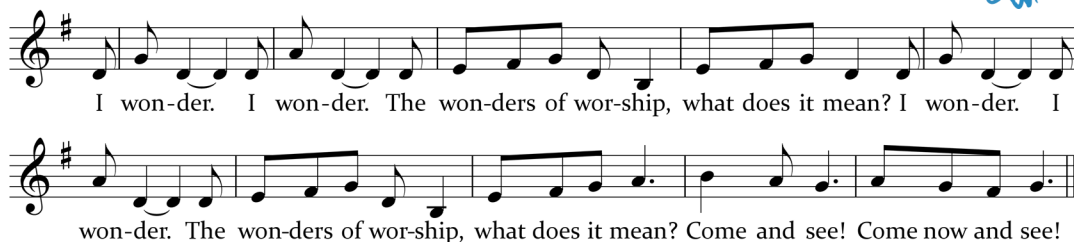
- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

*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.

Children's Message

“Wonders of Worship”



Text and Music: Anne Krentz Organ

HEARING GOD'S WORD

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, “Incline Your Ear, O Lord, to Me”

PROSPECT

In - cline your ear, O Lord, to me, for I am
With stead - fast love and mer - cy sure, you hear our
All na - tions shall pro - claim you Lord, and laud your
weak and need your care; my God, my an - chor,
plea, our sins for - give; and where you dwell we
works, your name a - dore. We glo - ri - fy your
ev - er sure; the tru - est an - swer to my prayer.
are re - deemed; you bless the heart where - in you live.
righ - teous ways, and sing your prais - es ev - er - more.

Psalm paraphrase: Michael Morgan © 1999 Witherspoon Press; Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Second Reading — Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, 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 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 we in fact 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 enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 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 one already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



***Gospel — Matthew 13:24-30**

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

G **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,²⁵but 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.’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenschier

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 693

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

***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:

- Ⓐ 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

"For Such a Time as This"

Ralph Johnson

For such a time as this, for times of drought and shallowness, of wild and dusty wilderness, plant us deep in wonder, God, humble in your holy world. In wonder planted deep, in marvel at creation's play, at starlit night and sunlit day, root us well in gratitude, awestruck by beatitude. By thankful wonder fed, like oak trees reaching high and broad, and rooted fast in you, O God, grow us in compassion full, Christ, firstfruit of us all. Compassion green and bless our lives to rampant fruitfulness, for crying out at wickedness: may we fruits of justice bear, harvest of your love and care. May all our lives bear fruit, not from our will, nought to us due, but all our fruitfulness from you: hearts of justice, hearts of peace, just for such a time as this.

– Susan Palo Cherwien

***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.**

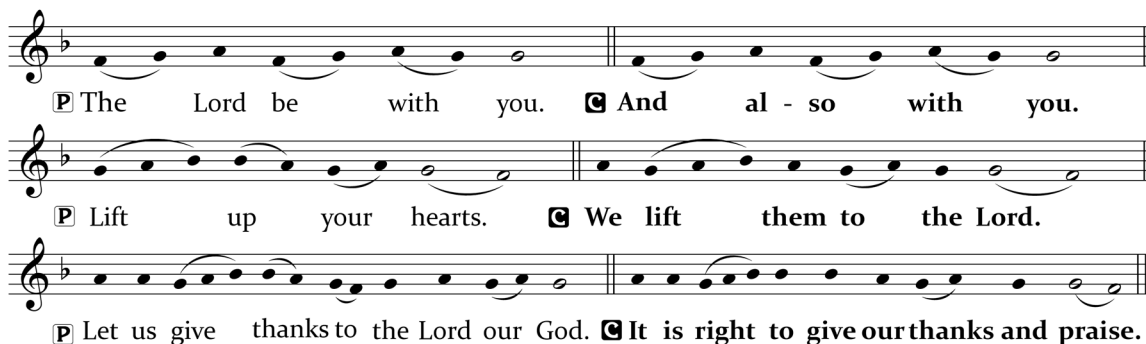
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

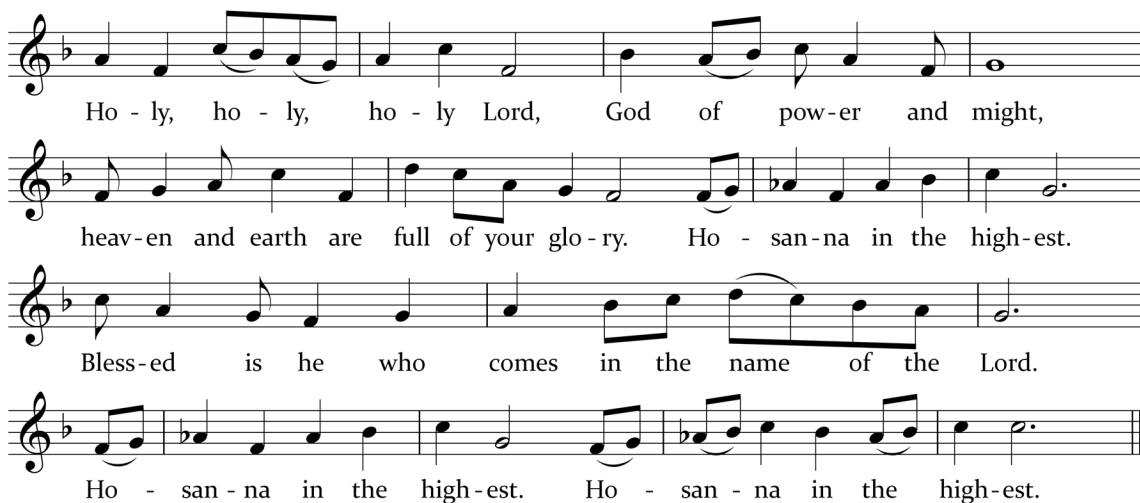


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

*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”



The musical notation for 'Lamb of God' is presented in three staves. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are written below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first two staves end with a double bar line, while the third staff ends with a final double bar line.

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.

Hymn — ACS No. 1072

“Abba, Abba, Hear Us”

Hymn — ELW No. 551

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℣ Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us and are making
all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our
enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
✠ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

Blessing and Sabbatical Sending for Pastor Pam Fickenschier

Anthem — “Blessing”

Katie Moran Bart

*May the road rise up to meet you may the wind be always at your back, may the sun
shine warm upon your face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields. Until we meet
again, my friend, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.* — Irish poem

***Blessing**

Response: ✠ Amen.

***Sending Hymn — ELW No. 399**

“O Holy Spirit, Root of Life”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Flying”

arr. Anna Lapwood



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Will Schroeer
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	Summer Choir
Anthem Accompanists	David Sims, Jane Turpin Moore
Livestream	Mark Gleason
Communion Service	Angie Gehring
Greeters	Loy Family, Sandra Nyvall
Coffee Service	Ted Peterson, Craig Schultz
Refreshments	Rhonda Reece, Karen Schuette, Gerri Licke
Counters	Sue Brockman, Brenda Bultman, Marilyn Calcutt
Ushers	Scott and Elaine Nesbit, John Ophaug



TODAY

St. John's
SUNDAY FUN DAY

Sunday July 19

Join us at Oddfellows Park
1016 Forest Avenue
NEW TIME: 4-6 p.m.

All ages are welcome.
Bring friends!
Food & drinks provided.

Games include water games,
cornhole, frisbee...

Hosted by the Adult Ministry
and Education Board

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

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Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Milo Quinnell by the Quinnell family. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office at 507-645-4429. Next available dates: August 2, 9 & 30 and September 20 & 27.

Church Softball League

Tonight, July 19, 6:00 p.m., Babcock

St. John's vs. Life 21

Join the fun! Come cheer our team on! For the full summer schedule, go to

<https://sites.google.com/site/northfieldchurchsoftballleague/home>.

Pub Theology

Tomorrow, Monday, July 20, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Flaherty's Northfield Lanes

Do you speak “Christian?” Do you know and understand the meaning of words associated with Christianity—like *salvation, redeemed, second coming, righteousness, sin, forgiveness*? A number of years ago, historian and theologian Marcus Borg said that “speaking Christian” was in a state of crisis in North America, meaning many people don’t know the words or have no idea what they mean. Do you struggle to use or understand the words of our Christian faith? Which ones are most meaningful to you and which ones are a stumbling block or meaningless? We are starting a short series on the *words of our faith*—exploring what they have meant, what they might still mean for us today, what can be redeemed or what might need to be replaced. To begin this conversation, bring those words that are meaningful and those words that are challenging and please read Marcus Borg’s article, “Speaking Christian,” available at the Welcome Desk.

Habitat for Humanity Needs Volunteers on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in July

There’s an *ongoing need* for four construction volunteers (staining trim and/or other light tasks) each week beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the house located at 315 Poplar St. S. (The earlier start time is to help beat the heat.) On days when the weather is very hot in the afternoon, the work will conclude at lunchtime. When the temperatures are not extreme, lunch will be provided, and the work will continue until 2:00 p.m. A volunteer lunch provider will also be needed for those days. Lunch begins at 11:45 a.m. If you can help, please use the Sign Up Genius links for construction and lunch. If you are volunteering and have not yet completed the yearly waiver, please do so. If you have any trouble using the sign-up, email Angie at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Habitat for Humanity greatly appreciates your dedication and hard work! Thank you!

Supporting St. John's

Giving to St. John's supports regular worship services, enhances the spiritual lives of our members, and helps to improve the lives of neighbors in our local and global communities. Your meaningful support will make an impact, strengthen congregational life at St. John's, and help us serve our mission.



Announcements (continued)

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals with Organist Noah Klein

Wednesday, July 22, 12:15–12:45 p.m., First United Church of Christ

See the Community bulletin board in the Commons for the full recital schedule.

Out'n About: *Conversations with Minnesotans*

Monday, July 27, 9:00–11:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Our first speaker will be Dan Bergeson who will give us an overview of the Vintage Band Festival for the last 20 years! CC Linstroth will be the second speaker and is excited to share information about Age-Friendly Northfield and how that committee is working on improving quality of life for older adults and community members with disabilities. Register for this event by calling 507-301-9094 or emailing outnabouto22@gmail.com. Cost is \$15 for speakers and refreshments or \$20 for speakers, refreshments, and lunch. This is payable the day of the event (cash or check only).

Bearing Witness: Stories of Faith, Accompaniment, and Hope from Palestine

St. Peter's: Saturday, August 1, 2:00 p.m. and St. John's Forum: Sunday, August 2, 11:00 a.m.

A rare opportunity to hear from Shadin Nassar, a member of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem and a Middle East and North Africa Regional Associate at the ELCA's Washington, D.C. office. Ms. Nassar will discuss the realities, challenges, and Sumud ("resilience") of Christian communities across the Middle East. Drawing on both personal experience as a Palestinian Christian and her work with church partners throughout the region, Shadin will share stories of faith and accompaniment, offering a deeper understanding of the people, ministries, and relationships that shape the ELCA's partnerships. Ms. Nassar is a daughter of the family that hosts the Tent of Nations in the occupied West Bank.

Children and Youth

Good Earth Village is Bringing Summer Camp to Northfield for Kids completing grades K–5

When: August 3–6, 8:45 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Bethel Lutheran Church

Cost: \$70 / Camper (Scholarships Available)

Good Earth Village Day Camp brings the energy, joy, and spiritual impact of summer camp to Northfield! GEV summer staff lead a week of songs, Bible study, worship, crafts, games, and connection—all designed to help children grow in faith and friendships. We are teaming up with Bethel, St. Peter's, and United Methodist Churches! Register online at: <https://goodearthvillage.org/bethel-northfield/>

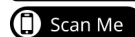
Summer Camp for PreK too! Snowball Mountain Challenge! (VBS)

Who: For kids age 3 by 9/1/26–age 5

When: August 3–6, 9:00–11:00 a.m., St. John's Lutheran Church

Cost: \$15/Child, Max of \$30/Family (Scholarship Available)

Register by scanning the QR Code.



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

Marilyn Boschee, Barbara Dettle, Fred Huemoeller, Barbara Johnson, George Pinc

Those with ongoing health concerns

Ruth Smestad Anglin, Mary Cisar, Greta Matzner-Gore, Lowell Johnson,
Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, David Norman, Mary Ellen North, Rachel Peterson,
Alice Rickert, John Walters, Ingrid Alberding, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

All who are homebound, including

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson, Carolyn Jennings

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

Contact 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.



**You're invited to come join us for
Root Beer Floats as we cheer on
the St. John's Softball Team!**

**SUNDAY, JULY 26
6:00 P.M.
SECHLER PARK, FIELD 2**



Brought to you by the St. John's
Evangelism & Communications Board.

This Week At-a-Glance

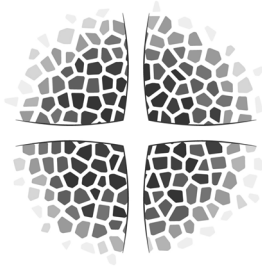
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, July 20	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Flaherty's Northfield Lanes
Tuesday, July 21	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, Fireside Room NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, July 22	10:15 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite Communion at NRC, Offsite Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite
Thursday, July 23	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room Executive Committee via Zoom Book Buddies, St. John's Library Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
Friday, July 24	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, July 25		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, July 26	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall Root Beer Floats at St. John's Softball Game, Sechler

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (July 26):

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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



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

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, Faith Community Nurse

Arielle Loy, Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist

Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Nick Gilbert, Incoming Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

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

Arturo Rosas, Custodial Associate

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.*