

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 23, 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. 533

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

*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

- ☐ 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.
- ☑ **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, “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

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

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 13:24-30

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; 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.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 952

“The Reign of God, like Farmer’s Field”

*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:

- Ⓐ 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

*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

☐ Let us pray.

☑ **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 also 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.***

On the fourth Sunday of the month during communion, we offer the practice of anointing your brow with oil and receiving a blessing. If you want, you may ask for a specific prayer blessing from the anointer.

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.

Hymn — ELW No. 516

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

Hymn — ELW No. 477

"I Received the Living God"

*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** — ELW No. 547

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

***Dismissal**

℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God!

Postlude



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Presiding | Pastor Jonathan Davis |
| Preaching | Pastor Pam Fickenscher |
| Assisting Minister | Suzanne Pfau |
| Pianist | Christina Brantner |
| Communion Service | Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith |
| Greeters | TBD |
| Coffee Service | TBD |
| Counters | Dan Franklin, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, Mark Ulmer |
| Ushers | Cindy Clauson, Dan Franklin, John Ophaug, Dean Schoeb |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

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Lectionary Readings for Next Week (July 30):

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Marie Benson and family in memory of Duane Benson on his birthday, July 21. 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 office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: Sept. 24 and Oct. 15 & 29.

Church Softball League Games

Today, 6:05 p.m., Sechler Park, Field 2

St. John's vs. Life 21

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

Pub Theology: It's Time We Talk about Hell (Again)

Monday, July 24, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Contented Cow

Do you believe in hell? If so, what do you believe *about* hell and who goes there and for how long? If not, why not? Does the Church believe in hell? That feels like a riskier question. We talk a lot about the grace and mercy of God - where does hell fit (or not fit) into that? Is the purpose of the Church to save people from eternal punishment and for eternal life? We do not talk explicitly about hell very much, but subtle allusions and assumptions to it seem to be prevalent in and around the Church and our culture. Let's talk about the behind-the-scenes-role hell seems to play in the Church and culture, and let's discuss what we, as people trying to have faith, believe and trust about God and what is beyond this life. To prepare for the discussion, please read Rev. Sam Well's article, "It's about abundant Life, not hell-avoidance." which can be found at the Welcome Desk.

Birthday Brunch: All are invited!

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

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

Bundles of Joy!

WELCA wants to remind you that this is the last week to donate to help build desperately-needed baby kits one item at a time.

- July 23 - Catch Up Week (Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Hats, Footless PJ's & t-shirts 6-24 months, Mild soap)

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 or call her at 562-237-3781.

Announcements (continued)

Electronic giving is a great way to support the ongoing ministry of St. John's, even when you are out of town or unable to worship in person. To sign up for electronic giving, contact Leah in the church office at 507-645-4429, or by email at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. "I Give Electronically" cards are now available in the pew racks, so you can show your support during the Sunday morning offering.

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals

Wednesday, July 26, 12:15-12:45 p.m., Skinner Chapel at Carleton College (405 1st St. E)

Organist: Richard Collman

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

Night to Unite

Tuesday, August 1, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

St. John's will again be hosting this annual event which is part of a national program that encourages neighbors to come together in order to strengthen connections and increase safety in our neighborhoods. The celebration includes a picnic-style meal along with kid-friendly games and activities, and a chance to see emergency vehicles up close in our church parking lot! To make this night run smoothly we need helpers! You can sign up online by [clicking here](#) or contact Angie Gehring at 507-645-4429 or sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you can provide help with one of the following:

- Help set up tables, chairs, and other needed items outside beginning around 3:30 p.m.
- Help with clean-up beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Congregational Finance Update

- Offering received through the end of June is 42% of our \$966,500 offering budget. At the halfway point in the year we would hope to see this number at 46%. This puts us more than \$41,000 behind budget, slightly worse than what we reported in April.
- Expenses are on target at 48% of budget; in order to avoid another year-end deficit, the Council will begin to review budgets, potential cuts, or other ideas for savings in the second half of the year.
- The cost to repair hail damage to the roof will be covered by our property insurance.

Reminder of Deadlines

Please send all submissions electronically to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (September 2023 Edition): Due by August 15

Please send all submissions for the E-Voice, Sunday Bulletin, and *The Voice* to Leah Garlie electronically via email to office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or the [Announcement Request Form](#) found on our website.

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, Wendy Scholz, Noah Tracy, Karen Wingate,
Aarin Morse (son of Roberta Morse), George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Louise Becker (mother of Tony Becker)

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

Richard Olson, David and Pat Halsor

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.

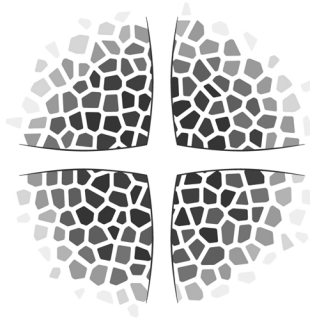
Prayer Chain Requests

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or macisar@gmail.com, or contact a pastor.

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 24 | 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. | Out'n About Speaker Event, St. John's Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Audit Committee, Fireside Room Girl Scout Troop #27517, Undercroft Pub Theology, Contented Cow Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall |
| Tuesday, July 25 | 7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 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 Church Council, Undercroft |
| Wednesday, July 26 | 10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 6:30 p.m. | Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite Romans & Christians, St. John's |
| Thursday, July 27 | 7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. | Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Book Buddies, St. John's Library |
| Friday, July 28 | 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. | S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room |
| Saturday, July 29 | | No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed |
| Sunday, July 30 | 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall |



St. John's

ELCA · NORTHFIELD · MN

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Pam Fickenschner, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Steve Harner, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

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

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

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