



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 3, 2025 † 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 — Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano

Claude Bolling

“Irlandaise”

Ruth Bretheim-Aaseng, flute; Jane Rinehart, cello

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 533

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

*Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C Amen.

*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

- ☐ Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☑ Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Hosea 11:1-11

Pew Bible, page 737

After the reading:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 49, “Hear This, All Folk Together”

MERLE'S TUNE

Hear this, all folk to - geth - er, of low and high de - gree;
All life in time must per - ish, the grave be - comes its bed;
The glim - mer of our treas - ure will not sal - va - tion win,
both rich and poor, speak wis - dom, and pon - der faith - ful - ly
false pride and vain am - bi - tion de - cay a - mong the dead.
for God shall judge our glo - ry by light that shines with - in.
how God a - lone the ran - som for mor - tal life can pay,
How fool - ish they whose for - tunes in earth - ly molds are cast;
The joy we hold suf - fi - cient is slight be - fore God's eyes,
how mor - tal wealth, like shad - ows, fades with the dy - ing day.
while hu - man love dies with them, the love of God will last.
for naught on earth can cap - ture the taste of Par - a - dise.

Psalm Paraphrase: Michael Morgan © 1999 Witherspoon Press; Music: Hal Hopson © 1983 Hope Publishing

Second Reading — Colossians 3:1-4

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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 — Luke 12:13-21

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 735

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

*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

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

Trio in G minor

C. M. von Weber

“Shepherd’s Lament”

*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 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'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

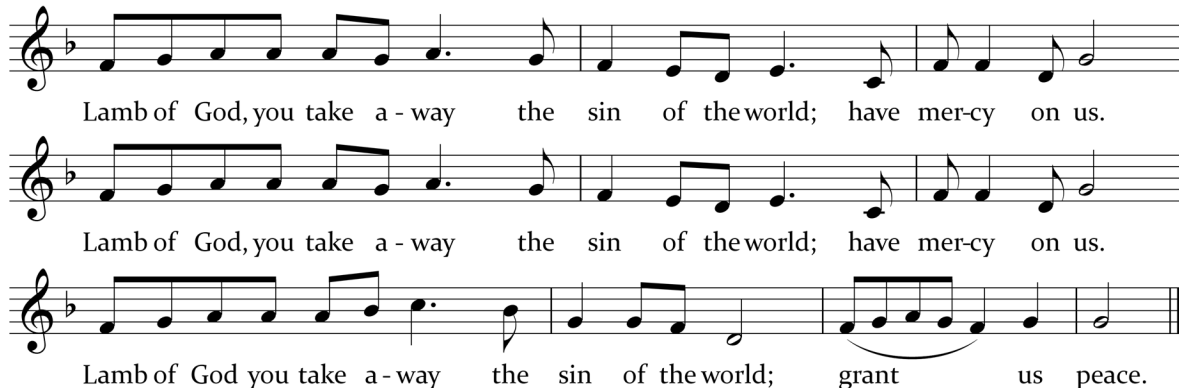
*The Lord's Prayer

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"



The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn "Lamb of God". Each staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first two staves are identical and end with a repeat sign. The third staff continues the melody and includes a fermata over the final measure. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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. 655

"Son of God, Eternal Savior"

Hymn — ELW No. 686

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- ☞ **Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☞ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 650

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

***Dismissal**

- ☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude — Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano
“Fugace”

Claude Bolling



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Charlotte and Ray DeVries
Organist	Dan Dauner
Flute	Ruth Bretheim-Aaseng
Cello	Jane Rinehart
Communion Service	Judy and Joe Smith
Greeters	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Mary Ellen North
Coffee Service	TBD
Refreshments	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Donna Hunecke
Counters	Judd Lohmann, David Nitz, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	Doug Johnson, Jon and Alison Kavanaugh, Gordon Moore



Tuesday, August 5

5:00-7:00 p.m.

All Are Invited!

St. John's Parking Lot



Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in honor of David and Genevieve Quarberg by Chuck and Anita Hellie. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Next available dates: September 7 & 21 and October 5, 12 & 26.

Church Softball League
Tonight, 7:05 p.m., Sechler 2
St. John's vs. Emmaus

Night to Unite
Tuesday, August 5, 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 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.

A Request for Congregational Input from the Benevolence & Social Concerns Board

Hello! We on the B&SC Board have been dreaming big for the last year and a half and recently realized, we need your help. We have the potential to get even more active as a church in our community and make a meaningful difference. The question is, where? Or how? What do you see as the greatest needs in our community where St. John's could offer hope and support? Using our resources grounded in faith, what larger action could we as a congregation take to make a positive impact? If you feel moved to share an idea with us, email Andrea Hoff, Chair of the B&SC Board, at andrea.hoff37@gmail.com by August 12. We look forward to hearing from you!

School Supply Donations Requested for Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Purchased supplies can be left in the cardboard School Bus in the Commons through Sept. 7. A list of needed items is at the School Bus. Cash donations are also welcome, and the WELCA team will make the purchases for you. Make checks to St. John's WELCA and write school kits on the memo line. Checks may be left in the church office or the offering plate on Sundays. Our goal is to pack at least 200 kits, so many supplies are needed (for example, 800 notebooks to put 4 in each bag). These kits make a huge difference to the children in developing countries who receive them. St. John's children in grades K–5 will pack the bags. Thank you for your support!

Announcements (continued)

A Note from the Treasurer

The financial information through June has been reported and I would like to provide a brief update on our giving. Typically, giving is a bit under budget through the midpoint of the year, but this year giving is lagging more than usual. Through June, offering is \$65,000 lower than the budgeted amount. Of slightly greater concern is that offering through midyear 2025 is \$24,000 (or 5%) below the same time period in 2024. While not overly concerning, it seems important to provide this update now, rather than later in the year. If you are able to contribute prior to year's end, your regular gifts help your leadership team go into the fall program with confidence. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this or anything else pertaining to finances at St. John's.

Respectfully,

Judd Lohmann, Treasurer

New Presiding Bishop Elected

This week at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Bishop Yehiel Curry of the Metro Chicago Synod was elected to a six-year term as the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA. Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, who has served since 2013, is retiring. Bishop-elect Curry will be installed at a worship service at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on Saturday, October 4. We pray for Bishop Curry and for all our churchwide leaders during this time of transition.

Second Summer Choir Invitation

Thank you to everyone who sang for our summer choir on June 15! We will have another opportunity to sing together on **Sunday, August 24**. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the choir room to rehearse and then sing for the 9:30 a.m. service. Anyone is welcome to participate! No long-term commitment required. You don't have to be in the St. John's Chorale to join us. Youth are welcome to join! Questions? Contact Nathan Proctor at music@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Children and Youth

Registration Opens Tomorrow for Children and Youth Programs for the 2025–2026 School Year

Check out St. John's website at: stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/. Click on "Children" or "Youth" to find out more about the programs available. Register by using this QR code or click on "Register" on our website.



What: Romans & Christians

Who: All Youth (Grades rising 6–12)

When & Where: Wednesday, August 20, 5:00–7:00 p.m., St. John's, Fellowship Hall

No cost, just bring yourself and a flashlight (even though it won't be that dark). We'll have pizza and snacks and several rounds of Romans & Christians. Never played? We'll explain all the rules, but it's a little like Sardines, but with a twist.

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

Maribeth Beck, Cindy Clauson, Ellen Ellickson, Herb Fick, Fred Huemoeller, Dennis Rinehart

Those with ongoing health concerns

Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Mary Ellen North, Alice Rickert,
Kathy Vang, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Ingrid Alberding, Kathy Applebee,
Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

All who are homebound, including

Carol Johnson, David 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

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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (August 10):

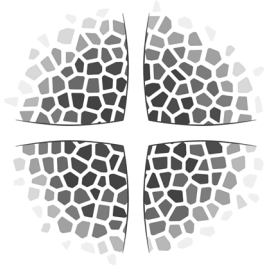
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6 + Psalm 33:12-22 + Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 + Luke 12:32-40

This Week At-a-Glance

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

Monday, Aug. 4	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall WELCA Executive Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Boy Scouts (Troop #9313), Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 5	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 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 Night to Unite, St. John's NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Aug. 6		No Scheduled Activities
Thursday, Aug. 7	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
Friday, Aug. 8	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Aug. 9	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Aug. 10	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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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, *Parish Nurse*
Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*
Kristin Partlo, *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.*