



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 10, 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 — “Improperium” and “Laudate”

G. Palestrina, ed. F. W. Teuber

Northfield Horn Club

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 733

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*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

P Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Genesis 15:1-6

Spark Story Bible, page 30; Pew Bible, page 10

After the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 33, "Let Every Nation of the Earth"

FOREST GREEN

Let ev - 'ry na - tion of the earth u - nite with one ac - cord,
Be - hold, God's ev - er - watch - ful eye sees through our dark de - spair;
and hum - bly lay their heart - felt prayers in awe be - fore the Lord.
the arms of Grace en - cir - cle us with strong, yet ten - der care;
How hap - py are God's chil - dren all, how blest God's cho - sen heirs,
the hope of count - less ag - es past, who sets at peace our fears,
for sure - ly an in - her - it - ance of glo - ry shall be theirs!
God's mer - cy and com - pas - sion shall then fol - low all our years.

Psalm Paraphrase: Michael Morgan © 1999 Witherspoon Press; Music: English folk tune

Second Reading — Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." ¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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 12:32-40

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

L 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. 359

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

***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

Allegro Moderato from *Water Music*

G. F. Handel, trans. Leigh Martinet

*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:



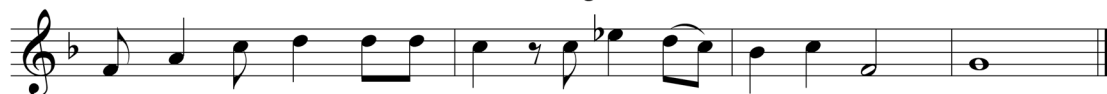
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



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

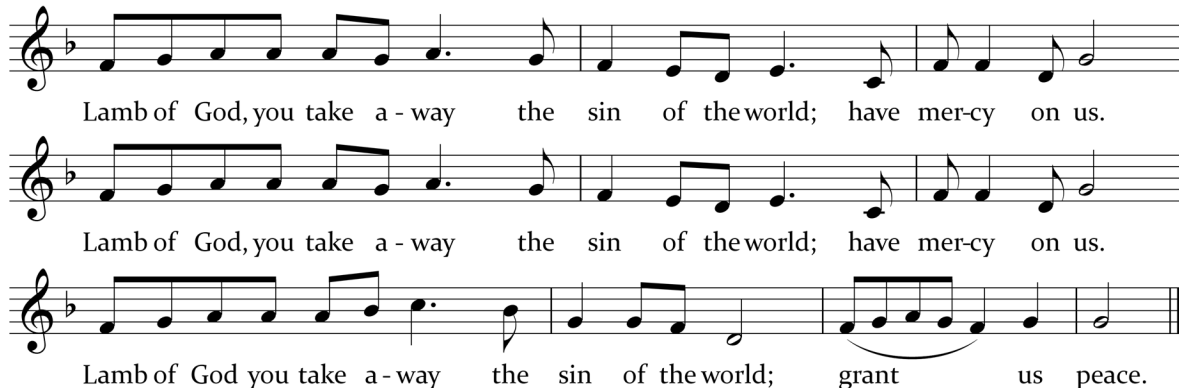
*The Lord's Prayer

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 musical notation for "Lamb of God" is presented in three parts, each on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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. 488

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

Hymn — ELW No. 764

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

*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. 418

“Rejoice in God’s Saints”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — Sextet for Horns

Gregory Kerkorian



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Liturgy setting: Holy Communion Setting 3 by Richard Hillert.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Christy & Olaf Hall-Holt
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Horns	Northfield Horn Club: Gwen Anderson, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Joan Behr, Joanne Smestad Claussen, Trish Culbert, Charlene Erickson-Knox, Judy Tonolli, Mark Ulmer
Communion Service	Rob Quanbeck and Dawn Tommerdahl
Greeters	Cindy McBroom, Karen Schuette
Coffee Service	Ted Peterson, Pat Tabery
Refreshments	Tricia Peterson
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Janell Martin, Bob Tabery
Ushers	Dan Franklin, Rick Hillard, Kent Rommereim, Don Sahling

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Bob Matta by Marilyn Matta and family. 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 and October 5, 12 & 26.

Pub Theology: What Should We Do with Violent Biblical Texts?

Tomorrow, Monday, August 11, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Flaherty's Bowling Lanes

Why are there violent passages in the Bible and what are we to do with them? There once was a church that wanted to give their children *edited* Bibles, with all the violent passages removed. What do you think about that? Why are these passages there and what should we do with them when they are so far outside of anything seen as moral or of God in our faith? Read through the article (available at the Welcome Desk) and we will discuss at Pub Theology this week!

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!

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.

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 fall programming 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

Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed

St. John's is committed to delivering Meals on Wheels from September 8 through October 4. Meals on Wheels is a Northfield Hospital supported volunteer organization dedicated to meeting the nutritional needs of the community through volunteer drivers. Sign up in CCB at: [Meals on Wheels Driver Sign-Up](#). If you aren't a CCB user, you may contact Andrea Hoff at andrea.hoff37@gmail.com or 612-743-5767 to schedule your delivery date(s). Printed-out driver instructions/information are available in the Commons. Thank you!

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 2025 Edition): Due August 15

Children and Youth

Registration is Now Open 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

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

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Erik Johnson (son of Lowell and Barbara Johnson)

Family of Larry Paquette (brother-in-law of Lori Skoglund)

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

Bob Flaten, 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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (August 17):

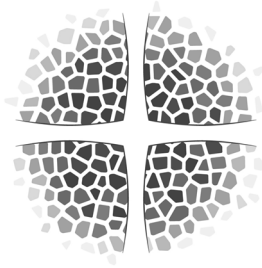
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29 + Psalm 82 + Hebrews 11:29—12:2 + Luke 12:49-56

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. 11	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Funeral - Erik Johnson, Sanctuary Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Location TBD Boy Scouts (Troop #9313), Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 12	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 Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Aug. 13	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	J-Term Planning Team, Fireside Room Politics & Faith Discussion, St. John's Library
Thursday, Aug. 14	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Courageous Conversation Book Group via Zoom
Friday, Aug. 15	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Aug. 16		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Aug. 17	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

500 Third Street West
Northfield, MN 55057
507-645-4429
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, *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.*