



✝ LET · US · RUN
WITH · PERSEVERANCE
THE · RACE · BEFORE · US

Hebrews 12

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 17, 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 — *Holberg Suite, Op. 40* Edvard Grieg, arr. Margaret Griebeling-Haigh
II. Sarabande, III. Gavotte
Jo Ann Polley, clarinet; Dana Maeda, oboe

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 575 “In Christ Called to Baptize”

*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 O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

G Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 5:1-7

Pew Bible, page 552

After the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 80:8-19

Antiphon: John Bell

*Antiphon: God has chosen me, and in my life is planted a seed
God knows that I need: its fruit shall be joy.*



⁸You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and | planted it.

⁹You cleared the | ground for it;
it took root and | filled the land.

¹⁰**The mountains were covered | by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.**

¹¹**You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.**

¹²Why have you broken | down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?

¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

¹⁴Turn now, O | God of hosts,
 look | down from heaven;
¹⁵behold and | tend this vine;
 preserve what your right | hand has planted. *Antiphon*
¹⁶They burn it with | fire like rubbish;
 at the rebuke of your countenance | let them perish.
¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
 the one you have made so strong | for yourself.
¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
 give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
¹⁹Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;
 let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Hebrews 11:29—12:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

℟ The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Luke 12:49-56

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

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹“I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” ⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☒ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 796

“How Firm a Foundation”

*Apostles’ Creed

Front of ELW hymnal, page 105

*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

Holberg Suite, Op. 40

V. Rigaudon

Edvard Grieg

*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

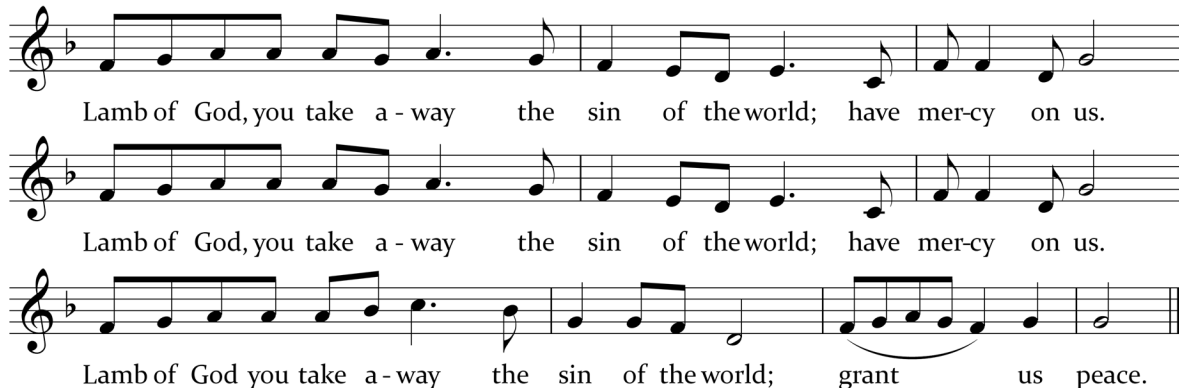
*The Lord's Prayer

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"



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.

Trio — Holberg Suite, Op. 40
IV. Air

Edvard Grieg

*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 — ACS No. 987**

“Guide My Feet”

All stanzas may be sung in harmony.

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — Prelude and Gigue in G Major

Vincent Lübeck



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover artwork by Judy Swanson.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Assisting Ministers	Hassanally Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Clarinet	Jo Ann Polley
Oboe	Dana Maeda
Cantor	David Sims
Communion Service	Brenda Nelson
Greeter	Roberta Morse
Coffee Service	Karen Schuette, Craig Schultz
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Chris and Martha Erickson
Ushers	Gordon Moore, John Ophaug, Eric Sponheim



Fruit Sunday August 24

**Come and enjoy a dessert in
St. John's Hall after worship!**

**See the sign-up table in the Commons,
bulletin, or E-Voice for details.**



Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Erik Moe by David and Martha Brown. 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 office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Next available dates: October 5, 12 & 26 and November 2 & 23.

Fruit Sunday, August 24

Mark your calendars for a well-loved summer tradition at St. John's—Fruit Sunday! Come enjoy an array of delicious fruit desserts during our coffee & fellowship time and perhaps share a recipe! We'll need several desserts, and we invite you to sign up to bring any fruit dessert of your choice. We also need a few helpers for serving and clean-up—many hands make light work, and it's fun! To sign up, email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org, write your name on the paper sign-up in the Commons today, or sign up using the CCB link found in the weekly E-Voice.

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.

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!

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 September 9. We look forward to hearing from you!

Announcements (continued)

Runway Revival

Thursday, August 21, 6:00–9:00 p.m., Weitz Center for Creativity at Carleton College

Ready for a fun and inspiring time? Join the CAC's third annual Runway Revival, a unique and eco-friendly fashion-show and fundraising event packed with creativity! Discover over 25 unique designs by local talent that showcase the beauty and ingenuity in recycled, upcycled, and reused materials. St. John's Quilters have donated two quilts to the silent auction. Buy tickets to the event at <http://www.communityactioncenter.org/runway-revival-2025>

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!

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.

Children and Youth

Registration is 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.

Summer Drop-In Lunches at Hogan Brothers

Youth are invited to join Kristin, one of the pastors, or another member of staff for lunch at Hogan Brothers, on Wednesdays at noon. No sign-up necessary, but feel free to check in with Kristin. Rising 6th graders and older.

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, Fred Huemoeller, Audrey Moe, Patrice Nordstrand

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

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson

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 24):

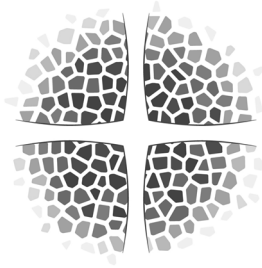
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14 † Psalm 103:1-8 † Hebrews 12:18-29 † Luke 13:10-17

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. 18	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Boy Scouts (Troop #9313), Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 19	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, Aug. 20	5:00 p.m.	Romans & Christians, St. John's
Thursday, Aug. 21	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Executive Committee via Zoom Young Artist Recital with Bridge Chamber Music, Sanctuary
Friday, Aug. 22	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Aug. 23		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Aug. 24	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 209 Worship Fruit Sunday with Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

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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, *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.*