

SERVICE OF THE WORD

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 23, 2020 † 9:30 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this morning!

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.



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

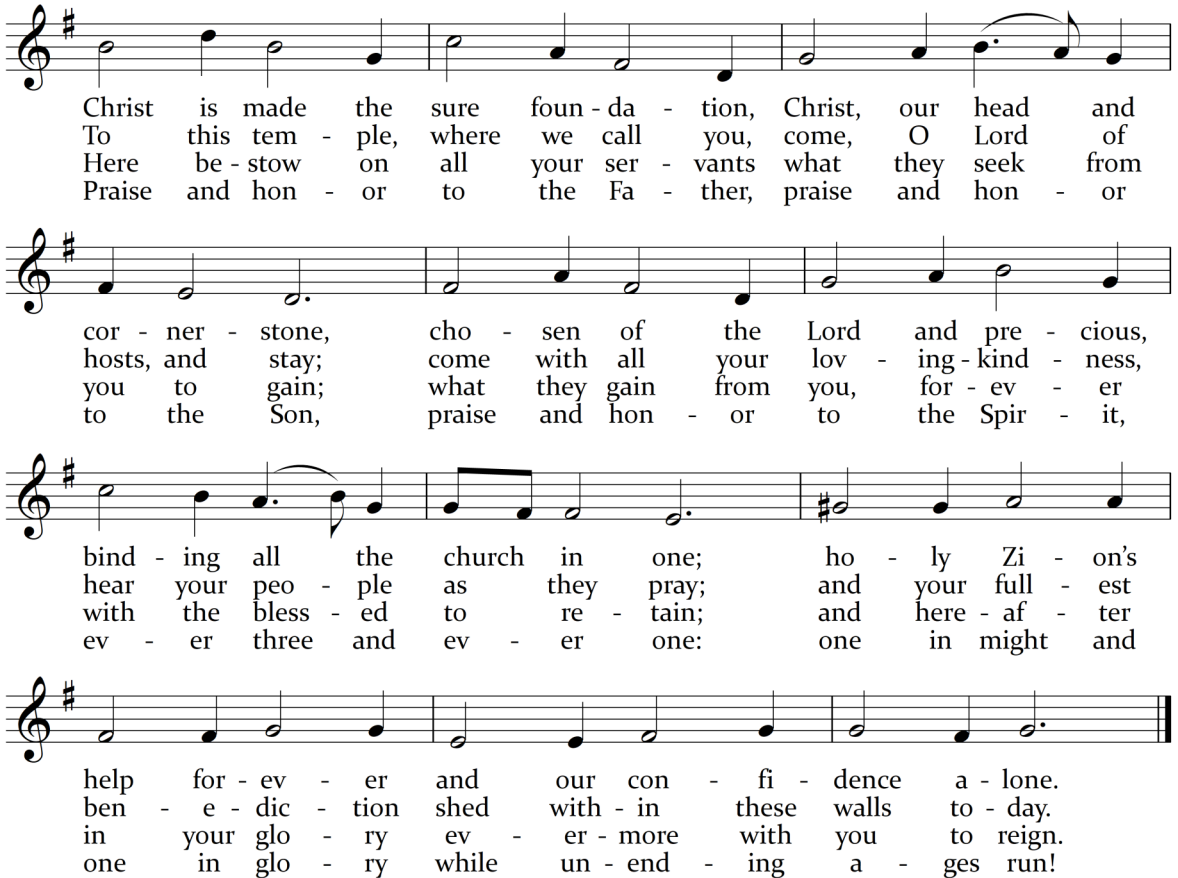
Prelude — “Valse Isabel” Op. 16

Van Veachton Rogers

Jeanette Pelletier, harp

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” (#645) WESTMINSTER ABBEY



The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, with some words hyphenated across lines. The final line of the hymn ends with a double bar line.

Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
Here be - stow on all your ser - vants, what they seek from
Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, Music: Henry Purcell, arr. Ernest Hawkins

*Thanksgiving at the Font

P We praise you, O God, for water—
the Cannon and Mississippi rivers,
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,
the water for drinking and bathing.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We remember the waters of Jesus—
baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee,
drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda,
washing the disciples' feet.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We praise you, O God, for this font,
for you breathe into this water to wash away our sin
and birth us each day into your peace and joy.

C We praise you, O God, for baptism.

P O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.
O God, you are the River, saving us from death.
O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.
We praise you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, today, tomorrow, forever.

C Amen.

*Hymn — “All Who Are Thirsty” (ACS #981)

ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY

Leader All

All who are thirst-y, come to the wa-ters. All who are hun-gry, come here and eat.

All who are thirst-y, come to the wa-ters. There's e-nough for all.

Text and Music: Brian Wentzel, © 2014 Hope Publishing Company

*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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you,
the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the
body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Exodus 1:8—2:10

⁸Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶"When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." ¹⁷But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

^{2,1}Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

📖 The word of the Lord. 🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 124

Antiphon: Jane Marshall

Antiphon: Our help is in the name of God.



¹If the LORD had not been | on our side,
let Isra- | el now say;
²if the LORD had not been | on our side,
when enemies rose | up against us,
³**then would they have swallowed us | up alive**
in their fierce | anger toward us;
⁴**then would the waters have | overwhelmed us**
and the torrent gone | over us. *Antiphon*
⁶Blessed | be the LORD
who has not given us over to be a prey | for their teeth.
⁷We have escaped | like a bird
from the snare | of the fowler.
The snare of the fow- | ler is broken,
and we | have escaped.
⁸**Our help is in the name | of the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L The word of the Lord. **G** Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation — “Alleluia”



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, © 1985 admin. OCP Publications

*Gospel — Matthew 16:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter. **G** Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord. **G** Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — "Take My Life, That I May Be" (#685)

PATMOS



Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;
 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.
 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treas - ure store;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
 take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, Music: William H. Havergal

*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:

"Etude de Concert"

Felix Godefroid

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

- Ⓐ O God of justice and love,
we give thanks to you that you illumine our
way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory forever.
✎ **Amen.**

***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.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

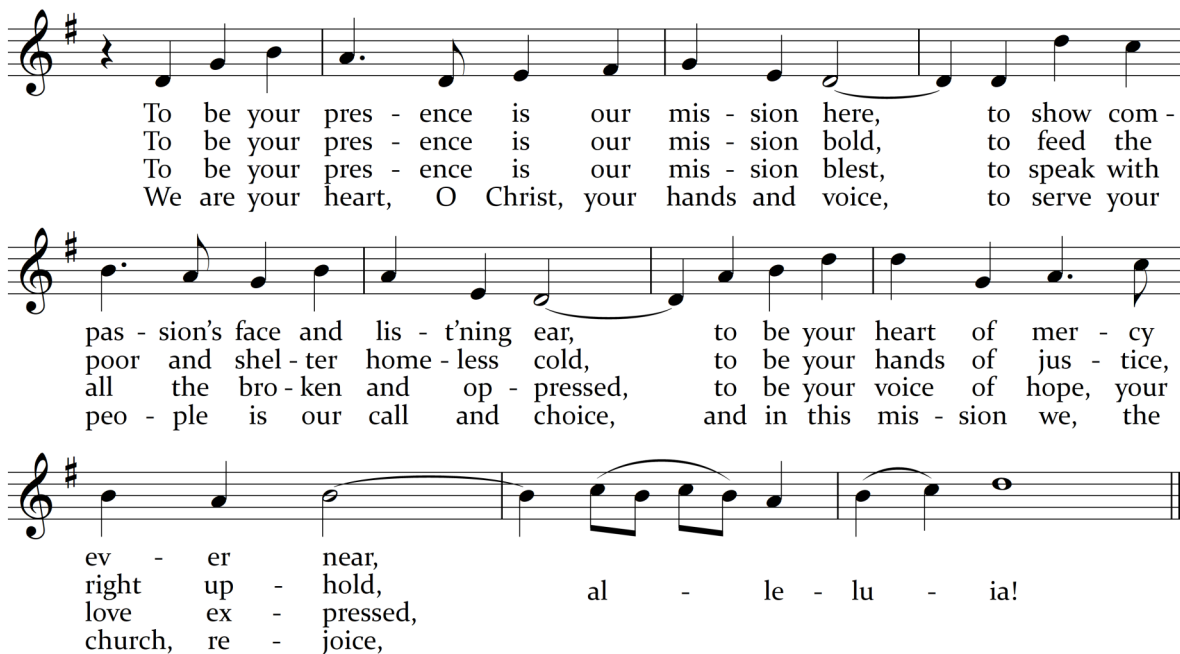
*Blessing

Response:

C Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “To Be Your Presence” (#546)

ENGELBERG



To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak with
We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: Charles V. Stanford

*Dismissal

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Fanfare”

Paul Spicer



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Presiding and Preaching | Pastor Pam Fickenscher |
| Assisting Ministers | Chuck and Anita Hellie |
| Cantor | Chuck Hellie |
| Harp | Jeanette Pelletier |
| Organist | Nathan Proctor |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Suzanne Pfau in celebration of family birthdays. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Sundays thru September 6 (the broadcast time will change to 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 13). If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: November 29 and December 20, 25 & 27 . Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV)-cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Video of this week's service will be available from the home page at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website. If you wish to have a text copy of the sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office. Other helpful links and resources will be posted as they become available on the COVID-19 page on the St. John's website and on the St. John's Facebook page.

TORCH Program Care Packages

St. John's will be compiling 20 care packages for the TORCH program this fall. These gifts are given to Northfield college students to assist them as they begin the new school year. Please consider donating these items, or build your own complete package: notebooks, pens, markers/highlighters, 3 x 5 cards, gas cards, Target gift cards, and prepackaged snacks. Other small items can be included - feel free to be creative! St. John's will add a face mask, \$20, and a hand written card to each package. Donation drop-off will be in the church parking lot between 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Saturdays, August 22, 29, and September 5.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, September 11, 1:00-7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

Watch for sign up information.

Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, September 13, 11:00 a.m., Goodtree Farmstead

Look for the opportunity to RSVP in the upcoming weeks.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates and Thistle Farms Hand Soaps

Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to place your order for contactless delivery.

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Our website contains additional information regarding events and programs, along with a link to our online church directory, Church Community Builder (CCB), in the top right hand corner. You can also access the church calendar.

Ways to Stay Connected with St. John's

- **Listen on KYMN Radio:** 95.1 FM/1080 AM (kymnradio.net) to the worship service on **Sundays (9:30 a.m. thru September 6)**. The worship bulletins will be available online and can be accessed on our home page.
- **Videos of Sunday Services and Audio of Sermons.** Video of Sunday services and audio of the sermons are posted on the website. Video recording can be accessed from the top of the home page. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website.
- **For a full list of weekly ongoing opportunities to stay connected or to see the funeral guidelines,** go to the website's COVID-19 page: <https://stjohnsnorthfield.org/covid19/>. This can also be accessed from the top of the website's home page.

The Safe Operating Task Force has recommended that the church building be used for priority small group usage only. Small groups wishing to use the church building should contact the church office for scheduling and talking through new building protocols. Staff will continue to work from home when possible.

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 mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Susan Rezac

Family of Elsie Nelsen

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Marlene Engstrom, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James,

Gene and Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam,

Joanne Sommers, Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Berta Diem, Virley Brown, Elouise Quinnell

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;

Mark Rich and Cynthia Holder Rich, ELCA missionaries in Tanzania

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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (August 30):

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 15:15-21 + Psalm 26:1-8 + Romans 12:9-21 + Matthew 16:21-28

This Week At-a-Glance

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

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts
on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. through September 6 (www.kymnradio.net).**

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Monday, Aug. 24 | 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. | Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology via Zoom |
| Tuesday, Aug. 25 | 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. | Quilters, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Church Council Meeting via Zoom |
| Wednesday, Aug. 26 | 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. | Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Adult VBS: Seeing Genesis with Grown-Up Eyes via Zoom |
| Thursday, Aug. 27 | | No Scheduled Activities |
| Friday, Aug. 28 | | No Scheduled Activities |
| Saturday, Aug. 29 | | No Scheduled Activities |
| Sunday, Aug. 30 | 9:30 a.m. | Worship via Radio Broadcast |



St. John's
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Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Tim Byers, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Christy Hall-Holt, Welcome Ministry Coordinator

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Parish Nurse

Arielle Loy, Director of Alleluia Choir

Zachery Pelletier, Director of Rejoice Ringers

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistants

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

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