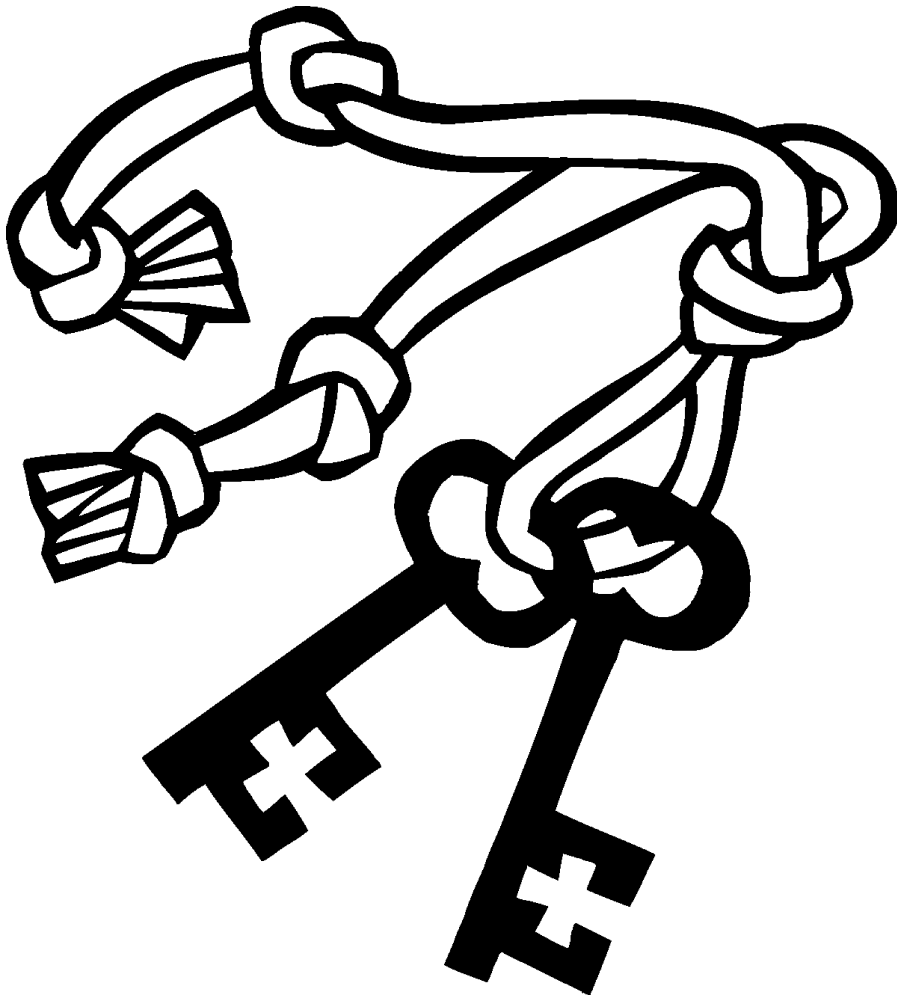




SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 23, 2026 † 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 on “The Church’s One Foundation”

Robert Hobby

- I. Introduction
- II. Adagio
- III. Intermezzo

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 654

“The Church’s One Foundation”
setting by John Ferguson

Stanza 1-3 — all
Stanza 4 — choir
Stanza 5 — all

***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 — Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

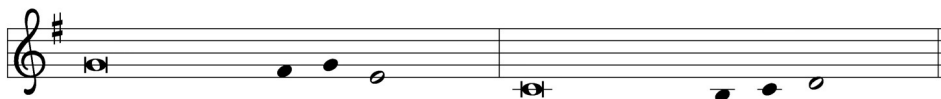
L The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 138

Antiphon: Kenyan hymn (ACS No. 1024)

Antiphon: Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.



¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with [|] my whole heart;
before the gods I will [|] sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your steadfast [|] love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- [|] bove all things.**

³When I called, you [|] answered me;
you increased my [|] strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise [|] you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words [|] of your mouth. Antiphon**

⁵They will sing of the ways [|] of the LORD,
that great is the glory [|] of the LORD.

⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares [|] for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty [|] from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you [|] keep me safe;
your right [|] hand shall save me.

⁸**You will make good your pur- | pose for me;**
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works | of your hands. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, 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 encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C 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.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Katie Fick

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 979

“Making Their Way”

***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:

L Lord, in your mercy,

C 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

"For This Joy"

Susan LaBarr

Praise for the sun, who by day gives us warmth and enlightens; praise for the moon, who the darkest night cheerfully brightens; each glittering star shining from ages afar, driving away all that frightens. Praise for the sky under heaven that widely contains us; our fertile earth, and her harvest that gently sustains us; birds on the wing, lifting their voices to sing, free us from all that restrains us. Our tender hearts, which so wondrously in chambers deeping, can cherish the joys of new love and, at death's call, the weeping. Sorrow and pain turn to rejoicing again; love now in memory keeping. Praise for this joy in our hearts as we sing of creation! Wondrous are all things from firmament down to foundation! Joyful our praise as all our voices we raise, singing in glad celebration! – Charles Anthony Silvestri

*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.

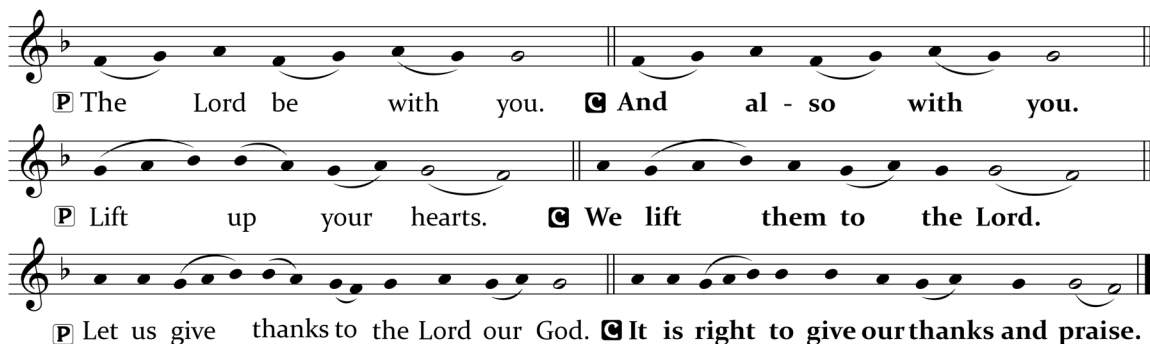
*Offering Prayer

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

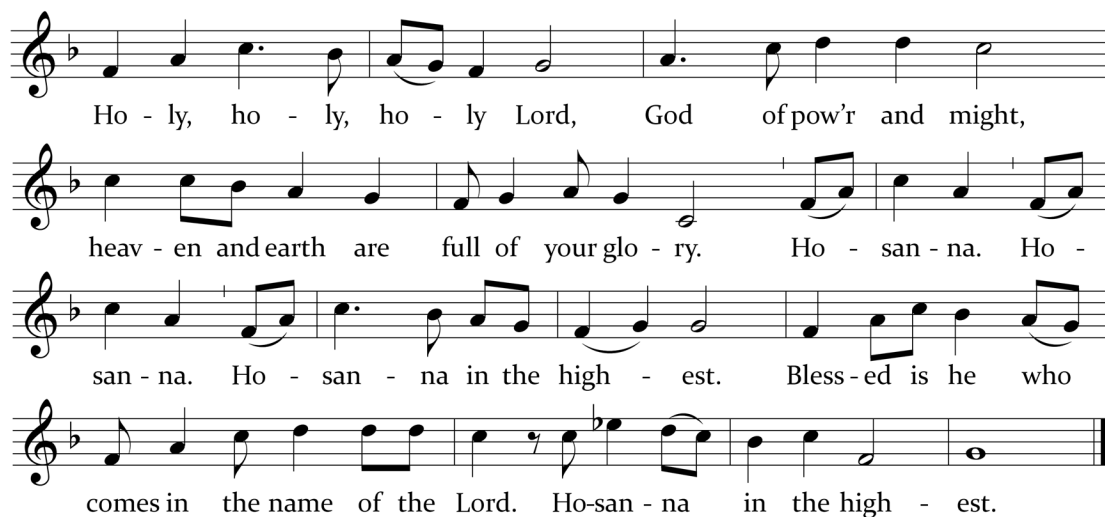


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

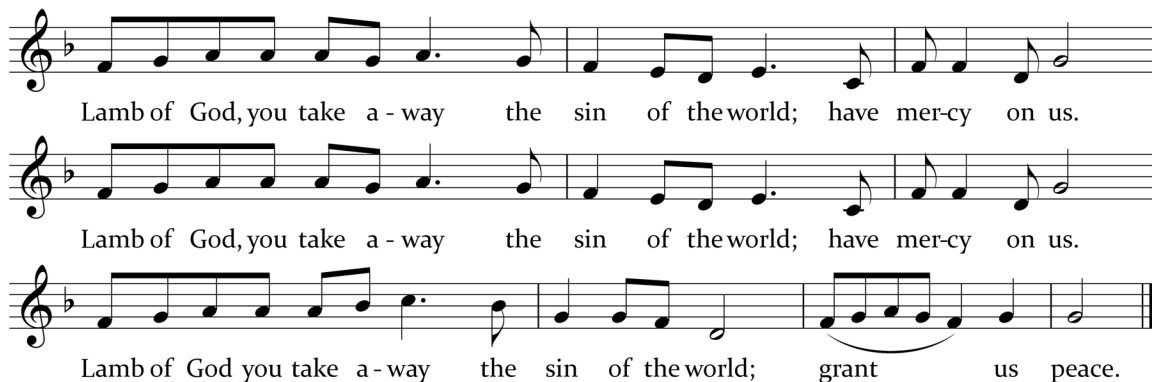
*The Lord's Prayer

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 staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. 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. 813

"Faith of Our Fathers"

Sung using the alternate text on the right-side page.

Hymn — ELW No. 767

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℣ Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us and are making
all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our
enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
✠ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- ✠ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 665

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

***Dismissal**

- ℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
✠ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — Voluntary in F Major

F. Melius Christiansen



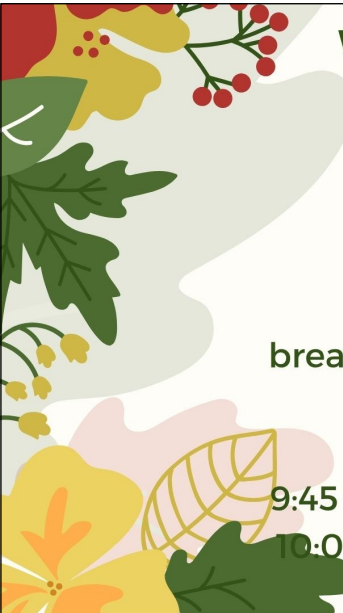
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Katie Fick
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	Lori and Peter Skoglund
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	Summer Choir
Piano	David Sims
Clarinet	Jo Ann Polley
Livestream	Dave Zdenek
Communion Service	Brenda Nelson
Greeters	Marie Benson, Marilyn Calcutt
Coffee Service	Herb and Pat Fick, Angie Gehring
Refreshments	Gerri Licke, Rhonda Reece
Counters	Marilyn Calcutt, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	Ruth Dahl, Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt



WelcomeFest

Sunday, September 20

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**Everyone is invited to St. John's Hall for
breakfast, serving pancakes, sausage, and fruit.**

(Hosted by St. John's Youth)

Grades PreK-5

9:45 am: Sunday School Open House lower level

10:00 am: Children's Activities in St. John's Hall

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in honor of the marriage of Kate Erickson and Cameron Gustafson by Chris and Martha Erickson. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office at 507-645-4429. Next available dates: October 11, 18 & 25.

Registration for 2026–2027

Registration is open for St. John's children and youth programming next year. Check out St. John's website for more information and to register.



Wellspring Circle “Bagged Suppers” and Discussion Time

1st Tuesdays of the Month (beginning September 1), 5:30 p.m., Fireside Room

Wellspring Circle invites women of generations X and Millennials (birth years ranging from 1965 ish–1996 ish) to meet every first Tuesday of the month for a “bagged supper” social time. This is like bringing your own “sack lunch” to eat, except it’s at dinnertime, while enjoying time to visit with others. The Fireside Room has a large table for eating and is conveniently located next to the small kitchen. Then, **from 6:30–8:00 p.m., we’ll have a faith discussion**, usually based on an article.

Courageous Conversations 2026–2027: The Time is Now!

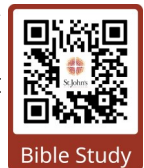
Thursday, September 3, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

Topic: *Bring Change to Mind (BC2M) - Improving Mental Health Awareness at Northfield High School*
BC2M, led by Northfield High School art teacher Karna Hauck, is a program that empowers youth to end discrimination surrounding mental health issues and to thrive in a stigma-free world. Along with student officers, Karna and Rocky Casillas (ROKATURAS art studio founder) will share their stories, their authentic approaches, and their innovative collaborative work.

New Bible Study: Come and See! A Look at the Gospel of Mark

Wednesdays (beginning Sep. 9), Noon–1:00 p.m. or 5:45–6:45 p.m., Fireside Room (15 sessions)

Please sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Commons or sign up and get more information on the [website under Congregational life/Adults/Come and see](#) or use this QR code. This curriculum is developed and led by St. John's seminary student Julie Zdenek for her master's program capstone project.



Public Discipleship Formation Opportunity

Tuesdays, August 25, September 1 & 8, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Bethel Lutheran Church

You are invited to attend a series of three sessions which will explore the question: “What does it mean to truly follow Jesus . . . today?” Using materials designed by ISAIAH MN, members of Bethel Lutheran Church will lead a group experience where participants may discern how to live out their faith and spiritual values in everyday public life, work, and community spheres. All are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Mary Loven at mary.e.loven@gmail.com.

Announcements (continued)

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 250 kits, so many supplies are needed (for example, 800 notebooks to put four 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!

Meals on Wheels—It's Sign-Up Time

St. John's is committed to delivering Meals on Wheels from Monday, September 7, through Saturday, October 3. Sign up today in the Commons! Sign-ups are also available in CCB at: [Meals on Wheels Driver Sign-Up](#). If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Andrea Hoff at 612-743-5767 or andrea.hoff37@gmail.com or Angie Gehring at 507-645-4429 or sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Thank you!

Habitat for Humanity Poplar Street House Volunteer Needs in September

The home at 315 Poplar St. S. still needs helpers to bring it to completion. If you can donate a morning/afternoon of your time (8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.) on one or more of the following Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, it would be so greatly appreciated: Sept. 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29. Helpers are also still needed for August 25 and 27. If you can help, sign up at www.habitatricecounty.org. Questions? Contact jodi.habitat@gmail.com.

Northfield History Center is in Need of Volunteers

Do you love history? The Northfield History Center has reached out to St. John's in search of possible volunteers. Currently there are opportunities to work at the store, assist with collections work, and aid in events, along with other possibilities. The center also says it can "customize potential volunteers' roles to reflect their interests and skills." If this sounds like something you may want to participate in, contact Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org for more information.

Supporting St. John's

Giving to St. John's supports regular worship services, enhances the spiritual lives of our members, and helps to improve the lives of neighbors in our local and global communities. Your meaningful support will make an impact, strengthen congregational life at St. John's, and help us serve our mission.



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 2026 Edition): Due by August 15

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

Barbara Dettle, Fred Huemoeller, Barbara Johnson, Joan Kark,
Joanie Lee, Bruce Moe, George Pinc

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of John Walters

Those with ongoing health concerns

Ruth Smestad Anglin, Mary Cisar, Greta Matzner-Gore, Lowell Johnson,
Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, David Norman, Mary Ellen North, Rachel Peterson,
Alice Rickert, Ingrid Alberding, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

All who are homebound, including

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson, 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.

Registration is now open for Children and Youth Programs, 2026-2027!

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 your children/youth by using the
QR code or by visiting our website!



SCAN ME

This Week At-a-Glance

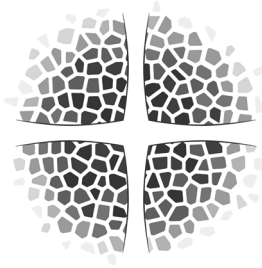
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, Aug. 24	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Aug. 25	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 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 Introduction to the Enneagram, Fireside Room Church Council, Undercroft
Wednesday, Aug. 26	10:15 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite Communion at NRC, Offsite Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite
Thursday, Aug. 27	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room Book Buddies, St. John's Library Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room Bridge Chamber Music Young Artists Recital, Sanctuary
Friday, Aug. 28	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Aug. 29	10:00 a.m.	Baby Shower, St. John's Hall and Kitchen
Sunday, Aug. 30	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (August 30):

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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



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 (On Sabbatical through October 17, 2026)

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Katie Fick, Bridge Pastor

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Steve Harner, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Nick Gilbert, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Faith Community Nurse

Arielle Loy, Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist

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.*