

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 27, 2023 † 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** — Prelude and Fugue in D Major

Dieterich Buxtehude

## Welcome and Announcements

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 786

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

## \*Greeting

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

## \*Prayer of the Day

- ☐ 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.
- ☑ **Amen.**

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

## Children's Message

**First Reading** — Isaiah 51:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
<sup>2</sup>Look 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.  
<sup>3</sup>For 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.  
<sup>4</sup>Listen 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.  
<sup>5</sup>I 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.  
<sup>6</sup>Lift 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.

Ⓐ The word of the Lord.

Ⓑ **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody** — Psalm 138

Antiphon: Kenyan melody

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



<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>|</sup> my whole heart;  
 before the gods I will <sup>|</sup> sing your praise.

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

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you <sup>|</sup> answered me;  
 you increased my <sup>|</sup> strength within me.

<sup>4</sup>**All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>|</sup> you, O LORD,  
 when they have heard the words <sup>|</sup> of your mouth.** *Antiphon*

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,  
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty | from afar.

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand  
shall save me.

<sup>8</sup>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

<sup>1</sup>I 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.

<sup>2</sup>Do 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.

<sup>3</sup>For 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. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ 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

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

📖 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And 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. <sup>18</sup>And 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. <sup>19</sup>I 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.” <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

📖 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. 685

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

\*The 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*

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

Robert Powell, Kristina Langlois

## \*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** God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.***

*On the fourth Sunday of the month during communion, we offer the practice of anointing your brow with oil and receiving a blessing. If you want, you may ask for a specific prayer blessing from the anointer.*

**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.

**Hymn — ACS No. 979**

**"Making Their Way"**

**Hymn — ACS No. 992**

**"Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky"**

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☞ **Amen.**

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

- ☞ **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 597

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude** — Trumpet Tune in C Major

David N. Johnson



## SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Karl Hella
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims
Healing Prayers	Jennifer Edwins, Kristin Partlo
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	Pamela Groves-Gaggioli
Greeters	Cindy Clauson
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Scott Stadstad
Refreshments	Ann Albert, Gerri Licke, Patrice Nordstrand
Counters	Jill Enestvedt, Chris and Martha Erickson, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt, Jon and Alison Kavanaugh

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Registration is now open for Children and Youth Programs, 2023-2024!

Check out St. John's website at:  
[stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/](http://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!



# **Announcements**

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

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in appreciation for our pastors and staff from a grateful member. 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), please contact Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 or [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). Available Dates: November 5, 12 & 19.

## **Capital Campaign**

Your Congregational Council has called an **all-congregation meeting to be held today immediately after worship** to discuss a variety of opportunities and challenges we face in the years ahead. Today was selected because we felt we had the best opportunity to engage the largest number of members in the discussion and vote. At the meeting, you will be asked:

- 1) to approve investing in improvements of our physical space by installing solar panels and perhaps other sustainability initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint while at the same time positively impacting our long-term financial health;
- 2) to approve the launching of a capital campaign to address a number of physical needs of our church and improve our benevolence to support other missions that complement the St. John's mission;
- 3) to approve the acceptance of a generous loan from the St. John's Foundation of \$100,000.

This is an exciting time for our congregation and we have been deeply blessed. Much more information will be shared at the congregational meeting. Please plan to attend.

## **Pub Theology**

**Monday, August 28, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Contented Cow**

Pub Theology is a weekly conversation around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate.

## **Volunteers Needed to Join the St. John's Audio/Visual Team**

The St. John's Audio/Visual Team seeks new volunteers to help with livestream coverage of Sunday services, special event presentations, and funerals. A/V team members operate cameras, prepare PowerPoint slides to accompany the video cam images, and help with simple post-production tasks. No experience necessary. Hands-on training provided. To learn more, contact [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

## **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Monday, September 18, 1:00–6:00 p.m.**

Please consider helping by donating blood at our upcoming blood drive. Sign up at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html> or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **School Supply Donations are Requested for LWR School Kits**

Purchased supplies can be left in the cardboard school bus in the Commons. Supplies will be collected in August and early September. Cash donations are also appreciated. Make checks to St. John's WELCA, and write school kits on the memo line. Checks can be left in the church office or the offering plate on Sundays. Our goal is to pack 200 kits, so many supplies are needed! Bags will be packed in September. LWR School Kit List:

- 70 sheet spiral notebooks of paper, 8" X 10 1/2"; no loose-leaf notebook paper
- 30-centimeter rulers, or rulers with cm on one side and 12 inches on the other
- pencil sharpeners
- blunt Fiskar scissors (Fiskar brand preferred as the other ones break easily)
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- box of 24 Crayola crayons
- 2 1/2" eraser

## **Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Still Needed for Saturdays, September 23 and October 7**

If you can help deliver meals on any of these dates contact Peter Skoglund at [skoglund.peter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skoglund.peter@sbcglobal.net) or 925-989-6131, or sign up in CCB at Meals on Wheels Driver Sign-Up. Driver information is printed and available at the Welcome Desk in the Commons. Thank you!

## **Habitat for Humanity: Lunch Providers Needed for Home Build Crew September 9, 12, 14, & 16**

It looks as though the end is in sight, and three more families will have a safe and stable home. If you can bring lunch for the small crew finishing these home builds next month, please contact Jodi Wagner at 507-403-7868, or sign up on the Habitat for Humanity website. Thank you!

## **Reminder of Deadlines**

Please send all submissions electronically to Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (October 2023 Edition): Due by September 15

**Electronic giving is a great way to support the ongoing ministry of St. John's, even when you are out of town or unable to worship in person.** To sign up for electronic giving, contact Leah in the church office at 507-645-4429, or by email at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). "I Give Electronically" cards are now available in the pew racks, so you can show your support during the Sunday morning offering.

## 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*

John Ferguson, Lester Gunderson, Aiden Mandsager, Mary Ellen North,  
Donna Paulsen, Wendy Scholz, Noah Tracy, Karen Wingate,  
Aarin Morse (son of Roberta Morse), George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

*Those mourning the loss of a loved one*

Family of Evelyn Estenson

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James,  
Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Paul Peterson, John Quam, Scott Quinnell,  
Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

*All who are homebound, including*

Rose Youngquist, Lester Gunderson, Lois Pearson

*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*

Call one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

*Prayer Chain Requests*

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or [macisar@gmail.com](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor.

## Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 3):

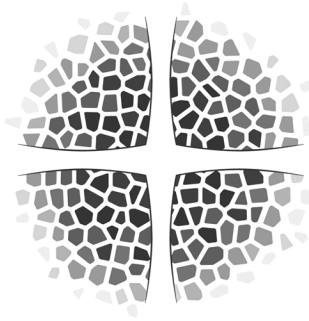
*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

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](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

<b>Monday, Aug. 28</b>	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Contented Cow Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall Northfield Girl Scout Leaders Meeting, Undercroft
<b>Tuesday, Aug. 29</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 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
<b>Wednesday, Aug. 30</b>		No Scheduled Activities
<b>Thursday, Aug. 31</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Book Buddies, St. John's Library
<b>Friday, Sep. 1</b>	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Sep. 2</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, Sep. 3</b>	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons
<b>Monday, Sep. 4</b>		<i>Labor Day ~ Church Office and Building Closed</i>



# St. John's

ELCA · NORTHFIELD · MN

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507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*

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*

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

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