



SERVICE OF THE WORD

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 30, 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

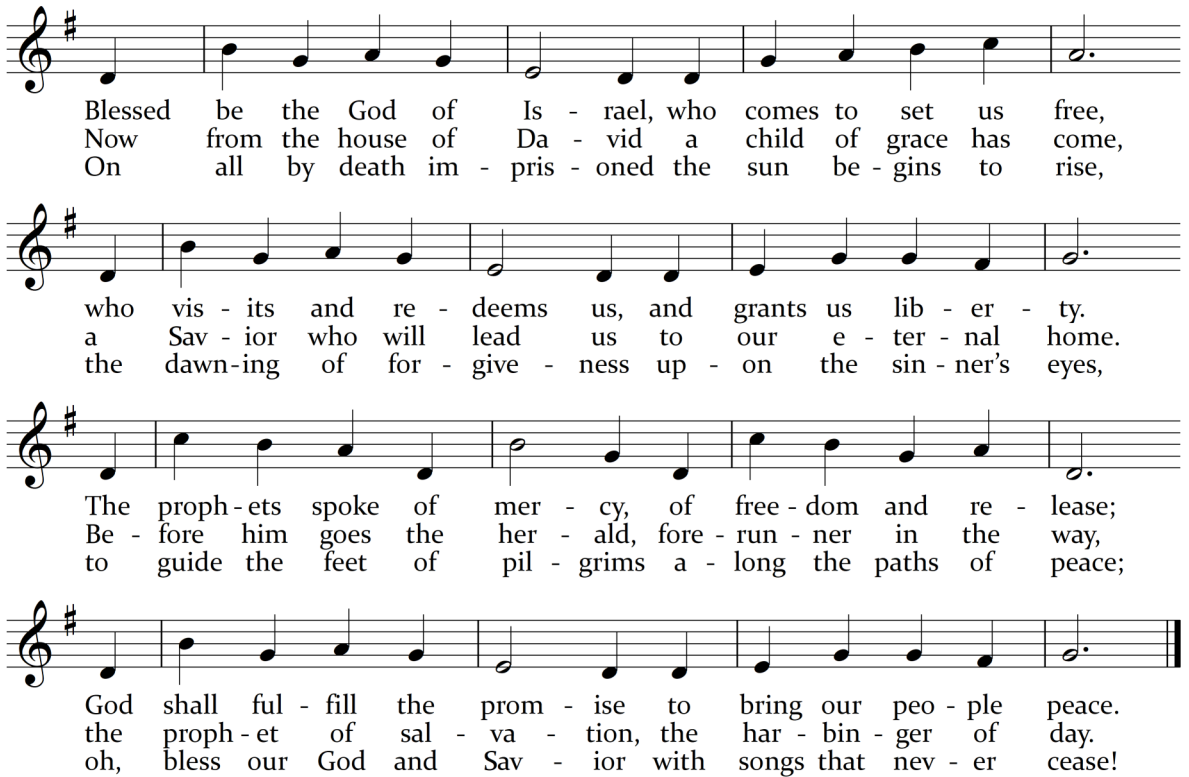
Prelude — “Let Streams of Living Justice”

Marianne Kim

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — “Blessed Be the God of Israel” (#552)

MERLE'S TUNE



Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free,
Now from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has come,
On all by death im - pris - oned the sun be - gins to rise,

who vis - its and re - deems us, and grants us lib - er - ty.
a Sav - ior who will lead us to our e - ter - nal home.
the dawn-ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes,

The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
Be - fore him goes the her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
to guide the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace;

God shall ful - fill the prom - ise to bring our peo - ple peace.
the proph - et of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of day.
oh, bless our God and Sav - ior with songs that nev - er cease!

Text: Michael Perry, © 1973 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing, Music: Hal H. Hopson, © 1983 Hope Publishing

*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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering
for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the
path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Exodus 3:1-15

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

¹³But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.”

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

Antiphon: African American spiritual
arr. Hal Hopson

Antiphon: O Lord, still guide us on our way; be our hope and stay.



¹Give thanks to the LORD and call up- | on God’s name;
make known the deeds of the LORD a- | mong the peoples.

²Sing to the | LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God’s | marvelous works.

³**Glory in God’s | holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice.**

⁴**Search for the strength | of the LORD;
continually | seek God’s face.**

⁵Remember the marvels | God has done,
the wonders and the judgments | of God’s mouth,

⁶O offspring of Abra- | ham, God’s servant,
O children of Jacob, God’s | chosen ones. *Antiphon*

²³**Israel came | into Egypt,
and Jacob became a sojourner in the | land of Ham.**

²⁴**The LORD made the people of Israel | very fruitful,
more numerous | than their enemies,**

²⁵whose hearts God turned, so that they hat- | ed God’s people,
and dealt unjustly with the ser- | vants of God.

²⁶O LORD, you sent Mo- | ses your servant,
and Aaron, your chosen one. ^{45b} | Hallelujah! *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🎵 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation — “Alleluia”



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

*Gospel — Matthew 16:21-28

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

🎵 Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their

life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Here I Am, Lord” (#574)

HERE I AM, LORD

For hymn, see page 11.

***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:

“Adagio” from Sonata No. 3, Op. 111

Josef Rheinberger

***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:

☞ Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Let Streams of Living Justice” (#710)

THAXTED

For hymn, see page 12.

*Dismissal

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Allegro maestoso” from Sonata No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding and Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	Marcia and Ralph Yernberg
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

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Hymn of the Day — “Here I Am, Lord” (#574)

HERE I AM, LORD



“I, the Lord of sea and sky,
“I, the Lord of snow and rain,
“I, the Lord of wind and flame,

I have heard my peo - ple cry.
I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin
I have wept for love of them.
I will set a feast for them.

my hand will save.
They turn a - way.
My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night,
I will break their hearts of stone,
Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark-ness bright.
give them hearts for love a - lone.
till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them?
I will speak my word to them.
I will give my life to them.

Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?”



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text and Music: Daniel L. Schutte, © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc.

***Sending Hymn — “Let Streams of Living Justice” (#710)**

THAXTED



Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;
give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.
The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - er's dreams,
the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.
Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way— the path un - tried;
a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
your truth— the heart of strang - er; your life— the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, © 1989. Music: Gustav Holst

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Marilyn Boschee in honor of grandson Jack's 15th birthday. 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.

Outdoor Worship Service

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

You can RSVP at <https://docs.google.com/forms>

[d/1GUEFp5HuJzdm07HHJPyTNxFDDrMrEuospl8crlkO4nk/viewform?edit_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GUEFp5HuJzdm07HHJPyTNxFDDrMrEuospl8crlkO4nk/viewform?edit_requested=true)

Courageous Conversations Book Group's Two Opportunities for Fall

1. **Discuss Reparations:** On **Thursday, September 3, 6:30-7:15 p.m.** the group will gather via Zoom to discuss this recent article from the NY Times magazine about reparations. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/24/magazine/reparations-slavery.html>
2. **Read/Discuss Begin Again:** James Baldwin's America and its Urgent Lessons for Our Own by Eddie Glaude. **Thursdays, September 17, October 8, 22, 29 from 6:30-7:15 p.m.** Books are available at Content in Northfield. Cost is \$27 but discount applies.

Please contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com for more information and zoom links.

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 Saturday September 5.

Meals on Wheels Drivers are Needed from September 13 - October 10

The Benevolence & Social Concerns Board is organizing our annual time to help with this program. Please sign up on CCB. Drivers will pick up meals at the main entrance to the hospital at 12 noon. Each meal is in a plastic grocery bag and will be left on a door handle or in the building lobby. You will not enter private homes and are asked to maintain the 6 ft. social distance from others. More complete instructions are on the Driver's Information Form you will see when you sign up. Please call Kathy Shea 507-581-6047 if you have questions.

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

David Halvorson

Gloria Kiester

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

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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 (September 6):

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 33:7-11 † Psalm 119:33-40 † Romans 13:8-14 † Matthew 18:15-20

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. 31	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, Sep. 1	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
Wednesday, Sep. 2	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
Thursday, Sep. 3	6:30 p.m.	Courageous Conversation Book Group via Zoom
Friday, Sep. 4		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, Sep. 5	4:30 p.m.	St. John's Women Boomer's Group via Zoom
Sunday, Sep. 6	9:30 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast

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.
- **Worship Bulletins for Sunday services will now be available outside the Commons doors in**



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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.