



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 † 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 — Grave; Adagio from *Sonata II*

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 526

“God Is Here!”

*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 our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a

wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 15, "Lord, Who May Dwell Within Your House" DOVE OF PEACE

Lord, who may dwell with - in your house or on your ho - ly
Who do no wrong, but keep their word and seek no bribe or
You pure in heart on Zi - on's hill, your joy - ful songs now
hill? Those who do good and speak the truth, whose
gain; all those who do such things shall live and
raise. In one ac - cord lift up your voice, sing
lives are blame - less still, whose lives are blame - less still;
safe from harm re - main, and safe from harm re - main.
forth your songs of praise, sing forth your songs of praise!

Psalm paraphrase: stanzas 1-2 Christopher Webber © 1986; stanza 3 Hal Hopson © 2008 Birnamwood Publications; Music: from *Southern Harmony*

Second Reading — James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

- 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 — Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter.
- C** Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 992

“Now That the Daylight Fills the Sky”

*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**

☐ 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 I

Felix Mendelssohn

***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 Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of 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.

Hymn — ELW No. 520

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”

Hymn — ELW No. 767

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

ℒ O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☩ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

*Blessing

Response: ☩ Amen.

*Sending Hymn — ELW No. 848

“Give to Our God Immortal Praise!”

*Dismissal

ℒ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — Allegro maestoso e vivace from *Sonata II*

Felix Mendelssohn



Our Music Today

Nearly 100 years passed between the death of J. S. Bach and the publication of Felix Mendelssohn’s Six Sonatas in 1845. The European Enlightenment, the era of secularization, led the “grandest and holiest of instruments” into an era of disrepute! The organ, as an imitation of the orchestra, turned toward a more “secular” musical life. Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert performed on the organ but left no significant organ compositions. So! Hail to Mendelssohn who realized “who and what” JSB was and, in a sense, turned the organ back toward the sacred! The Six Sonatas, from which this morning’s organ music is selected, are Mendelssohn’s final statement for the organ. They look back at JSB and forward to a renewed understanding of the “sacred life” of the instrument and its music.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Elliot Davis
Organist	Joanne Rodland
Greeters	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Sandra Nyvall
Communion Service	Jill Enestvedt
Coffee Service	Doug Johnson, Ted Peterson
Refreshments	Geri Licke, Patrice Nordstrand
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Janell Martin, Bob Tabery
Ushers	Doug Johnson, Jon and Alison Kavanaugh, Bob Nyvall

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Join Us for
Fall Worship

SUNDAYS STARTING SEPTEMBER 15

8:30 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by friends of St. John's. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available dates: September 8 & 22 and October 27.

Faith in Democracy?: Rebuilding the Beloved Community

Thursday, September 12, 7:00–8:30 p.m., St. John's Hall

Courageous Conversations begins its seventh year with Kathryn Lozada as our first speaker for 2024–2025. Lozada is the lead southern Minnesota organizer for ISAIAH/Faith in MN and will speak on building bridges towards racial, economic, and climate justice. Her presentation is the first in a two-part series examining faith in democracy. The Courageous Conversations theme for 2024–2025 is, *"We Belong to One Another."* Courageous Conversations is a non-denominational event, free, and open to the public.

Save the Date: Mission Morning

Saturday, September 28, 9:00–11:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

St. John's women are invited to a morning of coffee, treats, kit packing, fellowship, and changing the world, one kit at a time. Special speaker: Kim Dickey, Global Health Ministries.

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 out 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 is available in the Commons.

Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed

St. John's is committed to delivering Meals on Wheels from September 9 through October 5. 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 the church office to schedule your delivery date(s). Printed-out driver instructions/information are available at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions about volunteering please contact Andrea Hoff at andrea.hoff37@gmail.com or 612-743-5767, or Cynthia Neubecker at reduncan936@gmail.com or 612-327-0169. Thank you!

Announcements (continued)

The next **Courageous Conversations** book selection is
The Hundred Years' War on Palestine by Rashid Khalidi.

Books are available at Content. Discussions will take place on Thursdays from 4:00–5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Dates are September 19 & 26, October 10 & 24, and November 14 & 21. To sign up or for more information, contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com.

Reminder of Deadlines

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (October 2024 Edition): Due by September 15

Children and Youth

Register for St. John's Children & Youth Programs for the 2024–2025 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.



Orientation and Connections Night for Wednesday After School Programs

Wednesday, September 11, 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall (lower level)

Learn about what happens on Wednesdays including transportation on the after school bus, Catechism (grades 3–5), Alleluia Choir (grades K–2), Jubilate Choir (grades 3–5), and Kids Club (grades K–2).

Contact information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org



WelcomeFest

Sunday, September 15
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)

Children's activities begin at 10:00 a.m. after
the Sunday School Open House at 9:45 a.m.

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

Ingrid Alberding, Georgia Braulick, Fred Huemoeller, Diane Melbye

Those celebrating the baptism of

Leo Thomas Mader, son of Karl and Becca Mader

Those with ongoing health concerns

Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, John Ferguson, Bob Flaten, Dick Kleber, Paul Klinefelter, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Cynthia Neubecker, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Laila Burns Hedstrom, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

All who are homebound, including

Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

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

St. John's Stephen Ministers offer care to those in a variety of difficult situations. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors at 645-4429.

Prayer Chain Requests

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or macisar@gmail.com, or contact a pastor.

Reminder of Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

The Voice (October 2024 Edition): Due by September 15

Please send all submissions for the E-Voice, Sunday Bulletin, and *The Voice* to Leah Garlie electronically via email to office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

This Week At-a-Glance

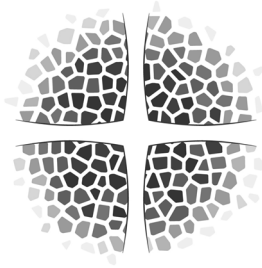
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Monday, Sept. 2		Labor Day - Church Office and Building Closed
Tuesday, Sept. 3	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:15 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 Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall Wellspring Circle, Fireside Room Boy Scouts (Troop #9313), Fellowship Hall NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room Northfield Rotary, St. John's Library
Wednesday, Sept. 4	11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Personnel Committee, Undercroft Evening Knitters, Fireside Room
Thursday, Sept. 5	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite Girl Scout Troop #27485, Fellowship Hall
Friday, Sept. 6	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 7	10:00 a.m.	Private Event - Bridal Shower, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Sept. 8	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall 6th Grade Confirmation Family Orientation, Fellowship Hall Girl Scout Troop #27500, Sunday School Classroom

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 8):

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a † Psalm 146 † James 2:1-10, 14-17 † Mark 7:24-37



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

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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*
Kristin Partlo, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*
Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*
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.*