



# SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 † 9:00 A.M. & 10:30 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 pew hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship),  
page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section,  
and hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn section.

An asterisk (\*) invites you to stand as you are able.

☐ Pastor, ☐ Leader (Assisting Minister), ☐ Congregation

**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 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

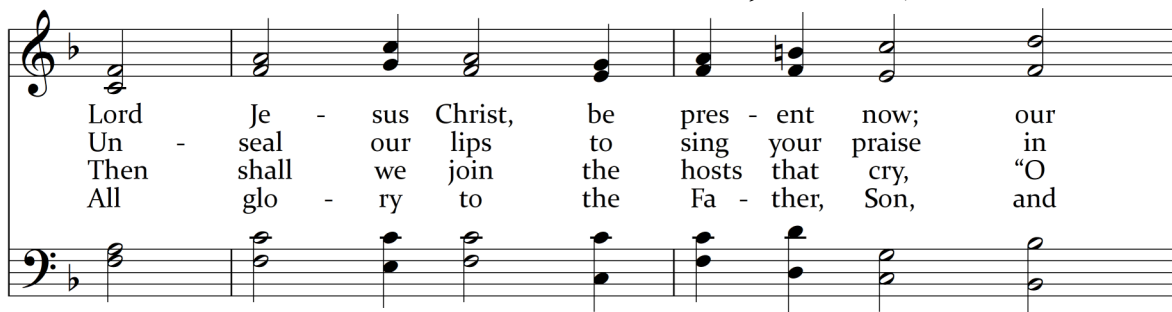
**Prelude** — Variations on “Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend”

Johann Walther

## Welcome and Announcements

**\*Gathering Hymn** — “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now” (#527)

HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND



Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; our  
Un - seal our lips to sing your praise in  
Then shall we join to the hosts that cry, “O  
All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and



hearts in true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
end - less hymns through all our days; in - crease our faith and  
ho - ly, ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of  
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



light di - vine, and let your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; and set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place we then shall see you face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: attr. Wilhelm II; tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.; Music: *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628

### \*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** Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health  
and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us  
a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through  
Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.  
**C** Amen.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Children's Message

#### First Reading — Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

#### Psalmody — Psalm 146

Antiphon: Abraham Maraire (#173)

*Antiphon: Hallelujah!*



<sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob <sup>|</sup> for their help,  
 whose hope is in the <sup>|</sup> LORD their God;  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that <sup>|</sup> is in them;  
 who keeps promis- <sup>|</sup> es forever;  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to <sup>|</sup> those who hunger.  
 The LORD sets the <sup>|</sup> captive free.  
<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes <sup>|</sup> of the blind;  
 the LORD lifts up those who <sup>|</sup> are bowed down.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares <sup>|</sup> for the stranger;  
 the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,  
 but frustrates the way <sup>|</sup> of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD shall <sup>|</sup> reign forever,  
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. <sup>|</sup> Hallelujah! *Antiphon*

## Second Reading — James 2:1-10, 14-17

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

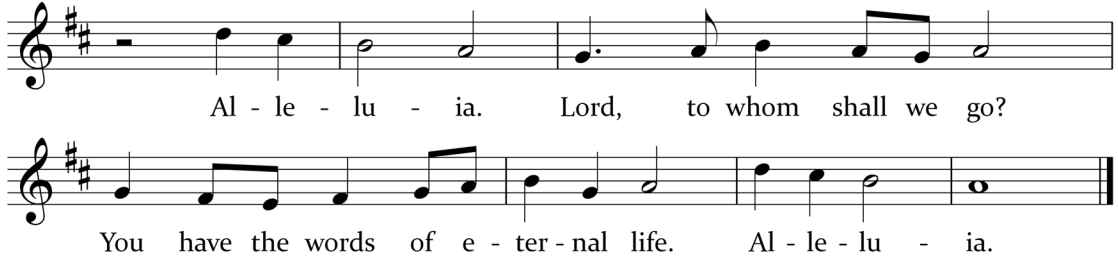
<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

### \*Gospel Acclamation



### \*Gospel — Mark 7:24-37

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” (#484)

BICENTENNIAL

*Refrain*

You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart with gift of fin-est wheat.  
Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.  
As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
With joy-ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat-i-tude  
Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?  
The mys-t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor-tal tongue can tell:  
You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self-less let us be,  
so when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol-low and re-joyce.  
that you should count us wor-thy, Lord, to share this heav'n-ly food.  
Do not one cup, one loaf, de-clare our one-ness in the Lord?  
whom all the world can-not con-tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
to serve each oth-er in your name in truth and char-i-ty.

*Refrain*

Text: Omer Westendorf; Music: Robert Kreutz © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

## \*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:*

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

Kevin Sadowski

### \*Offering Hymn — "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDREDTH

The musical score is written for four parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;  
praise God a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.



### **\*Thanksgiving for the Word**

**P** Holy God, mighty Fortress,  
loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter,  
as vegetation matures in forests and fields,  
your living Word undergirds all that lives.

**C** **We praise your eternal Word.**

In the words of the Scriptures you offer us Christ:  
our refuge, our savior, our friend,  
accompanying us throughout our years  
and renewing us in love.

**C** **We praise your eternal Word.**

We pray for power from your abiding Spirit.  
Strengthen us to stand firm in faith,  
in devotion to your Word,  
and in service to others.

**C** **We praise your eternal Word.**

To you be honor and praise and glory,  
today and forever.

**C** **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 — “Go to the World” (ACS #991)**

SINE NOMINE



Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
 for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia Dunstan © 1991 GIA Publications; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams © Oxford University Press

**\*Dismissal**

**L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude — Trumpet Tune in C Major**

David N. Johnson



Today, in an effort to mitigate risk of infection while offering the bread of life to everyone, we will hold brief Holy Communion liturgies outside immediately following the 9:00 and 10:30 services. If you wish to partake in Communion, linger under the front door canopy for a time of sharing the bread and wine.

## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:**

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Julie Zdenek
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Ushers	(9:00) Duane Benson, Doug Child, Cindy Clauson, Rick Hillard, Jim Sharrow (10:30) Kent Rommereim

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## **Upcoming Fall Events**

- **September 18 & 19:** God's Work. Our Hands. Faith Build Weekend with ELCA churches and Habitat for Humanity
- **September 19:** Fall Worship Times Resume at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.; Between Services: Fair Trade Coffee, Tea & Chocolates and Thistle Farms Soaps Sales; Packing of Lutheran World Relief School Kits
- **September 22:** Children and Youth Orientation Night
- **September 26:** Fellowship Event
- **September 28:** Red Cross Blood Drive in St. John's Hall
- **September 29:** Wednesday Afterschool Program and Confirmation Classes Begin
- **October 3:** Sunday School and Sunday Youth Gathering Begin

# **Announcements**

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in loving memory of Cora (on her birthday) & Elmer Schultz and Ken Struss by Marie Struss and family. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact Leah Garlie at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 612-532-6863. Next available dates: October 10, 17, 24 & 31. 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.

## **Registration for 2021-2022 School Year for Children and Youth Programming is Open**

Go to <https://stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/registration/> to register.

## **Outdoor Family Movie Night**

**Friday, September 17, 7:15 p.m.**

This event is hosted by the Children's Ministry & Education Board at the Norrie residence (weather permitting). The movie, *Luca*, will be shown. Bring folding chairs and/or a blanket to sit on, a face mask, and bug spray. Individually packaged treats and beverages provided! RSVP at [childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

## **Habitat for Humanity – “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Event on September 18 & 19**

### **Sign-Up Online thru the Habitat for Humanity Website**

St. John's and other Rice County ELCA congregations are teaming up with Habitat for Humanity for a special “God’s Work. Our Hands.” weekend build the weekend of September 18 & 19. Volunteers are needed in construction and to prepare and serve meals and snacks. Please sign up at [habitatricecounty.org](http://habitatricecounty.org) under the volunteer tab. If you have questions or need help with the sign up, please contact Jodi Beach at 507-403-7868 or email [jodihabitat@gmail.com](mailto:jodihabitat@gmail.com).

## ***All Creation Sings* Hymnal Orders**

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a copy of *All Creation Sings* in memory or in honor of a loved one so far. There is still room for your dedications if you are interested. Each book is \$15 and you can pick up an order form in the Commons or print one from our website and return it to the church office.

## **Meals on Wheels – It's Sign-Up Time!**

St. John's is committed to delivering Meals on Wheels from Sunday, September 12, through Saturday, October 8. Once again for everyone's safety, delivery is contactless. You can sign up online through our website or by contacting the church office at 507-645-4429. Thank you for being a part of this important service to Northfield.

# **Announcements (continued)**

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

This fall, St. John's will again have an intergenerational forum on Sunday, September 19, between services to pack school kits. Except for last year during the pandemic, up to 220 kits have been packed at this event. Please consider donating supplies. Purchased supplies can be left in the cardboard School Bus in the Commons. School supplies are on sale now through Labor Day. If you prefer, cash donations are also appreciated. Make checks to St. John's WELCA, write school kits on the memo line, and mail to Jennifer Edwins (106 Nevada St., Northfield, 55057), or leave in the church office. Thank you.

- 70-80 sheet spiral notebooks of wide-ruled or college-ruled 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
- unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- blunt Fiskar scissors (Fiskar brand preferred, as the other ones break easily)
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- box of 24 Crayola crayons
- 2 1/2" eraser

## **TORCH Program Donations Requested**

St. John's partners with TORCH through our 150<sup>th</sup> Grace Overflowing Anniversary. This program helps high school graduates who are the first in their families to go to college. The TORCH program provides encouragement and support to them throughout their continued education. Each year St. John's sends students a gift, along with an encouraging personal note to help them with their school year needs. This year we are requesting gift cards for the following: Target, gas, coffee, etc. You can also write checks to St. John's WELCA, memo "TORCH program gift" for WELCA to purchase gift cards. Mail checks and/or gift cards to Julie Zdenek, or drop off at the church office. Thank you!

## **Courageous Conversations Book Group Begins**

**Thursday, September 30, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**

This time our book is *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee. Books are available at Content Bookstore. The group will meet five times, every other Thursday: September 30, October 14 & 28, November 11 & 18. Please contact [dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com) to sign up and receive the reading plan and zoom link.

## **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Tuesday, September 28, 1:00–6:00 p.m., St. John's Hall.**

Sign up for a timeslot online with this link: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>. Questions? Contact Sally Lindell at [parishnurse@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:parishnurse@StJohnsNorthfield.org).

## **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*

Bev Mahachek, Guenther Moesler, Lois Rand, Eldora Seitz, Scott Quinnell,  
John Bjorlie (brother of Ruthie Neuger),  
Mark Wegner (son of Roberta Wegner), Emily Zdenek (daughter of Dave and Julie Zdenek)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James,  
Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, John Quam, Jim Thompson, Howard Thorsheim,  
Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

*All who are homebound, including*

Lois Pearson, Gloria Porter, Lois Rand

*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](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor.

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 12):**

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Isaiah 50:4-9a † Psalm 116:1-9 † James 3:1-12 † Mark 8:27-38

## **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, Sep. 6</b>		<i>Labor Day - Church Building and Office Closed</i>
<b>Tuesday, Sep. 7</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room
<b>Wednesday, Sep. 8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Hall
<b>Thursday, Sep. 9</b>	9:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Cannon River Conference, Sanctuary / St. John's Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library
<b>Friday, Sep. 10</b>	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday, Sep. 11</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, Sep. 12</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Worship, Sanctuary

## **Church Office Hours**

During the summer, the office will be staffed Monday thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The building will be accessible outside of office hours by appointment or if you have a scheduled meeting. Groups may schedule events in the church building, following current CDC guidelines, which recommends masks for all unvaccinated persons.



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*

*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*

*Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistant*

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

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