

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 6, 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.

(SERVICE REBROADCAST FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2017)

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — Violin Sonata No. 2, Op. 13
II. Allegretto tranquillo

Edvard Grieg

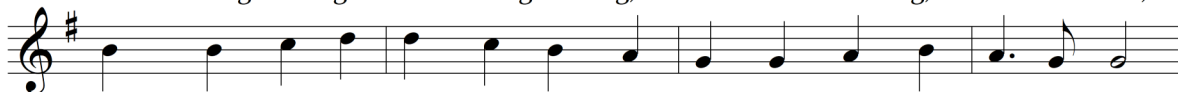
Cate Carson, violin

*Gathering Hymn — “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” (#836)

HYMN TO JOY



Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - brok - en praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven

*Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us, the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.

☞ Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☐ Source of all life,

☑ **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

***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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Exodus 3:1-15

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody — Psalm 119:33-40

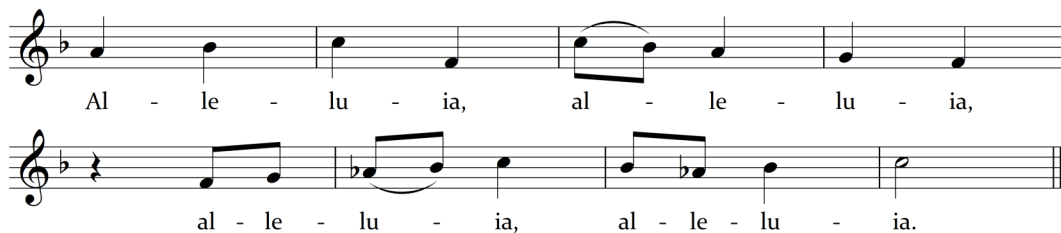


- ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,
and I shall keep it | to the end.
- ³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with | all my heart.
- ³⁵**Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.**
- ³⁶**Incline my heart to | your decrees
and not to | unjust gain.**
- ³⁷Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.
- ³⁸Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.
- ³⁹**Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judg- | ments are good.**
- ⁴⁰**Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

Second Reading — Romans 13:8-14

- The word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Matthew 18:12-20

Before the reading:

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Beloved, God’s Chosen” (#648)

ANDREW’S SONG



Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment com - pas - sion, for -
With - in, call forth Wis - dom, to dwell in you rich - ly; let peace rule your
Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment com - pas - sion, for -



give - ness, and good - ness of heart. A - bove all, be - fore all, let
hearts and that peace be of Christ. And from the heart's cham - ber, be -
give - ness, and good - ness of heart. A - bove all, be - fore all, let



love be your rai - ment that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.
lov - ed and ho - ly, let sing - ing thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er rise.
love be your rai - ment that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, © admin Augsburg Fortress; Music: Robert A. Hobby, © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

*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:

Partita No. 1 in B Minor, BWV 1002
III. Sarabande - Double

J. S. Bach

Offering Hymn

OLD HUNDREDTH

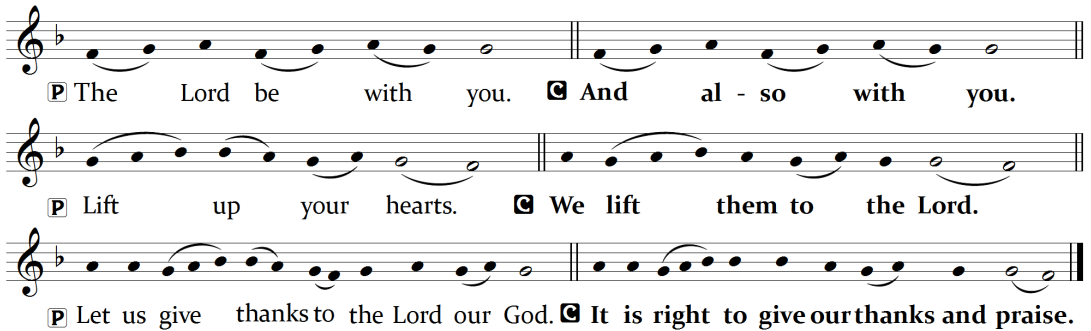
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures, here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

- Ⓛ Let us pray.
- ☑ **God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

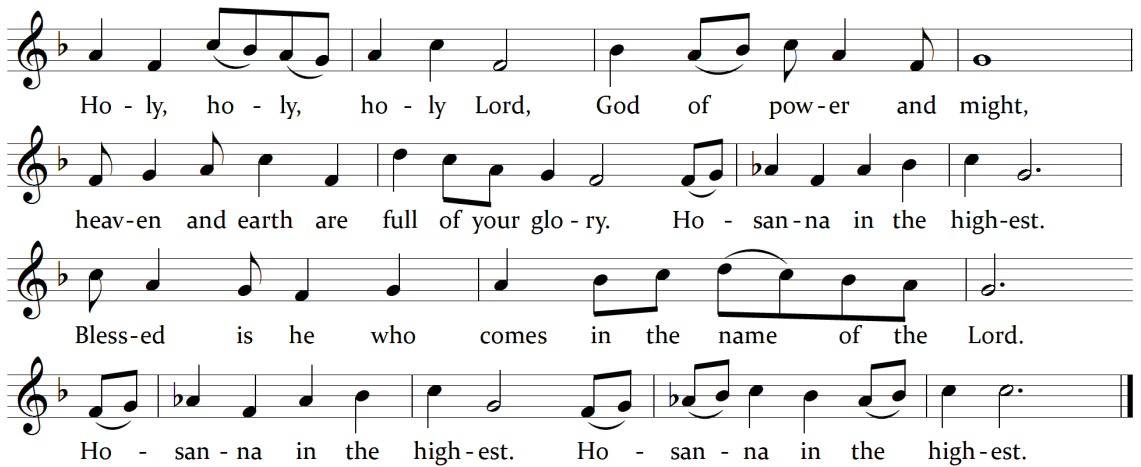


Ⓛ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

Ⓛ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓛ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ☑ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ⓛ It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Words of Institution**

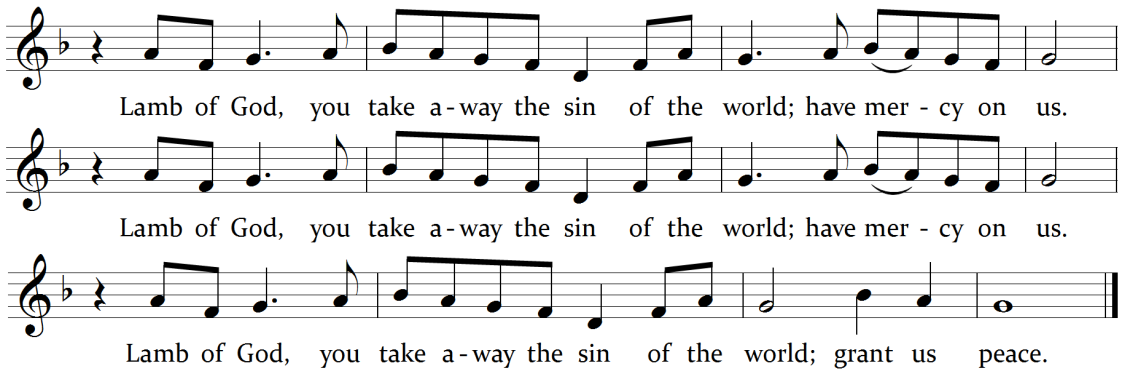
***The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

*All God's children are welcome at the table. Communion will be received standing at the front of the sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the middle. 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 — “Where Charity and Love Prevail” (#359)

TWENTY-FOURTH

Hymn — “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” (#656)

DENNIS

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Post Communion Litany and Benediction

- P** God, you have fed us with your very self.
A We say thank you.
- P** You have made us one in the body of Christ.
A We say thank you.
- P** You strengthen us to follow you in a hungry world.
A We say thank you.
- P** Fed, united, and strengthened to be a blessing,
may the Lord fill you with hope, joy, peace,
and bless you now and forever.
A Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing” (#547) stanza 2 THE ASH GROVE

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God’s children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Text: Omer Westendorf, © 1964 World Library Publications

*Dismissal

- L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
A Thanks be to God.

Postlude — on HYMN TO JOY

Albert L. Travis



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	Tony Becker and Rebecca Judge
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Violin	Cate Carson
Cantor	Cate Carson

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

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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 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Sundays thru today (the broadcast time will change to 9:00 a.m. next 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 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.

Our radio broadcast today is a service from September 2017. The Bible texts are the same as those assigned for this week, and we hope you will enjoy hearing the sounds of a full Sanctuary from that day.

- **TIME CHANGE FOR RADIO BROADCAST:** Starting next Sunday, September 13, our radio worship will be broadcast at 9:00 a.m. every week. Sunday School and “coffee hour” fellowship opportunities will happen online following the broadcast starting September 20.

Today we are also connecting with congregations around our Southeastern Minnesota Synod with a virtual worship service led by our bishop, Regina Hassanally. The service is posted for viewing any time at <http://semnsynod.org/synodworship/>.

Labor Day - Tomorrow, Monday, September 7

The church office will be closed. Manna & Mercy and Pub Theology will resume next Monday, September 14.

Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, September 13, Goodtree Farmstead

We will begin gathering at 10:30 a.m. with the worship service beginning at 11:00 a.m.

You can RSVP at <https://forms.gle/Eqmc25FVfnnxFqyu8>

Courageous Conversations

Thursday, September 10, 7:00 p.m.

Bishop Regina Hassanally will speak on “Made in God’s Image: The Church’s Call to Work for Racial Justice.” Registration is required. To register go to www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/courageous Sponsored by St. John’s Women and St. John’s Adult Ministry & Education Board. For a full list of the Courageous Conversations Fall Programs go to www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/programs.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates and Thistle Farms Hand Soaps

Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to place your order for contactless delivery.

Announcements (continued)

New Bible Study Opportunity: Reading the Bible Six Ways

Most of us think we “should” read the Bible but are at a loss as to “how” to read the Bible. Just as the Scriptures are themselves very diverse, there are many different ways to faithfully read them. This study will take a look at six different approaches, from meditative to scholarly. To sign up go to [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PcgTjL-5\]2mCjCEhZ27Yd-AE5NPRm1rf6qIEXo6FR8M/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PcgTjL-5]2mCjCEhZ27Yd-AE5NPRm1rf6qIEXo6FR8M/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1).

Courageous Conversations Book Group

Thursdays, September 17, October 8, 22 & 29, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Read/Discuss *Begin Again: James Baldwin’s America and its Urgent Lessons for Our Own* by Eddie Glaude. 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.

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.

LWR Personal Care Kits

During the Beirut chemical explosion on August 4, three containers of Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits consisting of more than 47,000 items were destroyed. Through WELCA, St. John's Women have been supporting LWR by donating gifts of quilts, school backpacks, personal care kits, and baby care kits. This month we're asking you to build and donate a Personal Care Kit. Make it a family affair! Please include the following items in each kit:

- 1 light-weight, dark colored bath towel (sizes 20"x 40" and 52"x 27")
- 1 metal nail clippers (remove the packaging)
- 1 sturdy wide-tooth comb (remove the packaging)
- 1 adult size toothbrush sealed in original packaging (new toothbrushes from a multi-pack can be removed from packaging and then sealed in a business-size envelope)
- 2 or 3 bars of soap (8 or 9 oz.) of any brand, sealed in original packaging

Drop off your bundled kit at the church between 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Saturdays, September 19 and 26.

St. John’s Website

Please check out our website at www.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

David Halvorson, Dao Hella

Those celebrating the marriage of

Erik Berthelsen and Joy Smith (married on August 29)

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

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, or contact a pastor.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 13):

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21 † Psalm 103:8-13 † Romans 14:1-12 † Matthew 18:21-35

This Week At-a-Glance

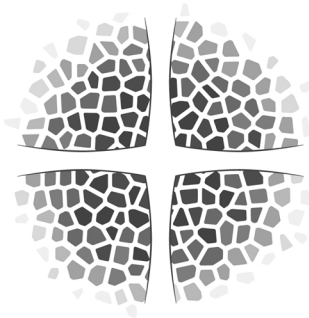
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. through today (www.kymnradio.net).

Monday, Sep. 7		Labor Day - Church Office Closed
Tuesday, Sep. 8	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Church Board Meetings
Wednesday, Sep. 9	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
Thursday, Sep. 10	7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Courageous Conversations via Zoom
Friday, Sep. 11	1:00 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall
Saturday, Sep. 12	10:00 a.m.	3rd Grade CAT Retreat, St. John's - Outdoors
Sunday, Sep. 13	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast Outdoor Worship Service, Offsite at Goodtree Farm

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 today). 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



St. John's

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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*

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.