



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 † 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 G Major

Dieterich Buxtehude

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 522

“As We Gather at Your Table”

*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
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Antiphon: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes.



³³Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,
and I shall keep it | to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with | all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to | your decrees
and not to | unjust gain. *Antiphon***

³⁷Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn 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. *Antiphon***

Second Reading — Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

☐ 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 18:15-20

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

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Katie Fick

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 648

“Beloved, God’s Chosen”

*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

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C 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

*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.

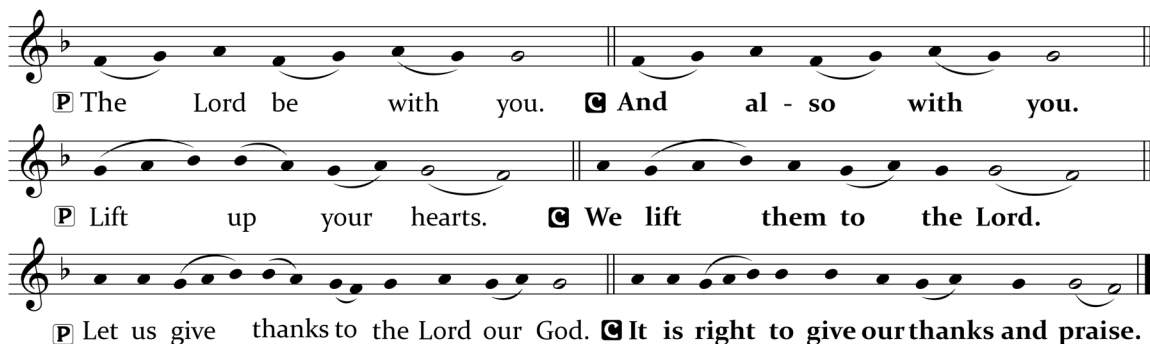
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

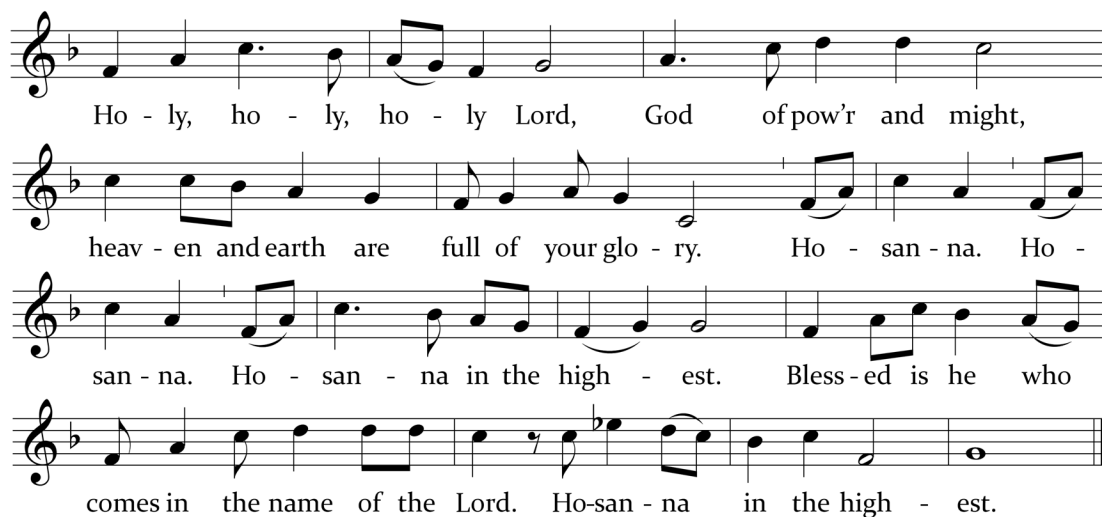


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

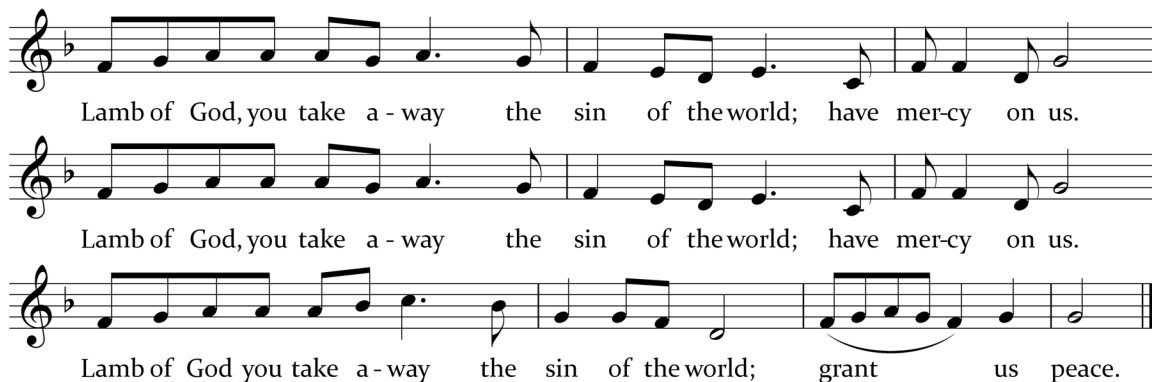
*The Lord's Prayer

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"



The musical notation for "Lamb of God" is presented in three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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. 605

"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

Hymn — ELW No. 639

"When We Are Living"

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

***Prayer after Communion**

- 📖 Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us and are making
all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our
enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
📖 Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- 📖 Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 482

“I Come with Joy”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Finale” from Concerto No. 5

G. F. Handel



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Katie Fick
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Chris Engstrom
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Livestream	Dave Zdenek
Communion Service	Craig Schultz
Greeters	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Mary Ellen North
Coffee Service	Bob and Pat Tabery
Refreshments	Rhonda Reece
Counters	Chris and Martha Erickson, Janell Martin
Ushers	Doug Child, Ruth Dahl, Susan Immel, Roger Van Veldhuizen



Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Jon Nicholson for his upcoming 90th birthday on September 13 from his loving family. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office at 507-645-4429. Next available dates: October 11, 18 & 25 and November 22.

New Bible Study: Come and See! A Look at the Gospel of Mark

Wednesdays (beginning Sep. 9), Noon–1:00 p.m. or 5:45–6:45 p.m., Fireside Room (15 sessions)

Please sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Commons or sign up and get more information on the [website under Congregational life/Adults/Come and see](#) or use this QR code. This curriculum is developed and led by St. John's seminary student Julie Zdenek for her master's program capstone project.



School Supply Donations Requested for Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Purchased supplies can be left in the cardboard School Bus in the Commons through Sept. 14. A list of needed items is at the School Bus. Cash donations are also welcome, and the WELCA team will make the purchases for you. Make checks to St. John's WELCA and write school kits on the memo line. Checks may be left in the church office or the offering plate on Sundays. Our goal is to pack at least 250 kits, so many supplies are needed (for example, 800 notebooks to put four in each bag). These kits make a huge difference to the children in developing countries who receive them. St. John's children in grades K–5 will pack the bags. Thank you for your support!

Habitat for Humanity Poplar Street House Volunteer Needs in September

The home at 315 Poplar St. S. still needs helpers to bring it to completion. If you can donate a morning/afternoon of your time (8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.) on one or more of the following Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, it would be so greatly appreciated: Sept. 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29. If you can help, sign up at www.habitatricecounty.org. Questions? Contact jodihabitat@gmail.com.

Supporting St. John's

Giving to St. John's supports regular worship services, enhances the spiritual lives of our members, and helps to improve the lives of neighbors in our local and global communities. Your meaningful support will make an impact, strengthen congregational life at St. John's, and help us serve our mission.



Sunday Evening Gatherings beginning September 20

Note Time Change: 5:30 p.m., First UCC (300 Union St. S.)

Please join us on Sunday evenings for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. The Evening Gathering is facilitated by lay people in Northfield. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare for the coming week. Questions can be emailed to theeveninggathering@gmail.com.

Children and Youth

We are in need of Sunday School team leaders/assistants this year.

Two or more leaders/assistants lead a grade-based class, either PreK–K, 1st–2nd, or 3rd–5th. All lessons and supplies are ready for you every Sunday. And yes, with team teaching you do not need to teach every Sunday (but you might love it so much that you'll want to!). Contact Julie Brehmer for more information and/or to teach. Thank you!

Registration for 2026–2027

Registration is open for St. John's children and youth programming next year. Check out St. John's website for more information and to register.



Confirmation Orientation

Join us on **Sunday, September 13**, for a Confirmation Orientation (formerly 6th grade orientation) available to students and their parents/guardians who are new to confirmation or those who might need a refresher on what confirmation is. Please meet at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are mindful that many folks are busy with the DJJD parade that day, but hope you can make it for a brief session to give you a sense of what to expect in the confirmation process over the next few years. New students will also be given a Lutheran Study Bible.

On Wednesday, September 16, parents and children are welcome to come to reconnect and learn about children's programs for the 2026–2027 school year. We'll meet in the lower Commons at 5:15 p.m.

Confirmation and High School Youth Group Starts September 16

Confirmation and High School Youth Group starts up for the fall on Wednesday, September 16. We are asking that at least one parent attends with their child on the first day for introductions and refreshers on our ministries! This will be especially helpful for Nick in his first fall at St. John's to connect with any families that he has not already met. Sunday Youth Group starts the week after Welcome Fest on Sept. 27. If your family is new to St. John's and would like more information please reach out to our Director of Ministry with Youth & Families, Nick Gilbert.



**Served from 5:15–6:15 p.m.
in St. John's Hall**

Menu for Wednesday, September 16:
Sloppy Joes

All are welcome!

Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.

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

Barbara Dettle, Fred Huemoeller, Barbara Johnson, Joan Kark, Joanie Lee, George Pinc

Those with ongoing health concerns

Ruth Smestad Anglin, Mary Cisar, Greta Matzner-Gore, Lowell Johnson,
Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, David Norman, Mary Ellen North, Rachel Peterson,
Alice Rickert, Ingrid Alberding, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

All who are homebound, including

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson, Carolyn Jennings

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

Contact 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.



This Week At-a-Glance

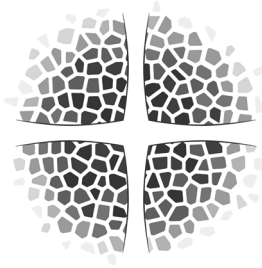
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, Sept. 7		<i>Labor Day - Church Office and Building Closed</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 8	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 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 Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Sept. 9	9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Hall Personnel Committee, Fireside Room Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room Nominating Committee, Fireside Room Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
Thursday, Sept. 10	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library CVEC Meeting, St. John's Theater Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
Friday, Sept. 11	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Mary Circle, Fireside Room NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 12	3:00 p.m.	CVRO Concert, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Sept. 13	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall 6 th Grade Orientation for Confirmation

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 13):

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

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office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor (On Sabbatical through October 17, 2026)

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Katie Fick, Bridge Pastor

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Steve Harner, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Nick Gilbert, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Faith Community Nurse

Arielle Loy, Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist

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

Arturo Rosas, Custodial Associate

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.*