



SERVICE OF THE WORD

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 12, 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 — “A Solemn Melody”

Henry Walford Davies

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — “Arise and Welcome Now the Year”

PUER NOBIS

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, with the first line of lyrics corresponding to the first staff, the second line to the second staff, and the third and fourth lines to the third staff. The lyrics are: A - rise and wel - come now the year with joy and
Though years bring heart - ache and dis - tress, though trou - bles
When truth is mocked, and neigh - bor scorned, when sing - ing
Let peace and par - don be our way; let joy and
God's love a - bun - dant far ex - ceeds the vol - ume
gra - ti - tude sin - cere. Re - joice! Re - joice! with
grow and fears op - press, they can - not with - er
stops and deaths are mourned it grieves the heart, but
jus - tice fill each day. For this shall be, what -
of a whole year's needs. Re - joice! Re - joice! with
thanks em - brace an - oth - er year of God's good grace.
or e - rase an - oth - er year of God's good grace.
can't ef - face an - oth - er year of God's good grace.
e'er we face, an - oth - er year of God's good grace.
thanks em - brace an - oth - er year of God's good grace.

Text: W. Bruce Benson, stanzas 2 and 3 new 2020; used with permission. Music: European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius

***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, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation,
and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the
sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross,
and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

Psalmody — Psalm 116 “I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Voice”

TALLIS’ CANON



I love the Lord, who heard my voice, and
 Oh, what can I to good re - turn and for
 I lift sal - va - tion's cup from which you
 The rec - om - pense for what is mine is

an - swered my most ear - nest plea; when snares of death my
 all the boun - ty from your store? Seen with your grace, my
 had me drink to seal my vow; and in the sight of
 to ex - alt your name al - ways; my heart with thanks should

life would take, e'en then, O God, I call on thee.
 high - est prize is naught, what can I give you more?
 all a - round, I hon - or my com - mit - ment now.
 ne'er run dry, nor tongue re - fuse to sing your praise.

Text Michael Morgan, admin. Witherspoon Press © 1999 ; Music: Thomas Tallis

Second Reading — James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water?

¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

 The word of the Lord.

 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Mark 8:27-38

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” (#533)

UNSER HERRSCHER



O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.; Music: Joachim Neander

*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:

"O God, Thou Faithful God"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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

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.

***A Blessing for the New School Year**

L God of Goodness,
 bless the new school year that lies before us.
You are Alpha and Omega.
 Bless the firsts and lasts this year will bring.
You are Wisdom and Life.
 Bless the lessons we will learn and the ways we will grow.
You are Truth and Justice.
 Bless our study of the past and our work toward the future.
You are Teacher and Guide.
 Bless our teachers, our parents, and coaches.
You are Healer and Reconciler.
 Bless our friends and enemies, our relationships and conflicts.
You are Rock and Refuge.
 Bless our homes and our families, our schools and communities.
You are Caller and Companion.
 Bless the decisions we make and the struggles we face.
You are Creator and Spirit.
 Bless our changes and challenges, our questions and dreams.
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 — “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen” (#548)**

SURGE ECCLESIA

Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en, from this
 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low af - ter
 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture God has
 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion; cour - age
 meal of love and grace; may we through such love en -
 Christ, though wound - ed, whole; bro - ken, shared, our lives are
 called us to re - ceive; pres - ent by God's lov - ing
 be our dai - ly breath; mer - cy be our des - ti -
 vi - sion whose we are, and whose, our praise. Al - le - lu - ia,
 hal - lowed to re - lease and to con - sole. Al - le - lu - ia,
 nur - ture, Spir - it - ed then let us live. Al - le - lu - ia,
 na - tion from this day and un - to death. Al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia; God, the won - der of our days.
 al - le - lu - ia; Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
 al - le - lu - ia; Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
 al - le - lu - ia. Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien © 1997 admin. Augsburg Fortress; Music: Timothy Strand © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Jubilate”

Roy Douglas



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 and Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Grant Aaseng
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Ushers	(9:00) Dan Franklin, Jon and Cindy McBroom, Ruthie Neuger (10:30) Dale Gehring, Monica Holicky, Jonathan Norrie

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**ST. JOHN'S
SEPTEMBER WORSHIP**

**SEPT. 5 & 12
9:00 & 10:30 A.M.**

**SEPT. 19 & 26
8:30 & 10:45 A.M.**

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in honor of Emily Judge-Becker's baptismal anniversary on August 25 from her 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 or 612-532-6863. Next available dates: October 10, 17 & 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.

Courageous Conversations: Racism and the Solidarity Mindset – Be Brave Together

Thursday, September 16, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join with staff from the Community Action Center of Northfield to engage in a reflective, and potentially uncomfortable, conversation about what it means to be a community that acts from a solidary mindset. We'll be using what we know about systemic racism and shining that same critical light on ourselves and the day-to-day opportunities we have to do good, or to do harm. Living from a solidarity mindset is a daily exercise that takes practice and courage, so join us and let's take this moment to be brave together. Amy Tudor, LSW, Community Action Center Resource Director, and Hillary Lamberty, LGSW, Community Action Center Engagement Coordinator will be presenting. To register: www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous

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.

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

Sign-Up Online thru the Habitat for Humanity Website

Members from the ELCA churches around the county will be working together on Saturday, September 18, from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. with lunch at noon and Sunday, September 19, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. with a midday snack. All onsite volunteers need to be 18 years and older. Volunteers are needed in construction and to prepare and serve meals and snacks. Please sign up at 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.

Announcements (continued)

Intergenerational Event: Packing of School Kits

Sunday, September 19, 9:30 a.m. (Between Services)

St. John's will again have an intergenerational forum to pack school kits, outside, with weather permitting, or in St. John's Hall. Donations for this event are still being collected and can be left in the cardboard School Bus in the Commons. 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.

Message from the Faith & Health Board

We mourn the plight of Afghan refugees, many of whom worked as translators for the U.S. military and various aid groups. At least 50,000 refugees, a majority of them children, will need to resettle in the U.S. and begin a new life. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), a 501c3 non-profit, is playing a major role in the resettlement process and is calling for donations to help our new Afghan neighbors weather the next three months. To donate online or learn more about the work of LIRS, visit www.LIRS.org. For resettling Afghan refugees in Minnesota, LIRS will coordinate with Lutheran Social Services in the Twin Cities. More information will be forthcoming. We also must not overlook the recent 7.2 earthquake in Haiti that has taken 2,100 lives and made tens of thousands homeless. Lutheran World Relief is also calling for emergency gifts for Haiti at www.lwr.org/Haiti21.

Meals on Wheels – Driver's Needed!

St. John's begins delivering Meals on Wheels today and will continue through Saturday, October 8. Members have generously filled this week's slots and now we need to fill the remaining openings, especially the ones for September 19-24. 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.

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 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.

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

Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson, Arlene Sivanich

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 19):

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20 † Psalm 54 † James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a † Mark 9:30-37

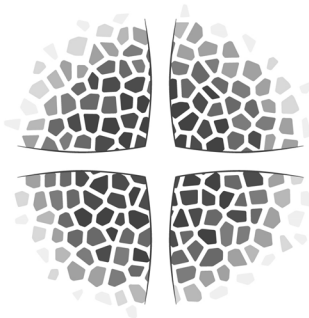
This Week At-a-Glance

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

Monday, Sep. 13	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Executive Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Sep. 14	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 Church Board Meetings I Cantanti, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, Sep. 15		No Scheduled Activities
Thursday, Sep. 16	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee, Fireside Room Quilters, Fellowship Hall Women of St. John's Courageous Conversations via Zoom
Friday, Sep. 17	9:00 a.m. 7:15 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Children's Board Movie Night, Norrie Home
Saturday, Sep. 18	8:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Faith Build - Habitat / ELCA Combined Weekend Memorial Service - Gloria Kiester, Sanctuary
Sunday, Sep. 19	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons Intergenerational Event: Packing of School Kits, Outdoors Worship (Baptism - Luca McBroom Squadroni), Sanctuary

Upcoming Fall Events

- **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



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenschner, 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.