



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 13, 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 — Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 581

W. A. Mozart

I. Allegro

Jo Ann Polley, clarinet

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 864

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”

*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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may
delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Genesis 50:15-21

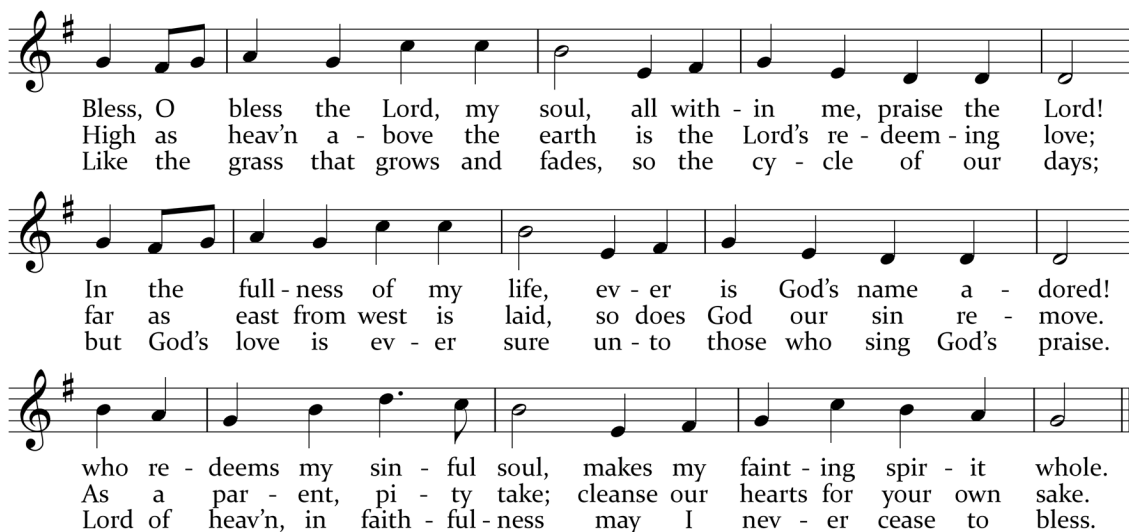
¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 103, "Bless, O Bless the Lord"

DIX



Bless, O bless the Lord, my soul, all with - in me, praise the Lord!
High as heav'n a - bove the earth is the Lord's re - deem - ing love;
Like the grass that grows and fades, so the cy - cle of our days;

In the full - ness of my life, ev - er is God's name a - dored!
far as east from west is laid, so does God our sin re - move.
but God's love is ev - er sure un - to those who sing God's praise.

who re - deems my sin - ful soul, makes my faint - ing spir - it whole.
As a par - ent, pi - ty take; cleanse our hearts for your own sake.
Lord of heav'n, in faith - ful - ness may I nev - er cease to bless.

Psalm paraphrase: Michael Morgan © 2010 Westminster John Knox Press; Music: Conrad Kocher

Second Reading — Colossians 3:12-14

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

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 — Matthew 18:21-22

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Eddie Pellinen

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 359

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

*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

Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 581

W. A. Mozart

III. Menuetto

*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.

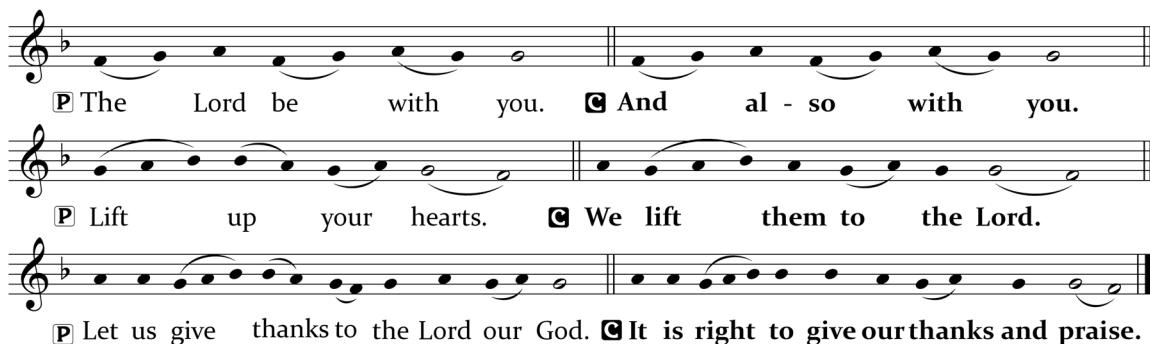
*Offering Prayer

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

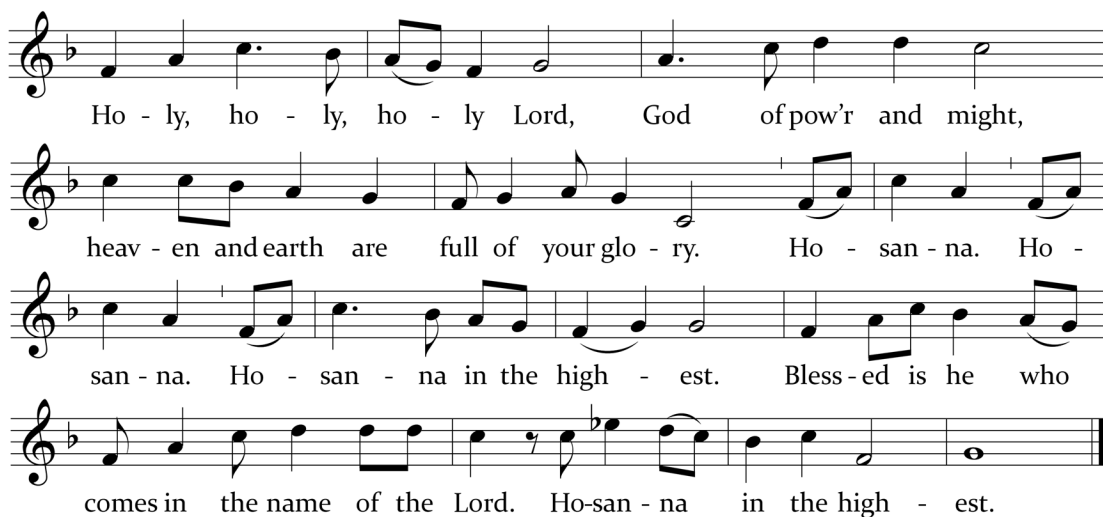


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

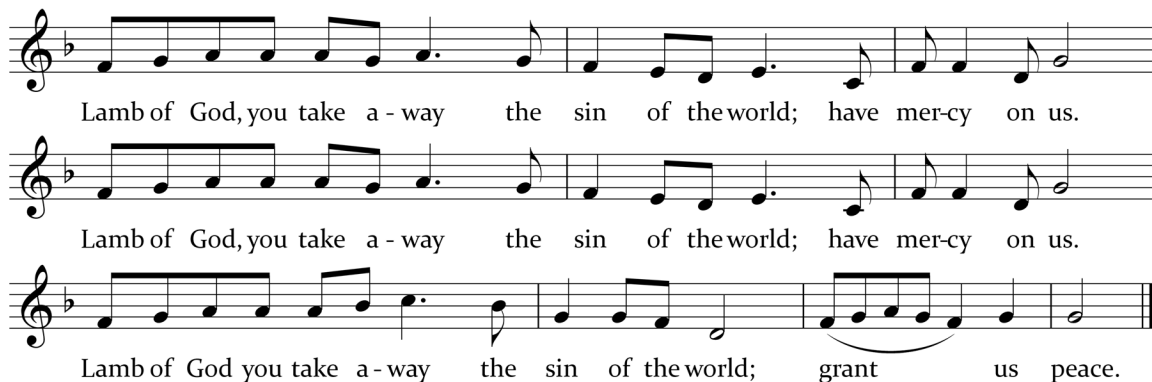
*The Lord's Prayer

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"



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.

Solo — Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 581
II. Larghetto

W. A. Mozart

Hymn — ELW No. 468

"Around You, O Lord Jesus"

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ 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. 546

“To Be Your Presence”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Allegretto” from Op. 101

Charles V. Stanford



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Edie Pellinen
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis, Pastor Katie Fick
Assisting Ministers	Violet Froehle, Luke Nelson
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Clarinet	Jo Ann Polley
Livestream	Jeff Wood
Communion Service	Vicki Otis
Greeters	Dimi DeRose, Deb Erickson
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Ted Peterson
Refreshments	Gerri Licke, Rhonda Reece, Dawn Tommerdahl, Fran Wood
Counters	Dan Franklin, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	Dan Franklin, Leif Knecht, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb



Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Cora & Elmer Schultz and Ken Struss by Marie Struss and 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.

Pub Theology

Tomorrow, Monday, September 14, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Flaherty's Northfield Lanes

We are continuing the Pub Theology series on words of faith. We will once again be using Marcus Borg's book *Speaking Christian* as a springboard for conversation. Copies are available at the Welcome Desk.

ISALAH MN: Working for Justice, Defending Democracy

There are so many opportunities for you to participate right now. Here is how to find your niche:

1. Come to the ISALAH MN and Faith in Minnesota local meeting at Bethel Lutheran on **Monday, September 14, at 7:30 p.m.** Use Door 5 (SW) for Room 61. This is the easiest way to learn more, offer ideas, and get your questions answered.
2. Read the emails you receive from ISALAH, whether local or from the state office.
3. If you aren't receiving emails, check your spam folder, or contact Ron Hebensperger.

"Healing Beyond the Headlines: Building a Movement of Hope for Palestinian Children"

Monday, September 21, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

This presentation highlights Anar's work with children and caregivers over the past three years through stories, videos, and reflections from Anar's psychosocial accompaniment teams. It explores the challenges facing communities in Gaza and the West Bank, including the impact of conflict, displacement, and settler violence, while also showcasing stories of resilience, healing, and hope. Through Rami Khader's presentation, participants will hear directly from children, caregivers, and frontline staff, gaining insight into the realities they face and the strength they demonstrate every day. The presentation will also feature key highlights from Anar's work, including the impact of its psychosocial accompaniment model, pilot programs and future directions in Gaza, and Anar's first storybook written by children for children. Sponsored by Northfielders for Justice in Palestine/Israel.

Meatball Luncheon

Sunday, September 27, Noon–1:30 p.m.

You asked, we listened, and WELCA is going to repeat the ever-popular Meatball Meal. Tickets will be sold at the door—\$5.00 for each adult and \$3.00 for children under 12 years of age. Proceeds will go to scholarships for our youth to attend the Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer. If you'd like to help provide desserts, cook, clean, etc., please sign up in CCB or contact Pam Groves-Gaggioli.

Children and Youth

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.



TODAY: Orientation for those New to Confirmation and Youth Programming

Join us **today at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. We are mindful that many folks are busy with the DJJD parade, 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.

ROCK begins Wednesday, September 23

"ROCK" is our Wednesday after-school program and is open to children in grades K–5. On Wednesdays we start with an after-school snack, followed by games, Catechism (grades 3–5), Kid's Club (grades K–2), music opportunities, art, and service projects. St. John's, through Benjamin Bus, provides an after-school bus to pick up kids from Greenvale, Bridgewater, and Spring Creek elementary schools and from the Middle school for Prairie Creek students who register for Wednesday programs.

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!

Contact information for Children and Youth

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

Nick Gilbert, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@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

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

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Charles Hauptert (father of Amy McBroom)

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.



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

Menu for Wednesday, September 16:
Sloppy Joes

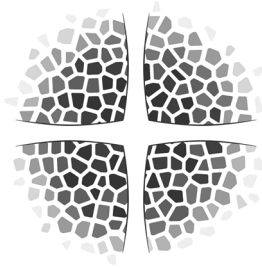
All are welcome!

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

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. 14	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	WELCA Executive Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall
		Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Flaherty's Northfield Lanes
Tuesday, Sept. 15	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room
	10:30 a.m.	Inspired Pens Writing Group, St. John's Library
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Sept. 16	12:00 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
	2:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee, Fireside Room
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
		Children's Programming Orientation, Lower Level
	5:45 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation and High School Youth Group, Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Faith & Politics Discussion Group, St. John's Library
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Sept. 17	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Executive Committee via Zoom
	1:30 p.m.	CVEC Class, St. John's Theater
	4:00 p.m.	Just for Kix Dance Class, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
Friday, Sept. 18	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Visitation - John Walters, Commons
	11:00 a.m.	Funeral - John Walters, Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 19	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Sept. 20	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	WelcomeFest ~ Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Open House (Preschool-Grade 5), Lower Level
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



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 (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.*