



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 † 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 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 — “Fanfare”

Guy Eldridge

Welcome and Announcements

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

PUER NOBIS

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 - raise 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; Music: European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius

*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

P O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD



Children's Message

"Wonders of Worship"

I won-der. I won-der. The won - ders of wor - ship,
what does it mean? I won-der. I won-der. The won-ders of wor-ship,
what does it mean? Come and see! Come now and see!

Text and Music: Anne Krentz Organ

First Reading — Exodus 32:7-14

Pew Bible, page 69

After the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading — 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Pew Bible, page 963

After the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Luke 15:1-10

Spark Story Bible, page 374

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 782

“My Shepherd, You Supply My Need”

*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

(8:30) “Lost and Afraid”

Sally Ann Morris

Lost and afraid, thirsting, alone, cold in the dark of night. I hear a voice calling me home: “Come unto me and find rest.” Warm the night; sweet the rain; stars like grace shine again. Open my heart, open my mind, open my weary hands. Teach me to love; lead me to find your still, small voice seeking me. “Come unto me, come unto me and rest.” I’m coming home, home to God’s beauty and peace; to Christ’s welcome in beauty and peace. - Adam M. L. Tice

St. John’s Chorale

(10:45) “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Marshall S. Barnhouse III

***Offering Hymn** — “For the Beauty of the Earth” *stanza 1*

DIX

For the beau-ty of the earth, for the beau-ty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher

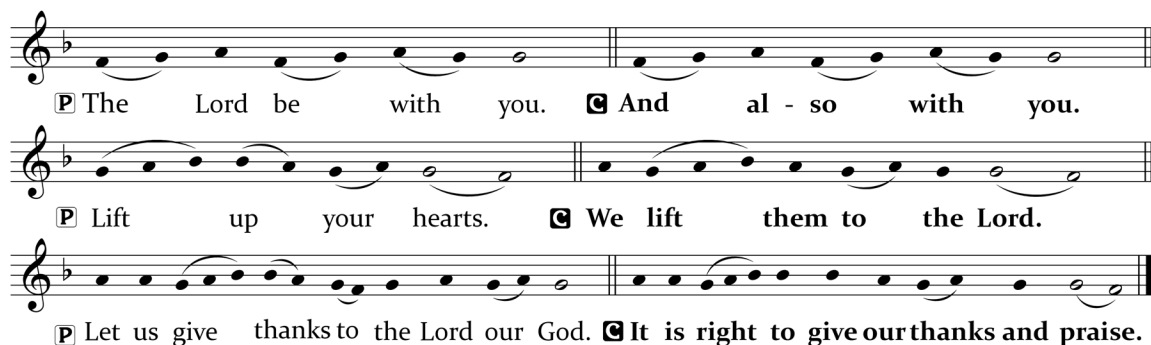
***Offering Prayer**

❏ Let us pray.

❏ **Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

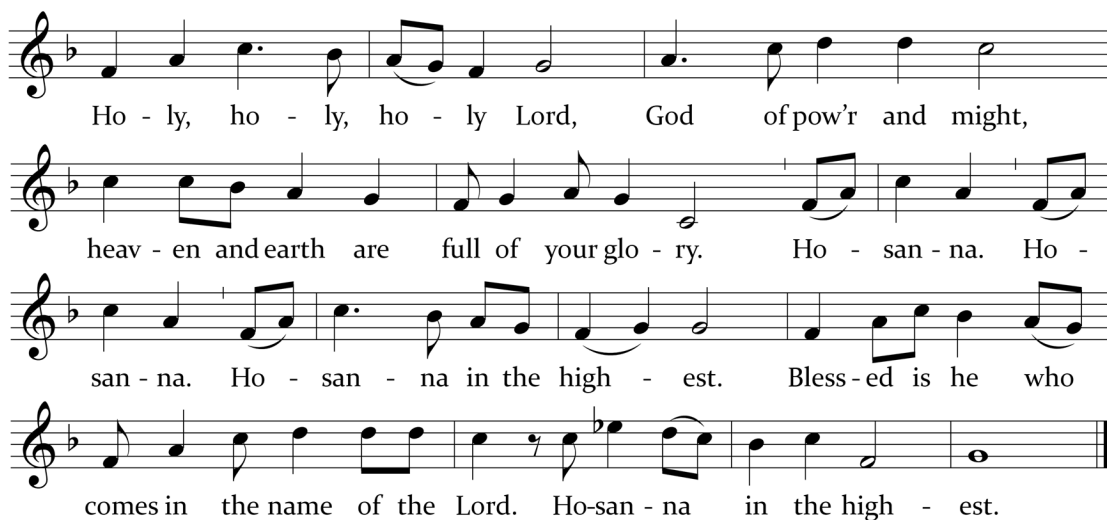


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

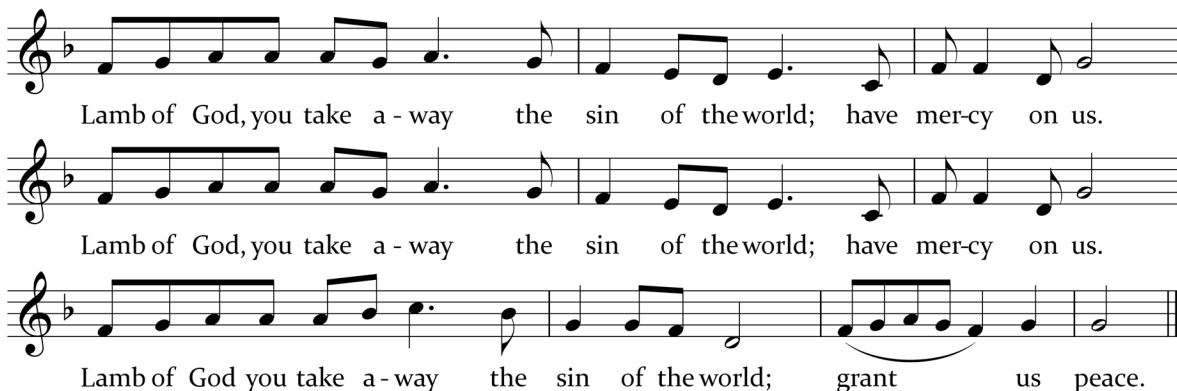
*The Lord's Prayer

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 parts, each on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first two parts end with a double bar line, while the third part continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

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.

(8:30) Anthem — "Thee We Adore"

arr. Ralph Johnson

*Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, thee, who in thy sacrament art pleased to be,
both flesh and Spirit in thy presence fail, yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.
Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God: cleanse us, unclean, with thy most
cleansing blood; increase our faith and love, that we may know the hope and
peace which from thy presence flow. O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see:
may what we thirst for soon our portion be, to gaze on thee unveiled, and see
thy face, the vision of thy glory and thy grace. Amen. — Thomas Aquinas*

Hymn — ELW No. 779

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

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

***Prayer after Communion**

☞ O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

☞ **Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☞ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 807

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude — Toccata on NETTLETON

Marilyn Biery



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Liturgy setting: Holy Communion Setting 3 by Richard Hillert.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Loy Family (10:45) David Sims
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	(8:30) David Sims
Flute	(8:30) Ruth Bretheim-Aaseng
Solo	(8:30) Robbie Shaw, Church Music Intern
Communion Service	Angie Gehring
Greeters	(8:30) Mary Ellen North (10:45) TBD
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Jane Rizzo, Bob Tabery
Ushers	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jon and Cindy McBroom, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Chris Tacheny

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 21):

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:4-7 + Psalm 113 + 1 Timothy 2:1-7 + Luke 16:1-13

WEDNESDAY
Night Meals

Come share a meal!

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

Menu for Wednesday, September 17:
Sloppy Joes

All are welcome!

*Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.
Dessert contributions are always welcome and needed!*

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. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Next available dates: October 5 & 26.

WelcomeFest 2025 Today Between Services

WelcomeFest kicks off the start of the new school year at St. John's! All are welcome!

- **9:30–10:30 a.m.: WelcomeFest Breakfast, hosted by St. John's Youth.** Everyone is invited to St. John's Hall for a hearty breakfast of pancakes and sausages starting at 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.
- **9:45–10:00 a.m.: Open House for the First Day of Sunday School.** Preschool (age 3 by 9/1/25) through grade 5 (accompanied by a parent) begins in the lower level with an Open House. Check out where your classroom is and connect with your classroom leaders and friends!
- **10:00–10:30 a.m.: Children's activities in St. John's Hall.**

Community Survey

What concerns do you and your family have about our common future? St. John's is asking adults in our community to respond to a survey about community needs ranging from housing to food to medical care. The results are anonymous and will be used to shape how we work with other faith-based communities to address common needs. You can fill it out online from the link sent in the E-Voice or today at the table in the Commons.

Pub Theology

Monday, September 15, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Flaherty's

The topic is "wonder." How do you keep a sense of wonder in your life? What practices, habits, and experiences shape your sense of wonder, and how does wonder enter into your spiritual life? For inspiration (but not required) watch this TED talk before you come: https://www.ted.com/talks/george_monbiot_for_more_wonder_rewild_the_world

St. John's Forum: *Courage, Conversion, Care: Responding Faithfully to Climate Change*

Next Sunday, September 21, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Professor Kiara Jorgenson launches our series on responding faithfully to climate change in her talk, "Toward Ecological Conversion." Professor Jorgenson is the chair of Department of Environmental Studies and associate professor of religion and environmental studies at St. Olaf College.

St. John's WELCA 150th Birthday Bash & Hotdish Hoedown

Saturday, October 11, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m., St. John's Hall

Tickets on sale between services in the Commons. \$15.00 (they will be \$20 at the door).

Announcements (continued)

Bells Ringing for Gaza on September 16

Churches in Northfield (including ours) will simultaneously ring bells on Tuesday, September 16, at 4:21 p.m. as a Wordless Prayer for Humanity in Gaza. Organized by citizens of Northfield and supported by Palestine in Northfield and Northfielders for Justice in Palestine/Israel, there will be a gathering at 4:00 p.m. at Bridge Square to create a circle and gather in silence as church bells ring at 4:21 p.m. 4:21 represents the 2.1 million people in Gaza at the start of the war, and bells will ring for 8 minutes to represent the 84,000 lives lost. Community members unable to come to Bridge Square are encouraged to take a moment outside to listen to the bells.

Volunteers Needed for the Old-Fashioned Meatball Dinner Hosted by WELCA

Wednesday, September 24, 5:15–6:15 p.m., St. John's Hall

Help us recreate a night from the past for the congregation at the Wednesday Night Meal. We need Jell-O salads, brownies, serving help, clean up help, etc. Sign up online through CCB (link in the E-Voice) or contact Pam Groves-Gaggioli at 562-237-3781 or ladylynneg@gmail.com.

Accompany Program Invitation for Newcomers this Fall

Sundays, October 19–November 23, 9:45–10:40 a.m. in the Undercroft

Accompany is our approach to welcoming those new to St. John's and for those possibly considering membership. The program consists of six gatherings that meet on Sundays between the worship services in which learning more about our church, making connections with others, and spiritual reflection are the focus. If you are interested in participating, please contact Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org. We look forward to having you join us!

Tickets on sale between services in the Commons. \$15.00 (they will be \$20 at the door).

Children and Youth

Registration is Open for Children and Youth Programs for the 2025–2026 School Year

Check out St. John's website at: stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/. Click on "Children" or "Youth" to find out more about the programs available. Register by using this QR code or click on "Register" on our website.



Wednesday Programming Begins this Week

- "ROCK" Wednesday Afterschool Programming for Children (Grades K–5)
- Confirmation (Grades 6–8)
- High School Youth Group (Grades 9–12)

Sunday Programming Begins Next Sunday (September 21)

- Sunday School (Preschool–Grade 5)
- Sunday Youth Group (Grades 6–12)

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

Cindy Clauson, Irene Dorantes Perez, Fred Huemoeller, Audrey Moe,
Patrice Nordstrand, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

Those celebrating the marriage of

Dylan Gehring and Therese Heiden

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Sandra Stai (mother of Gretchen Falck)

Those with ongoing health concerns

David Halsor, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Mary Ellen North,
Alice Rickert, Kathy Vang, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Ingrid Alberding,
Kathy Applebee, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

All who are homebound, including

Carol Johnson, Bob Flaten

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.

VOICES OF ST. JOHN'S

On Giving & Receiving



After joining St. John's a little over a year ago,
I became more aware of all the many ways
WELCA is alive and well here! I've joined a circle, the

quilting group, the WELCA board, and attend Boomer gatherings. I try to give in whatever ways I
can. And, do you know what? I have received SO much more - namely, friendships with some of the
most interesting, giving, and caring people I've ever met. The same goes for St. John's Chorale - what a
blessing to sing with Nathan and the Chorale!

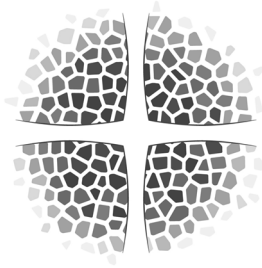


- Rhonda Reece

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. 15	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	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
Tuesday, Sept. 16	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
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
	6:45 p.m.	Committee Meeting - Troop #7313 and #9313, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Sept. 17	2:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee, Undercroft
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Wellspring Craft & Conversation, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Sept. 18	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	1:30 p.m.	Executive Committee via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony
Friday, Sept. 19	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 20	8:00 a.m.	Stephen Minister Training, Fireside Room
Sunday, Sept. 21	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5, Lower Level
		Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12, Youth Room
		St. John's Forum, St. John's Hall
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*
Steve Harner, *Facility Manager*
Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*
Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*
Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*
Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*
Kristin Partlo, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*
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.*