



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 † 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 — Trumpet Tune in D Major

David N. Johnson

Evelyn Armstrong, trumpet

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** Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Jonah 3:10—4:11

Pew Bible, page 753

After the reading:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 145:1-8

Antiphon: Marcus Veenstra (ACS No. 911)

Antiphon: Gloria a Dios en los cielos. (Glory to God in the highest.)



- 1 I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- 2 Every day ¹ will I bless you
and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- 3 **Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised!**
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.
- 4 **One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another**
and shall de- ¹ clare your power. *Antiphon*
- 5 I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.
- 6 They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully¹ of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and full¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love. *Antiphon*

***Gospel Acclamation**



***Gospel — Matthew 20:1-16**

Spark Story Bible, page 298

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 705

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*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

(8:30) "When the Morning Stars Together"

arr. John Ferguson

When the morning stars together their Creator's glory sang, and the angel host all shouted till with joy the heavens rang, then your wisdom and your greatness their exultant music told, all the beauty and the splendor which your mighty works unfold. When in synagogue and temple voices raised the psalmists' songs, offering the adoration which alone to you belongs, when the singers and the cymbals with the trumpet made accord, glory filled the house of worship, and all knew your presence, Lord. Voice and instrument in union through the ages spoke your praise, plainsong, tuneful hymns, and anthems told your faithful, gracious ways. Choir, orchestra and organ each an offering brought, while, inspired by your own Spirit, poet and composer wrought. Lord, we bring our gift of music; touch our lips and fire our hearts, teach our minds and train our senses, fit us for these sacred arts. Then with skill and consecration we would serve you, Lord, and give all our powers to glorify you, and in serving fully live.

– Albert F. Bayly

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" BWV 147

J. S. Bach

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

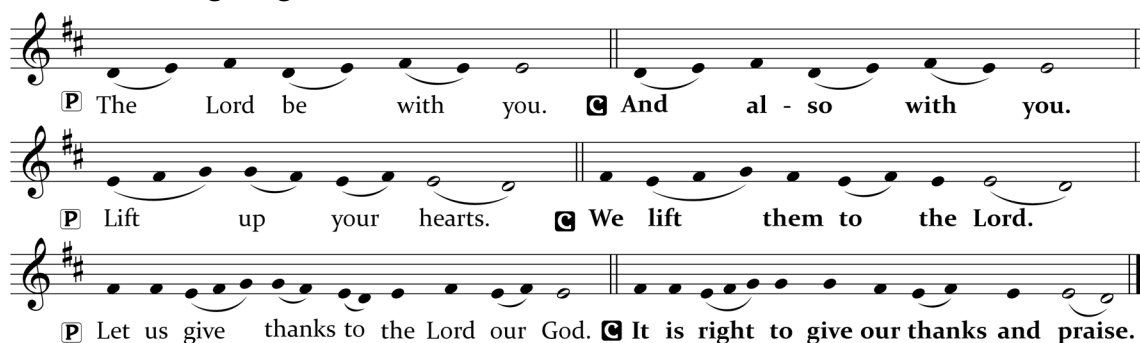
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and
in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

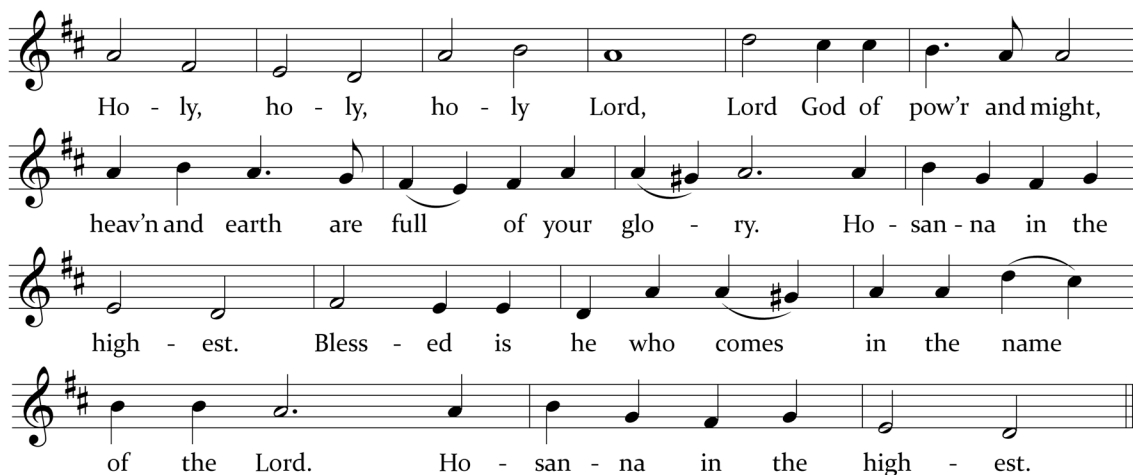


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

*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, 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. 462

"Now We Join in Celebration"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us
living signs of your healing and love, following the way of Jesus.
- ☞ **Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☞ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn — ELW No. 548**

“Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — March

F. Melius Christiansen



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

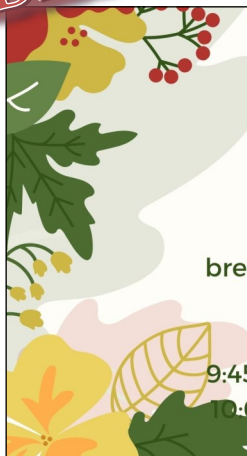
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Katie Fick
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Arielle Loy (10:45) Simpson-Younger Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Trumpet	Evelyn Armstrong
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Anthem Accompanist	(8:30) David Sims
Livestream	Rob Nutt, Dave Zdenek
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	Brenda Nelson
Greeters	(8:30) Marie Benson, Gerri Licke (10:45) Susan Canon, Allene Moesler
WelcomeFest Breakfast	St. John's Youth
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Merilyn Calcutt, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Larry Enfield, Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt, John Ophaug (10:45) Mike Bull, Ruth Dahl, Angie Gehring

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 27):

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 † Psalm 25:1-9 † Philippians 2:1-13 † Matthew 21:23-32

TODAY



WelcomeFest

Sunday, September 20
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited to St. John's Hall for
breakfast, serving pancakes, sausage, and fruit.
(Hosted by St. John's Youth)

Grades PreK-5

9:45 am: Sunday School Open House lower level
10:00 am: Children's Activities in St. John's Hall

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Gert Brosz by Wil Brosz 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 and November 22.

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.



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

Tomorrow, 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.

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.

St. John's Forum: A Forgotten Pharaoh, Protesting Midwives, and the Boy Who Lived

Next Sunday, September 27, 9:45 a.m., St. John's Hall

Suggested Reading: Exodus 1—2:10

This fall, St. John's Forum will return to biblical drama in the pages of scripture with a series on the book of Exodus. Many of these you might remember from Sunday School, but we hope to dig deeper into these stories with details you might not have noticed and questions you never knew you could ask. Did you know that two rule-breaking midwives helped to save the Hebrew people? Did you know that Moses was a murderer? Can God really part the waters of the sea and does God really send torturous plagues upon people? We hope you will join us in opening your Bibles and minds to the rich meaning in these foundational stories that can still speak to us today.

Announcements (continued)

Fika for Parents

Fika is the Swedish tradition of taking a break for coffee, treats, and conversation. We invite parents of young children to come and take a “Fika” break with other parents during our Sunday School time, 9:45–10:30 a.m. starting next Sunday, September 27. We’ll meet in the lower level next to the Nursery. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Ask Arielle (arielleloy@gmail.com).

You’re invited to join the next Courageous Conversations book discussion of Ben McBride’s *Troubling the Water: The Urgent Work of Radical Belonging*

The book is available at Content Bookstore. Discussion dates are Thursdays October 1, 15, 29 and November 5 from 4:00–5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Please contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com if you’d like to participate and to get the reading plan and Zoom link.

Courageous Conversations: Supporting Immigrant Neighbors Now

Thursday, October 1, 7:00 p.m., St. John’s Hall

Co-founder Rachel Matney will share the story of Northfield Supporting Neighbors (NSN) and some ways neighbors came together to help protect and support our immigrant and vulnerable neighbors during Operation Metro Surge. She will update us on current needs, actions, and how to get involved. NSN received the Northfield Human Rights Commission’s organization award for 2026.

Step Into the Quiet—Sunday Evening Gatherings Begin Today

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

Gatherings return starting this Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Come for a brief time of connection, community, grounding through song, candlelighting and quiet as together we listen and seek the Holy in our too-often noisy lives. It’s a volunteer-led opportunity to be re-tuned for the week ahead. All are welcome. Questions? Email to theeveninggathering@gmail.com.

Meatball Luncheon

Sunday September 27 Noon - 1:30



**\$5.00 per person \$3.00 for children 5 - 12 yrs
(payable at the door)**

**Fundraiser for scholarships to the 2027
ELCA Youth Gathering in the Twin Cities**

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

Bill Carlson, Barbara Dettle, Fred Huemoeller, Barbara Johnson,
Joanie Lee, Gordy Moore, 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.



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

Menu for Wednesday, September 23:
Pizza Hot Dish with Salad
(Vegetarian Option Available)

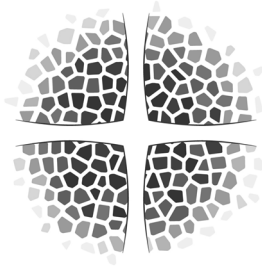
All are welcome!

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. 21	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	7:00 p.m.	Healing Beyond the Headlines Presentation, St. John's Hall
Tuesday, Sept. 22	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
	4:00 p.m.	Enneagram Meeting, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council, Undercroft
Wednesday, Sept. 23	10:15 a.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite
	10:45 a.m.	Communion at NRC, Offsite
	11:15 a.m.	Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite
	12:00 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Undercroft
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:45 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Offsite at Bethel Lutheran Church
		High School Youth Group, Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Sept. 24	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room
	1:30 p.m.	CVEC Class, St. John's Theater
		Book Buddies, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Just for Kix Dance Class, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Sanctuary
Friday, Sept. 25	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 26		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Sept. 27	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 Group (Grades 6-12), Youth Room
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	12:00 p.m.	Meatball Luncheon, St. John's Hall



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.*