



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 † 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 — “God, We Gather as Your People”
For All the Children

Anthony Giamanco

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 389

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

*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 God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us
as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition,
that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants
of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Antiphon: O God, we call, from deep inside we yearn for you.



¹Save me, O God, | by your name;
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

²Hear my | prayer, O God;
give ear to the words | of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,
those who have no re- | gard for God.

⁴Behold, God | is my helper;
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.

⁶I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble,
and my eye looks down | on my enemies. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — James 3:11-18

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.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

☐ 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.

*Gospel — Mark 9:30-37

Spark Story Bible, page 324

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

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

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,

³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

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 — ACS No. 1038

“God, We Gather as Your People”

*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:

- L** Lord, in your mercy,
- C** 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 Poor Ones”

Miguel Manzano, arr. David Cherwien

When the poor ones, who have nothing, still are giving; when the thirsty pass the cup, water to share; when the wounded offer others strength and healing: we see God, here by our side, walking our way. When compassion gives the suffering consolation; when expecting brings to birth hope that was lost; when we choose love, not the hatred all around us: we see God, here by our side, walking our way. When our spirits, like a chalice, brim with gladness; when our voices, full and clear, sing out the truth; when our longings, free from envy, seek the humble: we see God, here by our side, walking our way. When the goodness poured from heaven fills our dwellings; when the nations work to change war into peace; when the stranger is accepted as our neighbor: we see God, here by our side, walking our way. - José Olivar, tr. Martin Seltz

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) “When the Poor Ones”

Miguel Manzano, arr. Al Roberts

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

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (one sharp). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a bass line accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Father, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men." The score includes a repeat sign at the end of the second line.

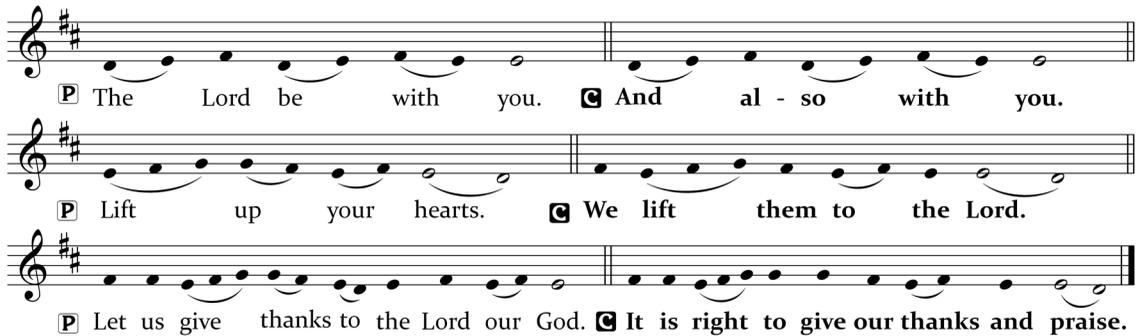
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

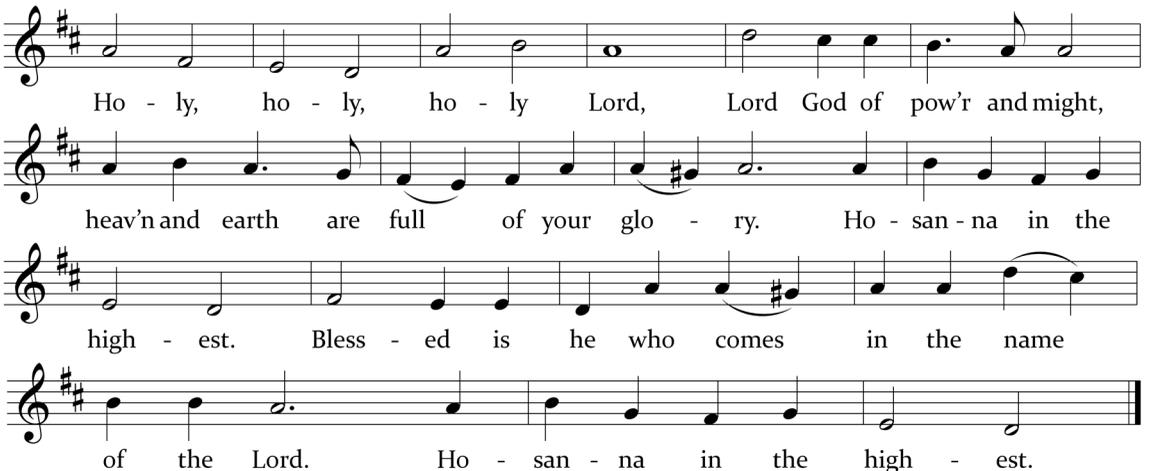


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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, 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

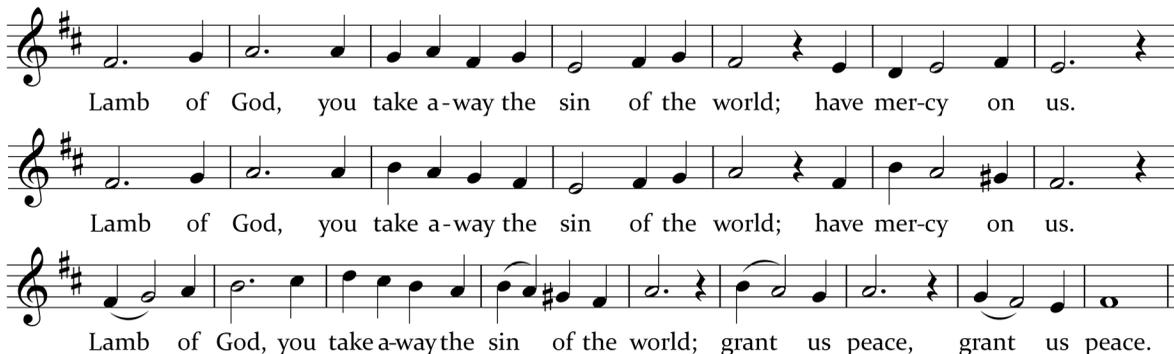
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
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.***

On the fourth Sunday of the month during communion, we offer the practice of anointing your brow with oil and receiving a blessing. If you want, you may ask for a specific prayer blessing from the anointer.

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.

Hymn — ELW No. 781

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Hymn — ELW No. 464

“Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal”

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

☞ Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we set forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. ☩ Amen.

***Prayer after Communion**

☞ Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ☩ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☩ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 650

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — Fanfare on MCKEE

Charles Callahan



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (September 29):

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 † Psalm 19:7-14 † James 5:13-20 † Mark 9:38-50

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	(8:30) David Nitz; (10:45) Alison Kavanaugh
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	(8:30) David Sims
Healing Prayers	(8:30) Jane Rinehart, Rod Christensen (10:45) Kristin Partlo
Greeters	(8:30) TBD; (10:45) Kibby Errington
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Arielle Loy
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Jane Turpin Moore, Ted Peterson
Refreshments	Kibby Errington
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Rick Hillard, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Todd Menssen, Bob Nyvall, Mark Rydberg, Eric Sponheim

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Children and Youth

Sunday School for PreK–Grade 5

St. John's uses a lectionary-based classroom style of learning, which makes it easy for kids to make connections between what they learn in Sunday school and what they learn in the worship services by using the same bible readings. This Sunday's lesson is, "Who is the Greatest," from Mark 9:30-37.

Looking for Adult Small Group Helpers for Confirmation

If you are an adult and you have a middle schooler in your life, then you are qualified to be a small group leader for confirmation on Wednesdays. We are looking for a few more regular and back-up adult helpers. Parents, grandparents, neighbors, friends: all are wonderful additions to our weekly space of community and care. Please let Kristin Partlo know if you or someone you know would be interested in serving in this way.

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Tony Becker and Beckie Judge. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available dates: October 27 and November 3 & 10.

Today's Altar Flowers are given in memory of Dick Kleber by family and friends.

Sending of Holy Communion

This week, Stephen Ministers of St. John's were trained to take Holy Communion from our Sunday worship to their care receivers who are homebound. Their communion kits are consecrated with our Sunday elements and will be prayed for as we send them to our siblings in Christ at home. This extension of the Lord's table is intended to supplement our pastors' care of the homebound and provide more frequent connection of members who cannot attend our Sunday assembly. If you are aware of someone in our congregation who needs this ministry, please talk to one of the pastors.

St. John's Ministry Fair

Today Between Services in St. John's Hall

Wednesday, September 25, 5:00–6:15 p.m., St. John's Hall

Have you ever wondered about all of the amazing work that goes on behind the scenes at St. John's? Would you like to learn more about the variety of opportunities to get involved? There is something for everyone! Come to St. John's Hall between services to enjoy a beverage and a treat while checking out the displays, gathering information, and talking with group leaders, board members, and volunteers about what each ministry has to offer!

Wondering How to Get Involved at St. John's?

The Nominating Committee of St. John's is responsible for forming the church boards and Church Council that lead our congregation. They begin their work this fall and will be reaching out to members in the coming weeks. To learn more about our ministries, attend the Ministry Fair today between services, or on Wednesday, or ask a staff member to connect you with the Nominating Committee.

St. John's Forum: *Opening the Creation Stories and Finding Meaning*

Sunday, September 29, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

This fall, St. John's Forum will be exploring the book of Genesis, focusing on some of the most well-known and least well-known stories. The series begins with an exploration of the creation stories in Genesis 1 and 2 that goes beyond the debate of "creation vs. science." Pastor Jonathan will help us consider the poetry of the creation stories and the deeper meaning for a troubled people.

Announcements (continued)

Bible 101 Class

Today, 12:15–1:45 p.m., Fireside Room

What is the Bible? How did it come to exist? How do I read the Bible in my everyday life? How do Lutherans read the Bible? If you are asking these questions—you are not alone. The Bible is sometimes an intimidating and even scary book, even though we read from it every Sunday. Many of us just do not know where to begin with it. Pastors Pam and Jonathan would like to invite any and all people who are curious about the Bible to their Bible 101 class today after the second service. We will meet in the Fireside Room and spend time learning and asking questions together. All are welcome!

Mission Morning

Saturday, September 28, 9:00–11:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

St. John's women are invited to a morning of coffee, treats, kit packing, fellowship, and changing the world, one kit at a time. Special speaker: Kim Dickey, Global Health Ministries.

Quilters and Bandage Rollers Need More Sheets

Cotton, cotton blends, and flannel only (no microfiber, polyester, or jersey). Any color and size sheet is welcome. Put donated sheets next to the wicker basket in the Commons, or leave in the quilter's closet in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Courageous Conversation: *Faith in Democracy?* - *Christian Nationalism*

Thursday, October 3, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

The Rev. Angela Denker is a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a veteran journalist. Her first book, *Red State Christians*, was the silver winner in political and social sciences for the 2019 Foreword Indies Book of the Year awards. She is a columnist for the *Minnesota Star Tribune* and has written for many publications, including *Sports Illustrated*, the *Washington Post*, and *Fortune* magazine. She has also appeared on CNN, BBC, SkyNews, and NPR. *Courageous Conversations* is free and open to the public. Pastor Denker lives with her husband, Ben, and two sons in Minneapolis, where she is a sought-after speaker on Christian nationalism and its theological and cultural roots.

Sunday Evening Gatherings

Sundays, 6:00–6:30 p.m., First UCC (300 Union St.)

Please join us on Sunday evenings for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. The first Sunday of the month we will follow a traditional Taizé format, which focuses on repetitive singing, minimal spoken word, and does not include communion. The Evening Gathering is led by laypeople from First UCC and other local churches. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare for the coming week.

Reminder of Deadlines

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

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

Ingrid Alberding, Freya Breimhorst, Fred Huemoeller, Diane Melbye, Genevieve Quarberg

Those with ongoing health concerns

Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, John Ferguson, Bob Flaten, Paul Klinefelter, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Cynthia Neubecker, Mary Ellen North, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Laila Burns Hedstrom, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

All who are homebound, including

Carol Johnson, VaLois Mandsager

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

St. John's Stephen Ministers offer care to those in a variety of difficult situations. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors at 645-4429.

Prayer Chain Requests

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or macisar@gmail.com, or contact a pastor.

Wednesday Night



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

Menu for Wednesday, September 25:
Creamy Chicken Pasta with Salad
(Vegetarian Option Available)

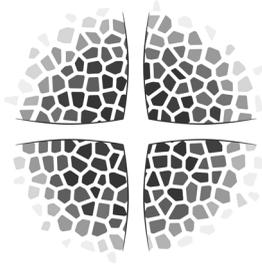
All are welcome!

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

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. 23	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Sept. 24	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.	Writing Group: "Inspired Pens", St. John's Library
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council, Undercroft
Wednesday, Sept. 25	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
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:00 p.m.	Ministry Fair, St. John's Hall
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), St. John's Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Sept. 26	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	1:30 p.m.	Book Buddies, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversation Book Group via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Sept. 27	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Sept. 28		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Sep. 29	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, Sanctuary
	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*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*
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*
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.*