



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 † 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 — ON SONG OF PRAISE

Marilyn Biery

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — ELW No. 845

“Voices Raised to You”
arr. Carolyn Jennings

Stanzas 1-2 — all singing
(8:30) *Stanza 3 — choir / (10:45) Stanza 3 — all singing*
Stanzas 4-5 — all singing

*Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be God, the one who forms us,
Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

P Let us come before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C Amen.

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

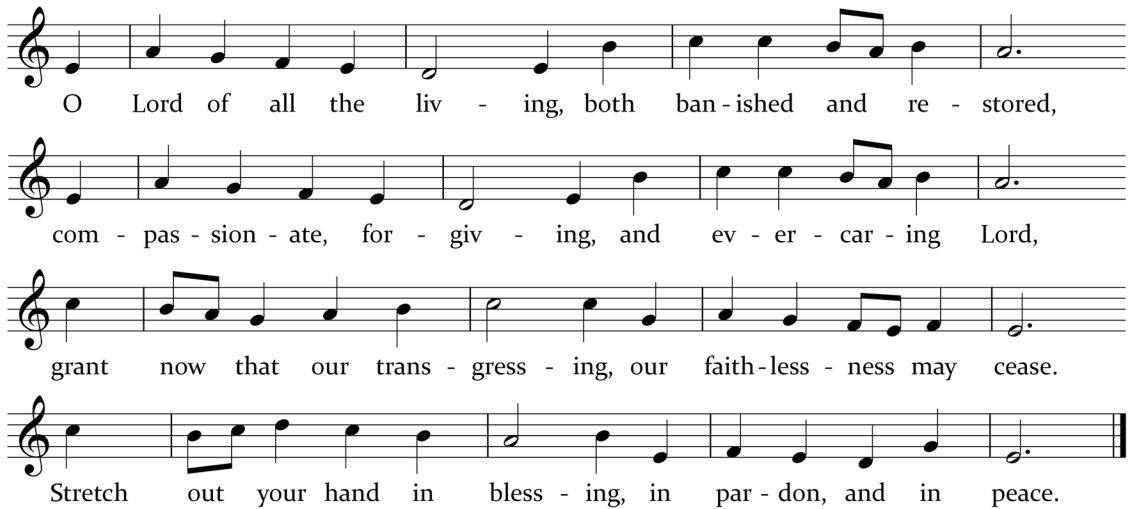
⁸The LORD is gracious and full¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Jonah 2:10—3:9

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn — “Our Father, We Have Wandered” *stanza 3* HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN



O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Music: Hans Leo Hassler

Third Reading — Jonah 3:10—4:11

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Though the Earth Shall Change” (ACS #1035) WE WILL NOT FEAR

Sung three times.

Though the earth shall change, though the mountains tremble,
though the waters rage, you, God, are here.
Though the nations war, though the peoples battle,
though the empire falters, we will not fear.

Text: Rolf Vegdahl and Tom Witt; Music: Tom Witt © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

(10:45) Presentation of Catechisms to Third Graders

*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

(8:30) "Praise His Holy Name"

Keith Hampton

*Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout hallelujah! Praise his holy name!
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me; I once was lost,
but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see. Jesus, how I love thee! Shout Hallelujah!
Praise his holy name! Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No,
there's a cross for everyone and there's a cross for me. Holy Jesus, Praise his name!
Hallelujah! Praise his holy name! Praise him!*

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Sylvia Oines

*Offering Hymn — "Praise and Thanksgiving" stanza 1

BUNESSAN

**Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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-er and might,



heav-en 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. 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.

Hymn — ELW No. 779

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Hymn — ELW No. 740

“God of the Sparrow”

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

- Ⓐ Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
- Ⓒ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- Ⓒ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ACS No. 1000

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

***Dismissal**

- Ⓐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- Ⓒ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — “Jubilate”

Roy Douglas



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Preaching | Pastor Pam Fickenscher |
| Presiding | Pastor Jonathan Davis |
| Assisting Ministers | Kristin Partlo and St. John's Youth |
| Organist | Nathan Proctor |
| Choir | (8:30) St. John's Chorale |
| Piano | (8:30) David Sims |
| Communion Prep | John Malecha, Judy Smith |
| Communion Cleanup | TBD |
| Greeters | (8:30) David Sudermann and Mary Cisar (10:45) TBD |
| Coffee Service | Bill and Jill Malecha |
| Counters | Chris and Martha Erickson, Pippa Younger |
| Ushers | (8:30) Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Mark Rydberg, Todd Menssen, Robert Nyvall, Eric Sponheim |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover artwork: Jonah © 1999 by the John August Swanson Trust
Acrylic painting, 14" x 20" | JohnAugustSwanson.com

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Children and Youth

Registration is Open for 2023–2024 Children and Youth Programs
Register online at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Today's Sunday School Lesson: "The Vineyard Workers"

Catechism Begins for Grades 3–5
Wednesday, October 4, 4:00–4:45 p.m.

Contact information for Children and Youth
Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org.
Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Bob Matta by Marilyn Matta 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), please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: November 12 & 19 and December 3, 10, 17, 24, 25 & 31.

2023 St. John's Ministry Fair

Today, 9:30–10:45 a.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!

Wednesday Night Meals

September 27, 5:15–6:15 p.m., St. John's Hall

Menu: Swedish Meatballs with Mashed Potatoes and Veggies

Let's get together for dinner—come share a meal! It's a fantastic time for fellowship for all ages.

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 or ask a staff member to connect you with the Nominating Committee.

You Are Already There . . . When disasters like the floods in Libya or the earthquake in Morocco strike, Lutheran World Relief is our global partner for disaster assistance. Thanks to your designated offerings earlier in the year, you are already there. Last week the Benevolence Board released another \$4,495 to LWR for help where it is needed most. Thank you for your generosity!

St. John's Courageous Conversations Book Group Begins Again

Thursday, September 28, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom

This fall we're expanding on a topic from last year's WELCA presentation on Christian Nationalism. We will read *The Power Worshipers: Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism* by Katherine Stewart. The group meets every two weeks: September 28, October 12 & 26, and November 9 & 30. Books are available at Content Bookstore in Northfield. Please contact Dawn Tommerdahl at dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to sign up and receive the reading plan and Zoom link.

Announcements (continued)

St. John's Forum

Dr. Deanna Thompson – Martin Luther's Anti-Judaism and Our Contemporary Response

Sunday, October 1, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

The Adult Ministry & Education Board invites you to join us as Dr. Deanna Thompson launches our series of forums on the legacy and consequences of Christian anti-Judaism. Speaking on “Martin Luther’s Anti-Judaism and Our Contemporary Response,” Dr. Thompson will describe Luther’s anti-Jewish stance by focusing on his 1543 pamphlet, “On the Jews and their Lies,” explore the legacy of Luther’s anti-Judaism, and, finally, discuss ways the ELCA has been working to repair Luther’s legacy. Dr. Thompson is the Director of the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values and Community and the Martin E. Marty Regents Chair in Religion and the Academy at St. Olaf College. For more on this series, please check out the September edition of *The Voice*.

Annual Fall Church Yard Clean Up

Saturday, October 14, 8:00 a.m.–Noon

The Property & Grounds Board needs help cleaning up the church yard. We will be happy to assign you a task! Please bring gloves, rakes, brooms, clippers, hedge trimmers, dandelion diggers, leaf blowers, tarps, leaf bags, or baskets. Garden trailers and trucks are needed for transporting yard waste to the Northfield Compost Site.

Sunday Evening Gatherings

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

Evening Gatherings are led by laypeople from First UCC and other local churches. Please join us for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. On 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. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare for the coming week.

Oral History Update

Available now on the St. John’s website is a 2019 oral history interview with Peggy and John Hanson. They share stories about their family, how they came to join St. John’s, and their church service, especially in support of St. John’s youth. You can hear the interviews by clicking on the “About” tab on the main page of the website, and then scroll down to “Oral Histories.”

Volunteers Needed to Join the St. John's Audio/Visual Team

The St. John’s Audio/Visual Team seeks new volunteers to help with livestream coverage of Sunday services, special event presentations, and funerals. A/V team members operate cameras, prepare PowerPoint slides to accompany the video cam images, and help with simple post-production tasks. No experience necessary. Hands-on training provided. To learn more, contact office@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

Shirley Anderson, Jim Bronson, John Ferguson, Lester Gunderson, Aiden Mandsager, Roberta Morse, Mary Ellen North, Donna Paulsen, Wendy Scholz, Noah Tracy, Karen Wingate, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Rev. David Hurtt

Those with ongoing health concerns

Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Paul Peterson, John Quam, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

All who are homebound, including

Lois Pearson, Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson

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

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 (October 1):

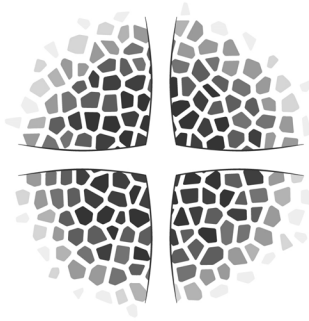
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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. 25 | 12:00 p.m. | Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Boy Scouts, St. John's Hall |
| Tuesday, Sept. 26 | 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. | Funeral - Rev. David Hurtt, Sanctuary |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Church Council, Undercroft |
| Wednesday, Sept. 27 | 10:45 a.m. | Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite |
| | 11:45 a.m. | Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite |
| | 3:45 p.m. | Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's |
| | 5:15 p.m. | Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall |
| | 6:15 p.m. | Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Undercroft |
| | | High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room |
| | | Where Politics Meets Faith: Wed. Conversation, Fireside Room |
| | 7:00 p.m. | St. John's Chorale, Room 209 |
| Thursday, Sept. 28 | 7:45 a.m. | Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Quilters, 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 Conversations Book Group via Zoom |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Rejoice Ringers, Balcony |
| Friday, Sept. 29 | 9:00 a.m. | S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:00 p.m. | NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room |
| Saturday, Sept. 30 | | No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed |
| Sunday, Oct. 1 | 8:30 a.m. | Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall |
| | | Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons |
| | 9:45 a.m. | Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 5), Lower Level |
| | | Sunday Youth Group (Grades 6-12), Youth Room |
| | | St. John's Forum, Sanctuary |
| | | Accompany, Undercroft |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary |



St. John's

ELCA · NORTHFIELD · MN

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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*

Call the church office or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.