



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 28, 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 — Allemande from *French Suite No. 5*, BWV 816

J. S. Bach

Esther Wang, piano

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 532

“Gather Us In”

*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, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world.
Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from
you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

Children's Message

Stories from Good Earth Village

St John's Children:

*Christopher Cox, Charlotte Cox, Claire Gallagher,
Frances Jackman, Anders Loy, Maddy Rudser,
Hadassah Smith, Zemirah Smith, Jameson Taubel*



Good Earth Village camp participants

Camp Song — “Psalm 139: Wherever I Go, You Go”

John Hermanson

If I take (echo)	the wings of morning (echo)
and fly (echo)	to the furthest sea, (echo)
your right hand (echo)	will guide me. (echo)
Your right hand (echo)	will guide me. (echo)

Chorus

Where can I go from your spirit? (echo)
 Where can I flee from your presence? (echo)
 Wherever I go, you go. (echo)
 Wherever I go, you go. (echo)

If the darkness (echo)	overcomes me (echo)
and day (echo)	turns into night, (echo)
Even night, (echo)	to you is light. (echo)
Even night, (echo)	to you is light. (echo)

Reflections from Christikon

St. John’s youth, plus sixteen friends, traveled to Billings, Montana, for hiking and camping in the majestic Rocky Mountains this summer.

St. John’s Youth:

Noelle Berger, Owen Brownlee, Jonah Brownlee, Ava Damm, Elliot Davis, Mya Haak, Jude Hassanally, Micah Hassanally, Ian Johnson, Genevieve Knutson, Theo Miller, Luke Nelson, Joran Peterson, Izzy Rudser, Lucy Younger

Adults:

Pastor Jonathan Davis, Kristin Partlo, Pastor David Weeks, Jim Brownlee, Terrence Hassanally, Jolene Johnson

HEARING GOD'S WORD

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Luke 16:19-31

Spark Story Bible, page 386

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Heather Wigdahl

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 723

“Canticle of the Turning”

*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) “Morning Has Broken”

Shawn Kirchner

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word! Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

– Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

*Lacy Williams, soprano
St. John's Chorale*

(10:45) “Morning Has Broken”

Emma Lou Diemer

*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

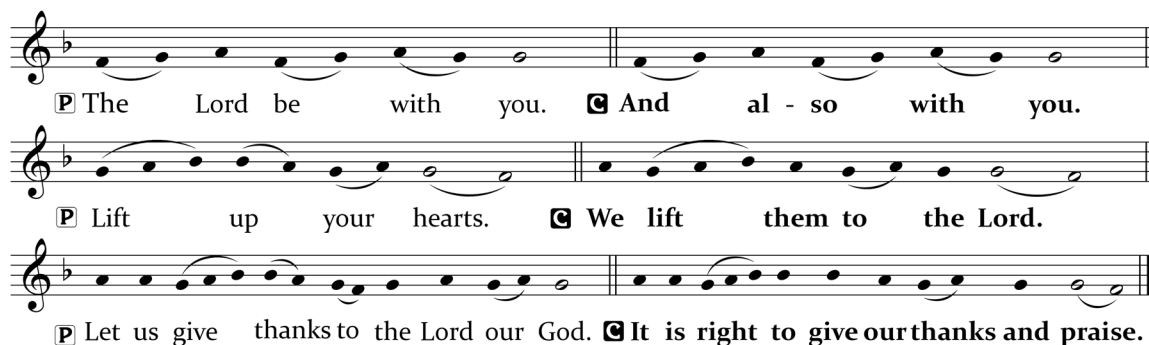
*Offering Prayer

☐ 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

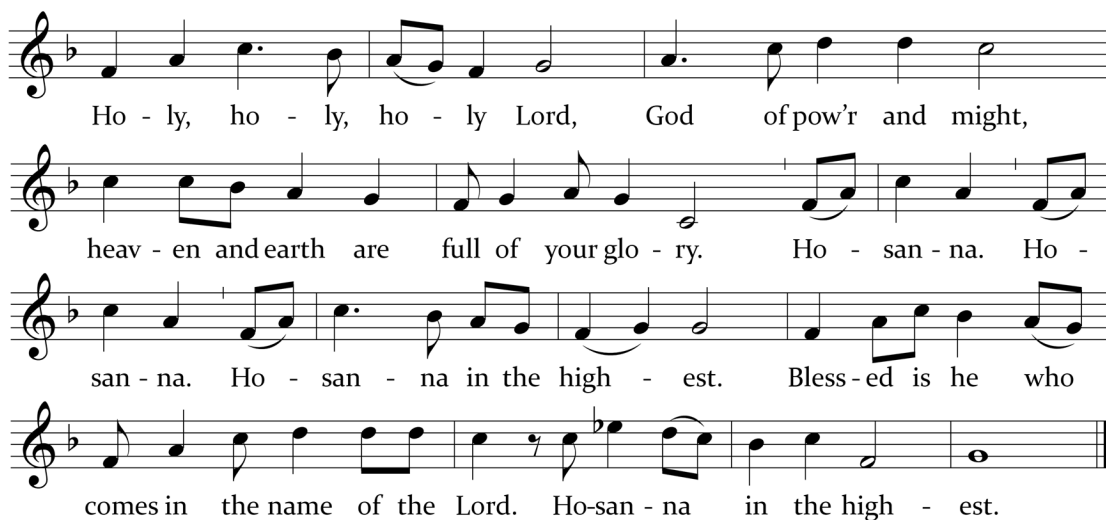


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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"



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. 740

"God of the Sparrow"

Hymn — ELW No. 556

"Morning Has Broken"

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ 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. 314

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — Trumpet Tune in A Major

David N. Johnson



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover photograph by Summit Olson.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Rev. Heather Wigdahl
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher and Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Julie Zdenek
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	Esther Wang
Solo	(8:30) Lacy Williams
Communion Prep	Joe and Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Vicki Otis
Greeters	(8:30) TBD (10:45) Sandra Nyvall
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Craig Schultz
Refreshments	Rhonda Reece
Counters	Sue Brockman, David Nitz, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Leif Knecht, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Bob Nyvall, Kent Rommereim, Mark Rydberg, Eric Sponheim

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 5):

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 † Psalm 37:1-9 † 2 Timothy 1:1-14 † Luke 17:5-10

VOICES OF ST. JOHN'S

On Giving & Receiving

knew her father was a former preacher because "they could all hear him singing the hymns". She said, "I'm sure it's the same with your Dad". Our daughter said "No, in their church, everybody sings". It's true and one of the things I love about St. John's. Music yes, but all kinds of other things too. People participate with enthusiasm .



Our daughter has a friend, who like her, is a "preacher's kid". Her parents recently moved and joined a new church. She said everybody



- Bob and Joyce Rendahl

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Cindy Clauson. 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 office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Next available dates: October 5 & 26 and November 2.

Wednesday Worship in October and November

Join us for worship on Wednesday, October 1, at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We'll gather in the middle of our busy week to breathe, pray, and join together in community. You are invited to have dinner first in St. John's Hall from 5:15–6:15 p.m. and then join us for worship. Children of all ages are welcome. In October, we begin with the story of creation and celebrate the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi writing his Canticle of Creation. We will join in singing Francis's famous words in the hymn "All Creatures, Worship God Most High!" In November (Wednesday, November 5), we will pause and give thanks for all the saints who have been important parts of our lives.

Sunday School

Preschool–Grade 5 meet in their classrooms (lower level) at 9:45 a.m. Dismissal is at 10:30 a.m. 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 worship.

Sunday Youth Gathering (Grades 6–12)

Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Youth Room

All youth are invited to meet for treats, highs and lows, and an interactive faith discussion. Each week we get a little practice using our Bibles and telling our shared story as a community of God's children.

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

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Dr. Trish Zimmerman explores the spirituality of tending to our natural surroundings in her talk, "*Entangled Divine: Meeting God through Prairie Habitat.*" Dr. Zimmerman is an associate professor of practice in the Department of Religion at St. Olaf College.

Please Sign the ELCA Immigration Advocacy Postcards on a Table in the Commons

The cards ask our legislators to protect legal pathways to immigration; ensure safety and due process for those seeking refuge; and advance policies to keep families together. The cards ask for your name and address and the name of your legislator. You can complete 3 cards, one for each senator and one for your house representative. Put the card in the large envelope on the table. They will be mailed to the ELCA Advocacy office in D.C. and then hand-delivered to the legislator's office.

Announcements (continued)

Online Giving Goes to a New Platform

The Business Management Board has been working on streamlining our financial processes to save staff time and reduce human error. One big step taken this month was to move our online giving from the previous Vanco platform to Pushpay, a software that is integrated with our CCB church management system. Using this platform will eliminate the need to double-enter online gifts and will give us better data on our giving patterns. Members who have been enrolled in automatic online giving through Vanco will need to go to the church CCB system to move their giving into the new platform. The church staff are available to help if you want assistance navigating the new system.

ISAIAH MN is an inter-faith organization working for racial, economic, and climate justice in Minnesota. Stop by the table in the Commons between services to learn more about ISAIAH and how you can participate in upcoming events.

St. John's Forum: *Courage, Conversion, Care: Responding Faithfully to Climate Change* Next Sunday, October 5, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Dr. Kathleen L. Shea describes the ongoing project of restoring the Natural Lands at St. Olaf College in her talk, “*Why Care for the Natural Lands at St. Olaf College?*” Her talk will review the history of the Natural Lands, highlight ongoing projects, and examine how restoration informs land management. To help us see the importance of these lands, Kathy will also be leading a walk through the Natural Lands from 4:00–5:00 p.m. Sunday, October 5. She invites all ages and asks us to meet her by the Art Barn at St. Olaf College. The walk will be cancelled if it is raining.

Courageous Conversations: “*In Pursuit of Affordable and Fair Housing*” Thursday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

Northfield's MN Representative, Kristi Pursell, and ISAIAH's Organizer, George Zuccolotto, will share their ongoing work with Manufactured Home Parks legislation, community organizing, and its implications for Viking Terrace and our local housing needs. Moderated by Gina Washburn.

Fall Book Read: *Laudato Si'* (“Praise Be to You”)

Want to delve more deeply into questions raised by this fall's forum series? Join us as we read *Laudato Si'*, the message Pope Francis wrote “to every person living on this planet,” about how we can and should be caring for our common home. Our discussion leaders are Christine Engstrom, a member of St. John's, and Dr. Colleen Carpenter, who will be speaking on *Laudato Si'* on November 16. Even if you're not able to join the book read, please come to the Forum on November 16, when Dr. Carpenter will be speaking on *Laudato Si'*, and plan to stay for a lunchtime conversation that same day. A generous grant from the St. John's Foundation has made it possible for us to provide these opportunities.

- **Meetings:** Thursdays, online, October 16, 30, and November 13, 4:00–5:30 p.m.
- **Sign up:** Between the services on Sunday October 5 and 12. You can also contact Chris Engstrom by text message (507-403-3623) or email (revchristea@me.com).

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, Michelle Kramer-Prevost,
Patrice Nordstrand, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Jeff Becker (brother of David Becker)

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

Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

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, October 1:
Taco Boats

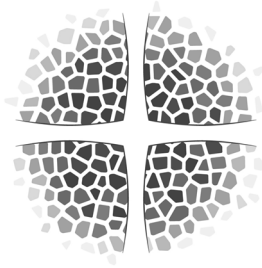
All are welcome!

*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. 29	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Sept. 30	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Stephen Minister Training, Fireside Room
Wednesday, Oct. 1	3:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Evening Knitters, Fireside Room Worship ~ Evening Vespers, Sanctuary Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Oct. 2	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony Isaiah Steering Committee, Fireside Room
Friday, Oct. 3	9:00 a.m. 5:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Wedding Rehearsal ~ Sawyer/Garry, Sanctuary NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 4	4:00 p.m.	Wedding ~ Sawyer/Garry, Sanctuary
Sunday, Oct. 5	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5, Lower Level Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12, Youth Room St. John's Forum, St. John's Hall Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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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.*