



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 1, 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 — Two settings of “Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices”

Paul Manz

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 833 “Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices”

Stanza 1 — all singing

Stanza 2 — bass voices

Stanza 3 — treble voices

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.

*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

- ☐ God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Pew Bible, page 685

- ☐ The word of the Lord.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody — Psalm 25:1-9

Antiphon: Marty Haugen

Antiphon: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.



¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. *Antiphon*

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — Philippians 2:1-13

Pew Bible, page 954

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***Gospel — Matthew 21:23-32**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will

I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 1084

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

*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) "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

arr. Thomas Keesecker

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; be now and always near me, my Savior and my friend. I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of selfwill. Oh, speak to reassure me, your words will make me whole; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servants shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my Savior and my friend. – John E. Bode

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

Craig Phillips

*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”



The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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** — “Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”

Johann Crüger
setting, G. F. Handel

Hymn — ELW No. 520

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ 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** — ELW No. 551

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Tuba Tune”

Craig Sellar Lang



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Ruthie Neuger
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	(8:30) David Sims
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring, Vicki Otis
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters	(8:30) Dan and Carrie Dauner (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Refreshments	Ann Albert, Gerri Licke, Patrice Nordstrand
Counters	Sue Brockman, Bill Rizzo, Pippa Younger
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Kent Rommereim, Alison Kavanaugh, Jon Kavanaugh, Christy Hall-Holt, Olaf Hall-Holt

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 8):

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7 † Psalm 80:7-15 † Philipians 3:4b-14 † Matthew 21:33-46

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (October 1)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room)

St. John's Forum: Dr. Deanna Thompson (9:45-10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Accompany (10:00-10:45 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (October 8)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6-12 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room)

Accompany (10:00-10:45 a.m., Undercroft)

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Ruth Anna and Van Miller in memory of Teddy Anne Miller. 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: November 12 and December 3, 10, 17, 24, 25 & 31.

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. The series continues on Sunday, October 15, with a presentation by Earl Schwartz. For additional information please check out the October edition of *The Voice*.

Fall Pub Theology Returns

Monday, October 2, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Contented Cow

Topic: Faith in the Workplace

Join us for a discussion of faith in the workplace. As religion is increasingly recognized as part of workers' identities, some companies are making more space for intrafaith and interfaith conversations in the workplace. What has been your experience? How do you feel about this corporate trend? An article is available at the Welcome Desk.

Interested in Holden Village?

If you've ever thought about visiting or working at Holden Village, join us for a social with Operations Recruiter, Danny Pavek, on Monday, October 2, from 7:30–9:30 p.m. at the Contented Cow. Meet other Holden folks and hear about what the Village has in store for the year ahead.

Annual Fall Church Yard Clean Up

Saturday, October 14, 8:00 a.m.–Noon

The Property & Grounds Board needs help cleaning up the churchyard. 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.

Announcements (continued)

Financial Update

- We made great progress towards our budgeted offering in July and August. Thank you for your generosity! Offering received through the end of August is 61% of our \$966,500 offering budget. We're roughly \$10,000 short of our target for this point in the year (vs. \$41,000 short two months ago).
- Expenses through August are on target at 66% of budget; we anticipate savings in the personnel budget that will cover the projected deficit in income.
- As we restart our Wednesday Night Meals, a reminder that this ministry is not included in the church budget and is funded solely by donations. Venmo is now available for those that prefer this method of giving.

Courageous Conversations:

Sexual and Gender Minorities—Social Justice and the Importance of Family Support

Thursday, October 5, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

Hope is a Muscle in the Midst of Struggle: October's program will feature a mother/son team who will share personal stories related to sexual and gender minorities, highlighting the importance of family support. Elliott Kunerth is a therapist and gender-diverse trainer at Illumé North in Duluth. Laurie Sieve is a mental health RN, retired faculty at St. Catherine, and a certified LGBT Health Policy advocate. The program is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Updated Pictures for the Website

On October 8, at the 8:30 a.m. service, St. John's member Stephanie Bennett will be taking pictures to update the church website. No photos will be used without approval. The Evangelism & Communications Board also invites you to send in your own photos of church events. Photos may be submitted to photos@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

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.

Reminder of Deadlines

Please send all submissions electronically to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (November 2023 Edition): Due by October 15

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, John Ferguson, Roberta Morse, Donna Paulsen, Wendy Scholz,
Julie Zdenek, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Jim Bronson
Family of Jane Thompson (mother of Judy Thompson-Reitz)

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 Quinell,
Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

All who are homebound, including

Carol Johnson, VaLois Mandsager, Richard Olson

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.

Wednesday Night



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

Menu for Wednesday, October 4:
Taco Boats with the Fixins
(Vegetarian Option Available)

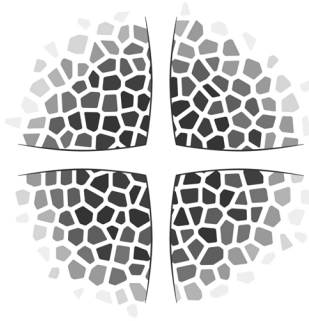
All are welcome!

*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, Oct. 2	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Contented Cow
	7:00 p.m.	Northfield Girl Scouts Leaders Meeting, Undercroft
	7:30 p.m.	Holden Village Social, Contented Cow
Tuesday, Oct. 3	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
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
		NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
		Northfield Rotary, St. John's Library
Wednesday, Oct. 4	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study, Fireside Room
		NAlA, St. John's Hall
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Knitters, St. John's Library
	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, Oct. 5	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
	7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Courageous Conversations, St. John's Hall
Friday, Oct. 6	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 7	12:00 p.m.	Just Food Coop Annual Meeting, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Oct. 8	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary



St. John's

ELCA · NORTHFIELD · MN

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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.