

SERVICE OF THE WORD

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 3, 2021 † 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'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 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.

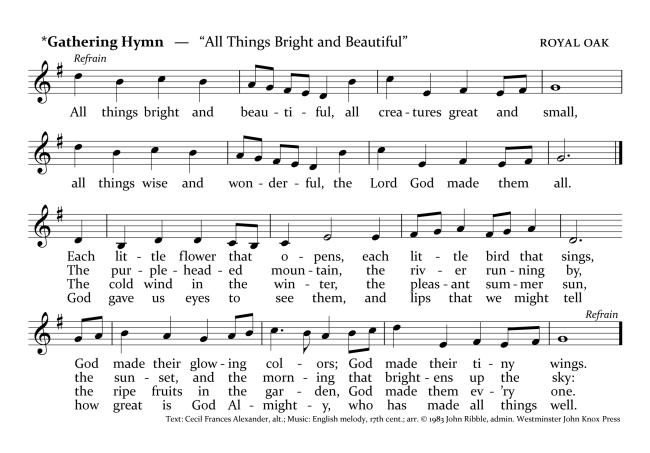
GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Clay Christiansen

Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Temple Talk — Dave Zdenek



*Greeting

- P 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 Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message and Recognition of Carol Benson

First Reading — Genesis 2:18-23a

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."

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

Psalmody — Psalm 8

Antiphon: David N. Johnson (ELW #731)

Antiphon: God has done marvelous things. I too sing praises with a new song!



¹O | Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe $\ ^{\mid}$ and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them, human beings that you should | care for them? *Antiphon*

⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine; with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands; you have put all things un- | der their feet:

⁷all ^f flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! Antiphon

Second Reading — Hebrews 1:1-4

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Mark 10:13-16

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

- **P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD



*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:

- L Lord, in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

*Peace

P 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, Rejoice, and Sing!"

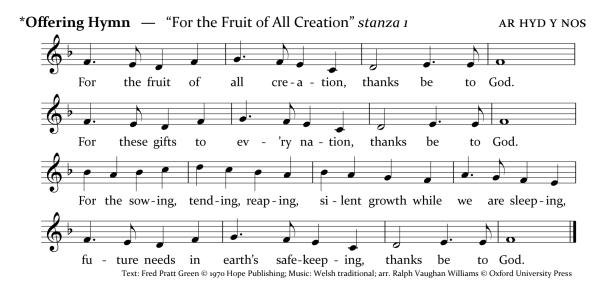
Allen Pote

Sing alleluia, sing to the Lord of love. Sing and be joyful, rejoice in God above. Alleluia, praise. Alleluia, praise God's name, who came to earth by human birth to be my guide and friend. I will tell the world the wonder that I know: God's love watches over me wherever I may go. Oh, praise, alleluia, praise, rejoice and sing, for God give us everything.

—Allen Pote

(10:45) "Bless the Child" from Windows of Comfort

Dan Locklair



*Thanksgiving for the Word

- P Holy God, mighty Fortress, loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter, as vegetation matures in forests and fields, your living Word undergirds all that lives.
- **Q** We praise your eternal Word.

In the words of the Scriptures you offer us Christ: our refuge, our savior, our friend, accompanying us throughout our years and renewing us in love.

Q We praise your eternal Word.

We pray for power from your abiding Spirit. Strengthen us to stand firm in faith, in devotion to your Word, and in service to others.

© We praise your eternal Word.

To you be honor and praise and glory, today and forever.

G Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer

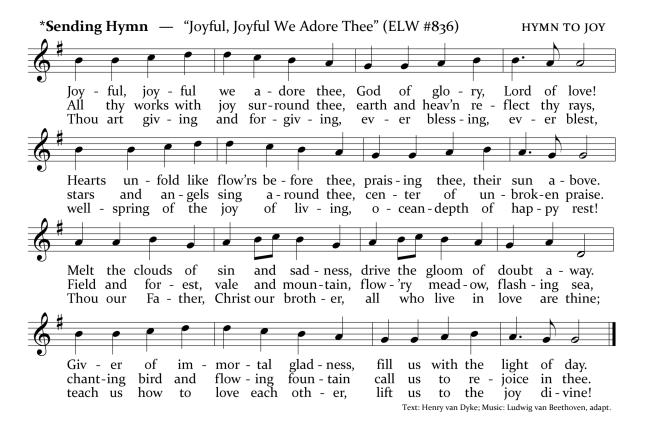
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,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

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Blessing

Response:

G Amen.



*Dismissal

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

Postlude — on hymn to joy

Kristina Langlois



Today, in an effort to mitigate risk of infection while offering the bread of life to everyone, we will hold brief Holy Communion liturgies outside immediately following the 8:30 and 10:45 services. If you wish to partake in Communion, linger under the front door canopy for a time of sharing the bread and wine.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding Pastor Jonathan Davis

Preaching Pastor Pam Fickenscher

Assisting Ministers (8:30) Rod Christensen

(10:45) Sponheim Family

Organist Nathan Proctor

Choir (8:30) Ruth Legvold, Nancy Ordahl-Kmoch, Ruth Smestad Anglin

Ushers (8:30) Duane Benson, Doug Child, Doug Johnson,

Dean Schoeb, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Kent Rommereim

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover image: Carol Benson directs the Jubilate and Laudate choirs on Sunday, November 24, 2019. Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14028-LIT. Other liturgical aids are from Sundays and Seasons © 2011 Augsburg Fortress. Music reprinted and podcasted under One License A-708009.

Ministry Moment from the Stewardship Board

The Stewardship Board has put together some brief stories to share with the congregation. The following is this week's Ministry Moment which comes from Stephen Ministry.

Over the last year and a half, St. John's Stephen Ministers continued to provide care in whatever way that best worked for recipients: phone calls, email, Zoom or FaceTime, Messaging; even meeting outside when possible. Stephen Ministers felt the care they offered took on added significance during the deep and widespread pandemic isolation. Their biggest challenge was finding out who might benefit from care without meeting and talking to people in person at church. It was a joy to see how committed the Stephen Ministers were during difficult times.

Announcements

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 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Next available dates: October 10 & 17 and November 7, 14 & 21. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV)-cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

During Worship Today we will give thanks for Carol Benson's decades of ministry in children's music at St. John's and in the larger community. Carol is retiring this fall from her most recent work with the Jubilate Choir. Please join us in thanking her for shaping generations of young people in faith and song.

Wednesday Night Meals

October 6, Served Outdoors, 5:15-6:15 p.m.

All St. John's folks are invited to our first Wednesday Night Meal in 18 months. Tater Tot Hotdish is on the menu. Please RSVP online if you plan to attend so we can estimate numbers for meal ingredients and seating. Hope to see you there!

St. John's Courageous Conversations via Zoom Thursday, October 7, 7:00 p.m.

Mar Valdecantos (Northfield Human Rights Commission Vice Chair) will enlighten us with A Tale of Two Cities, hidden racism within Northfield's business community and governing structures, and the means to combat it. Register at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous.

Print Version of the Voice is Coming Back as a Seasonal Publication

We will begin with a November–January issue. **The deadline for submissions is October 15.** For the guidelines on how to submit articles, please contact the church office.

Invitation to Become a Stephen Minister

St. John's will begin training a new group of Stephen Ministers starting this fall. Stephen Ministers provide care to members of our congregation who are experiencing difficult times. If you are interested in participating in the training sessions or would like more information about this program, please contact Pastor Jonathan at idavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Ushers Teams for Worship

Please consider joining a monthly usher team for the first or second service. No prior experience is necessary. If you are interested or have any questions contact Christy Hall-Holt at connect@StJohnsNorthfield.org, or call the church office at 507-645-4429.

Announcements (continued)

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) Housing Webinar Series First Thursdays of the Month, October 7–February 3, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Online

Are you concerned about persons impacted by homelessness, the high cost of rent, and the scarcity of affordable or supportive housing? Do you want to understand these issues from a variety of perspectives – and make a difference? Then join us for one or more of the monthly Housing Webinar Series offered by the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition. See the topics and flyer here. Register now for the program and small group discussion. For more information or to RSVP by email contact Joan Miltenberger, JRLC Organizer at jmiltenberger@jrlc.org, 612-230-3232.

Children and Youth Ministries

For Children and Youth programming, St. John's will be following the Northfield School Districts COVID-19 protocols. Masks will be required for all participants. We will seek to be outside as much as possible or in a large room setting. Air purifiers will be used in indoor gathering spaces and we are asking volunteers to be vaccinated. Please feel free to call or email the church if you have any questions or concerns.

Registration for 2021–2022 School Year for Children and Youth Programming is Open Go to https://stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/registration/ to register.

Today is the First Day of Sunday School for Pre-K through Grade 5 Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m.

We will gather outdoors as much as possible this fall. Check for the *Inside* or *Outside* sign posted on Door #6 each Sunday to let you know where we will be meeting. If you have any questions, email Julie Brehmer.

Today is the First Day of Sunday Youth Gatherings (Grades 6-12) Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Youth Room See what's in store for Sundays this year!

Parent Gathering and Social Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Courtyard

Pastors Pam and Jonathan invite parents of children and youth to gather between services for a chance to simply check-in and connect with each other. This gathering will happen in the court-yard at St. John's (enter under the "Hope" sign on the south side of the building). Join us!

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

Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings, Bev Mahachek, Carole Nesheim, Lois Rand,

Eldora Seitz, Scott Quinnell, John Bjorlie (brother of Ruthie Neuger),

Mark Wegner (son of Roberta Wegner)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Beverly Nestingen-Lundeen

Those with ongoing health concerns

Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Guenther Moesler,

Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, John Quam, Jim Thompson, Howard Thorsheim,

Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Tom Fjelde, Lois Pearson, Gloria Porter

Involved in the mission of the church who have ties to St. John's

The Savior (El Salvador) Lutheran Church in El Cocuy, Colombia;

lambi Lutheran Church in lambi, Tanzania;

Mark Rich and Cynthia Holder Rich, ELCA missionaries in Tanzania

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.

<u>Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 10):</u>

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 + Psalm 90:12-17 + Hebrews 4:12-16 + Mark 10:17-31

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. 4	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall NGC Grief Support Group, Fireside Room Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall Northfield Girl Scouts Leader Meeting, Undercroft
Tuesday, Oct. 5	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Girl Scout Troop #27352, Undercroft I Cantanti Choir Rehearsal, St. John's Hall NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room
Wednesday, Oct. 6	3:30 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (K-Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, Outdoors Confirmation (Grades 6-8), St. John's High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), St. John's St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Oct. 7	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Benedictine Center Communion, Offsite Nominating Committee, Undercroft Rejoice Ringers, St. John's Hall Women of St. John's Courageous Conversations via Zoom
Friday, Oct. 8	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Mary Circle, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 9	9:00 a.m.	Confirmation Retreat (Grade 10), Offsite
Sunday, Oct. 10	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 5), Lower Level Sunday Youth Gathering (Grades 6-12), Youth Room Parent Gathering, Courtyard Worship, Sanctuary





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Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor
Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor
Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry
Tim Byers, Facility Manager
Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager
Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator
Christy Hall-Holt, Welcome Ministry Coordinator
Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families
Sally Lindell, Parish Nurse
Arielle Loy, Director of Alleluia Choir
Zachery Pelletier, Director of Rejoice Ringers
Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistant
Nathan Proctor, Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts

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