

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this morning!

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.



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.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Today we rejoice in the gifts of baptism: the promise of God's faithfulness and forgiveness, the enlivening power of the Holy Spirit, and life together in the body of Christ. This year, as we cannot gather all our 10th graders and their families at once, we will be celebrating Affirmation of Baptism with each student on separate Sundays—claiming God's promises for them at this moment in their lives. They have been through a long journey of catechesis in the faith, and many family members, teachers, and mentors have been part of this formation with them. We rejoice that they are ready to publicly claim God's promises to them stating their intentions to continue in the faith: to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's word and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. They are:

**Mason Babbini, Ben Blomberg, Rhett Garlie, Lucy Messen,
Johann Schroeer, Thomas Weber, Gus Welbaum**

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”

Greg Bottomley

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!” (#835) LASST UNS ERFREUEN



All crea - tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound
Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you
All who for love of God for give, all
O sis - ters, broth - ers, take your part, and
ev - 'ry voice in earth and sky:
grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
who in pain or sor - row grieve:
wor - ship God with hum - ble heart:
Sing, broth - er sun, in splen - dor bright; sing,
Dear moth - er earth, so rich in care, praise
Christ bears your bur - dens and your fears; still
All crea - tures, bless the Fa - ther, Son, and
sis - ter moon and stars of night:
God in col - ors bright and rare: Al - le - lu - ia,
make your song a - mid the tears:
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One:
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Francis of Assisi; tr. composite, © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the ✙ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Source of all life,

C **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of
love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn
the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us.
Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak
for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your
whole creation. Amen.**

***Absolution**

***Greeting**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

P Beloved God, from you come all things that are good.
Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those
things that are right, and by your merciful guidance,
help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading — Philippians 3:4b-14

^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

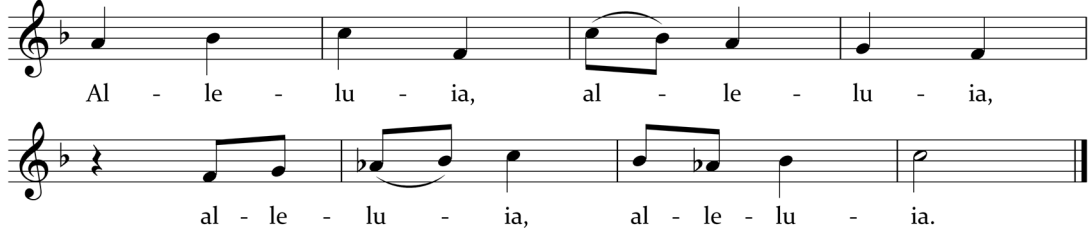
⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Matthew 21:33-46

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

G Glory to you, O Lord.

³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Restore to Us a Saving Faith” (Psalm 80)

BICENTENNIAL

Refrain

Re - store to us a sav - ing faith, the ra - diance of your face
to light - en and re - veal the gift of your re - deem - ing grace.
O Shep - herd, hear and lead your flock, as lambs we crave your care;
Our self - ish prayers de - serve God's wrath, our pride, a sud - den burst;
God's lin - eage, like a vine, once spread and flour - ished in the land;
what strength on earth ap - proach - es yours, what mer - cies can com - pare?
we have but stones to serve as bread, and tears to quell our thirst.
but now the vine - yard fails, the fruit lies with - ered in the sand.

Text: Michael Morgan, © 1999 admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources; Music: Omer Westendorf, © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

*Affirmation of Baptism and Rite of Confirmation

Presentation of Benjamin Blomberg

Prayer

Response:

☑ Amen.

Profession of Faith

☐ Lord, we believe.

☑ Help our unbelief.

☐ Do you believe in God the Father?

☑ I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C** 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.
- P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C** 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.

Intent to Continue in Our Baptismal Covenant with God

Promise of the Assembly

- P** People of God, do you promise to support Ben
and pray for him in his life in Christ?
- C** We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Prayer of Invocation

- P** We give you thanks, O God, that through water
and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth,
cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.
- C** Amen.

Confirmation through Laying On of Hands and Prayer

Celebrating with the Confirmand

- P** Let us rejoice with Ben, our brother in Christ.
- C** We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Musical Affirmation — “Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” (#814)

John Bell

Sung twice.

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line and repeat dots at the end of the second line.

Text and Music: John L. Bell, © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications

*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:

“The Swan” from *The Carnival of the Animals*

Camille Saint-Saëns

*Thanksgiving for Creation

- Ⓔ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, who in your self-emptying love gathered up and reconciled all creation to God. Innumerable galaxies of the heavens worship you. Creatures that grace the earth rejoice in you. All those in the deepest seas bow to you in adoration. As with them we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- Ⓒ 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.

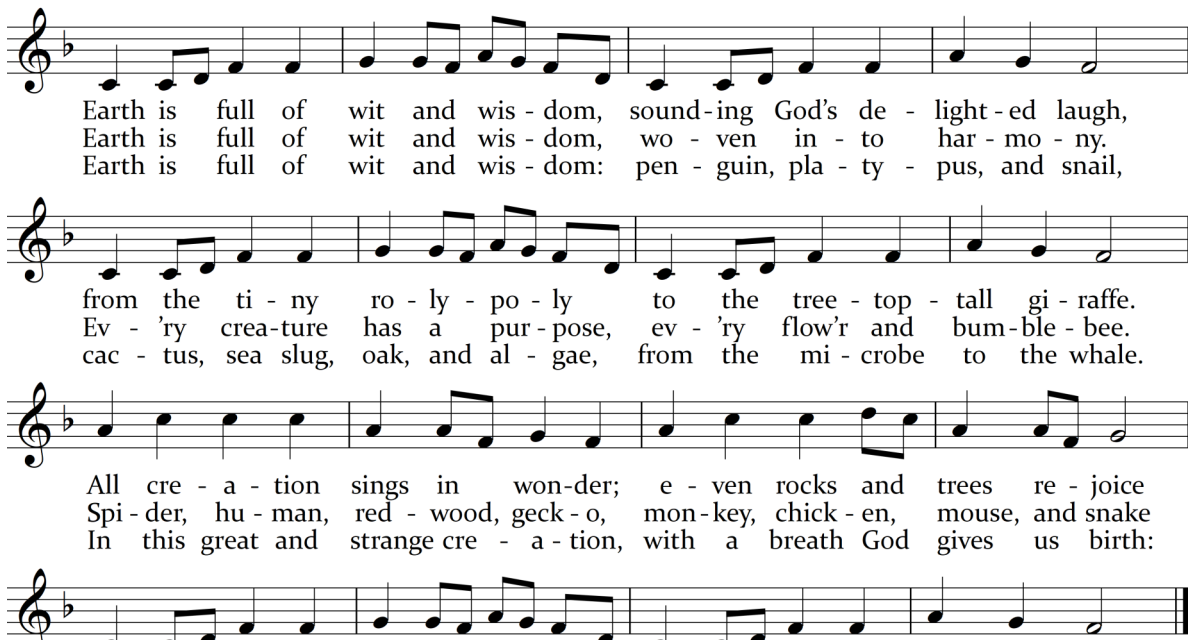
DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Blessing

Response:  Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom” (ACS #1064)

HOLY MANNA



Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,
Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,
from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.
Ev - 'ry crea - ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.
All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice
Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:
as they join the ring - ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.
live with - in a sin - gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.
born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, © 2009 GIA Publications. Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825.

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude — on HOLY MANNA

Wilbur Held



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Presiding | Pastor Pam Fickenschner |
| Preaching | Pastor Jonathan Davis |
| Assisting Ministers | Andy and Izzy Nelson, Sandi Gerdes |
| Organist | Nathan Proctor |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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 the church office. Dates available: January 24 & 31. 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.

Worship with Us on Sundays via Live-Stream

Worship at 9:00 a.m. will now be live-streamed via our website. We hope you'll join us via live-stream or radio on KYMN.

Video of the service will still be available on the website later in the week.

Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, October 11, Goodtree Farmstead

We will begin gathering at 11:00 a.m. with the worship service beginning at 11:30 a.m.

You can RSVP at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LFO2s1kmc97PylwfBCo8M_8sMYOCXvYVRYWeadYjEWU/viewform?gxids=7757&edit_requested=true

Coffee Hour via Zoom: Blessing of the Animals

Join us for "virtual coffee hour" starting at 10:30 a.m., where we will have a blessing of the animals. After that, you will be distributed randomly into small conversation groups. The Zoom link can be found in this past week's E-Voice, on the church calendar on our website, or on Facebook. Join in when you can (even after 10:30 a.m.) and leave when you need. All are welcome!

Weekly Videos for Our Littlest Members

Each Saturday a new video will be posted on St. John's website for our 3, 4, and 5 year old children to enjoy! This fall, we'll be exploring the Story of Creation; God made the heavens and earth and God made YOU! Check it out at <https://StJohnsNorthfield.org/>.

Join Us on Sunday Mornings for Virtual Sunday School

St. John's is hosting a Virtual Sunday School for kids in grades K-5. Listen to the worship service at 9:00 a.m. on KYMN, then jump on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. to virtually be with your St. John's friends! Families receive a Zoom link via email on Friday morning and again on Sunday morning. Feel free to contact Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org to sign up for her emails if you have not been receiving them. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Announcements (continued)

Pub Theology Meets Twice this October via Zoom

Mondays, October 12 & 26, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Topic for October 12: Is Attention a Spiritual Issue? What holds your attention? How do you manage your focus with all the competition of the media for your attention? Is it getting harder for us to pay attention to what matters? Let's talk about the connection between attention, relationship, and prayer.

Third Grade Bible Retreat

Saturday, October 10, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Third graders, along with a parent, are invited to St. John's for a Retreat on the Word—An Introduction to the Bible. We'll meet outside at the church, masks required (weather permitting). The following Sunday, October 11, St. John's is gathering for an outdoor worship service at Good-tree Farmstead. At the service, 3rd graders will receive their own Spark Bible. Please contact Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org with any questions.

Confirmation Class for Grades 6-9

Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 p.m.

All Confirmation students, 6th–9th grades, will begin a monthly confirmation class via ZOOM on the first Wednesday of the month, which begins THIS Wednesday. We will be talking about Faith Practices and will be inviting members of St. John's as a guest each month who are closely connected to each faith practice. Watch your email for the link on Tuesday. If you have questions about Confirmation, please reach out to Pastor Jonathan.

Reading the Bible Six Ways continues this week for the next five weeks. Sessions are via Zoom on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Follow the zoom link on the St. John's calendar. Come once or all of the remaining 5 times to learn a variety of ways to read the Bible for study or devotion.

Growing Pumpkins this Year?

Julie Brehmer is looking for pumpkins to give to children at St. John's this year. If you are growing pumpkins and would like to donate a few, send her an email at: children@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Thanks so much!

Properties & Grounds Board Fall Clean-Up

Saturday, October 24, 8:00 a.m.

We are always looking for volunteers to help keep our property clean and appealing for everyone to enjoy. Bring along rakes, shovels, brooms, etc. Thank you!

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

Marybeth Bremer, Bev Sponheim

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Marlene Engstrom, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James,
Gene and Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam,
Joanne Sommers, Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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;
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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 11):

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9 † Psalm 23 † Philippians 4:1-9 † Matthew 22:1-14

This Week At-a-Glance

*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts
on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (www.kymnradio.net).**

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--|
| Monday, Oct. 5 | 12:00 p.m. | Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study |
| Tuesday, Oct. 6 | 8:30 a.m. | Quilters, Fellowship Hall |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Staff Meeting via Zoom |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Reading the Bible Six Ways Bible Study via Zoom |
| Wednesday, Oct. 7 | 10:00 a.m. | Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Communion at 3 Links, Offsite |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Confirmation for Grades 6-9 via Zoom |
| Thursday, Oct. 8 | 1:30 p.m. | Elizabeth Circle via Zoom |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom |
| Friday, Oct. 9 | | No Scheduled Activities |
| Saturday, Oct. 10 | 10:00 a.m. | 3 rd Grade Bible Retreat, Outside at St. John's |
| Sunday, Oct. 11 | 9:00 a.m. | Worship via Radio Broadcast |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Outdoor Worship at Goodtree Farmstead, Offsite |



St. John's
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Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

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

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistants

Nathan Proctor, Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts

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