

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 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Thomas Pavlechko

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 835 “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”

Stanza 1 — all singing

Stanza 2 — treble voices

Stanza 3 — bass voices

Stanzas 4-6 — all singing

*Greeting

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

C 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

¹I will 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 rotten 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 rotten 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 wasteland; 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 cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

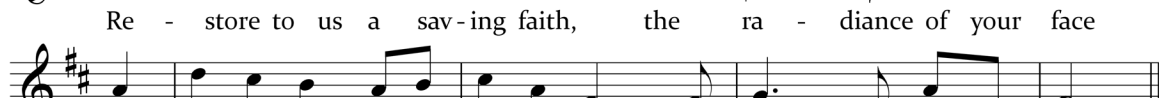
Psalmody — Psalm 80, “Restore to Us a Saving Faith”

BICENTENNIAL

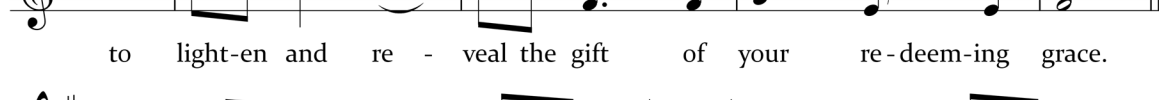
Refrain



Re - store to us a sav - ing faith, the ra - diance of your face



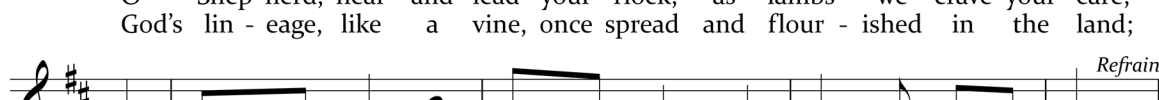
to light-en and re - veal the gift of your re-deem-ing grace.



O Shep-herd, hear and lead your flock, as lambs we crave your care;
God's lin - eage, like a vine, once spread and flour - ished in the land;



Refrain



what strength on earth ap - proach - es yours, what mer - cies can com - pare?
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

After the reading:

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

***Gospel Acclamation**



***Gospel — Matthew 21:33-46**

Spark Story Bible, page 302

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.
- C** Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. 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. ³⁷Then 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 its fruits. 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.
- C** Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 343

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Stanzas 1, 2, 5 & 6

***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

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C 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) "For the Beauty of the Earth"

arr. Eric Nelson

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing. For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. – Folliott S. Pierpoint

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Christine Sullivan

*Offering Hymn — "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

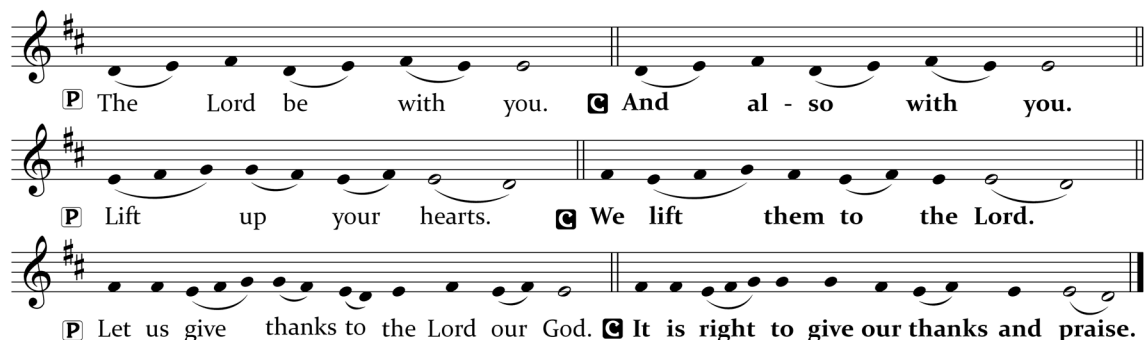
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and
in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

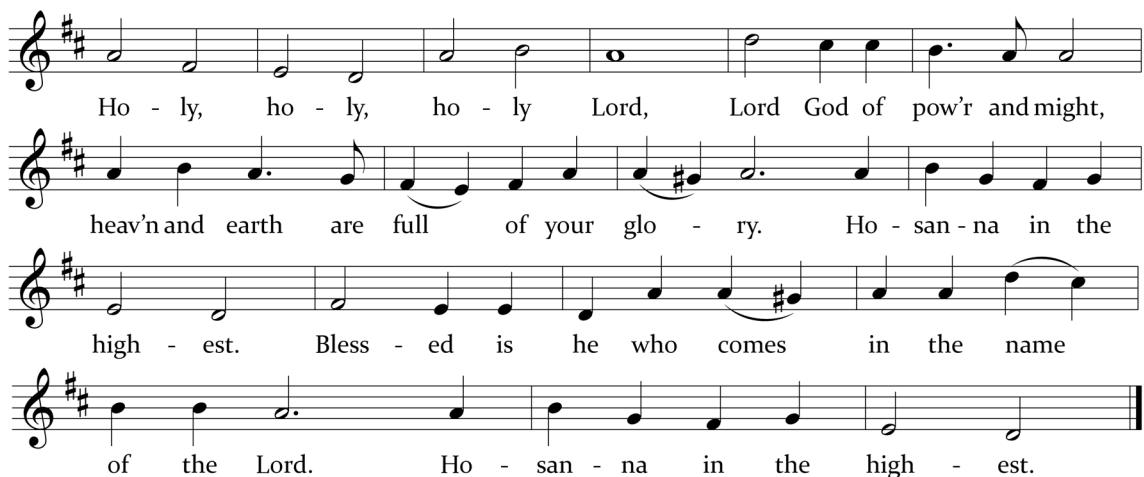


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

*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, grant us peace.

(8:30) **Anthem** — "Prayers for Our Earth"

Bret Hesla and Zach Busch

Bring healing to our lives, that we protect the earth. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey upon it; that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who only look to gain at the expense of the poor, at the expense of the earth. Touch every heart.

– Pope Francis, from *Laudato Si'*

Hymn — ELW No. 740

"God of the Sparrow"

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us
living signs of your healing and love, following the way of Jesus.
- ☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- ☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ACS No. 1064

“Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Dieterich Buxtehude



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Katie Fick
Assisting Ministers	Dick and Caryl Jorgensen
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Livestream	Mark Gleason
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	Nan Winsell
Greeters	(8:30) Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Mary Ellen North (10:45) Julie Cannon, Pam Groves-Gaggioli
Coffee Service	Pat Fick, Angie Gehring
Refreshments	Carol Benson, Rhonda Reece
Counters	Chris and Martha Erickson, Janell Martin
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Charles Cannon, Jude Hassanally, Micah Hassanally, Roger Van Veldhuizen

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (October 4)

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 (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)
Fika for Parents (9:45–10:30 a.m., Lower Level Commons)

Next Week (October 11)

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)
St. John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)
Fika for Parents (9:45–10:30 a.m., Lower Level Commons)

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 11):

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Allison Markus in memory of her parents, Carlyle and Thelma Holte. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office. Next available dates: October 11 & 18 and November 22.

St. John's Forum: *Moses the Murderer, the Burning Bush, and the Call of God*

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

This fall, St. John's Forum returns to biblical drama in the pages of scripture with a series on the book of Exodus. This week's forum will be led by Prof. Nicholas Schaser.

- **Next Sunday, Oct. 11:** Exodus 7–10: *Does God Send Plagues?* Led by Prof. Nicholas Schaser

Fika for Parents

Fika is the Swedish tradition of taking a break for coffee, treats, and conversation. We invite parents of young children to come and take a “Fika” break with other parents during our Sunday School time, 9:45–10:30 a.m. starting today. We'll meet in the lower level next to the Nursery. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Ask Arielle (arielleloy@gmail.com).

From the Nominating Committee . . .

The Nominating Committee has begun their work contacting people to consider serving on a board starting in 2027. There are several opportunities on different boards to use your time and talents in areas you may have an interest in. Please prayerfully consider serving if you are asked by a committee member. If you are interested in serving and want to learn more, please feel free to contact one of the committee members: Dan Franklin, Kristy Harms, Christy Hall-Holt, Peter Skoglund, Susanne Smith, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, or Pastor Jonathan.

Share Your Talent(s)

Saturday, October 10, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

Talents will shine at this free WELCA event—monetary, culinary, musically and more! Bring your “Cherish All Children” mugs full of coins to the gathering. St. Olaf interns will share their amazing musical talents. If you'd also like to perform at this event with your ensemble contact Pam Groves-Gaggioli. If you'd like to help cook, clean, etc., please sign up in CCB or contact Pam Groves-Gaggioli. Lunch will be provided.

Mindful Walk in Hauberg Woods

Saturday, October 10, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Enjoy an opportunity for quiet contemplation in the spirit of community, while observing the natural world as we enter the season of autumn. This gentle walk is approximately 1 mile in length. Wear comfortable clothing and sturdy shoes. Questions? Contact Debra Miller at debra.ehret@gmail.com. Sign up in the Commons or online through CCB.

Announcements (continued)

Trunk or Treat Fall Fest During Sunday School

Sunday, October 25, 9:45–10:30 a.m., at St. John's

Last year's Trunk or Treat was so much fun, we're doing it again this year. Kids are invited to dress in costume. Games and activities too! If the weather cooperates, we'll have a bouncy tent! Email Julie Brehmer at Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you are willing to decorate your car trunk or help with games and activities.

Rice County Habitat for Humanity Dedication

Tuesday, October 13, 5:30 p.m., 315 Poplar Street

We are excited to do a house dedication for 315 Poplar Street. All are welcome!

"The Reality of Living as a Christian in the Holy Land with Mother Agapia Stephanopoulos"

Thursday, October 8, 7:00 p.m. First UCC (300 Union Street)

Mother Agapia's connection to the Holy Land spans many years. Her voice carries the weight of lived experience: the intimate truths that never make headlines—and the moral clarity that only emerges from proximity. She reminds us that the Palestinian people's struggle is cultural, spiritual, and profoundly human. Endorsed by: Northfielders for Justice in Palestine/Israel, MICAHA of the Northfield United Methodist Church. Free and open to the public.

Supporting St. John's

Giving to St. John's supports regular worship services, enhances the spiritual lives of our members, and helps to improve the lives of neighbors in our local and global communities. Your meaningful support will make an impact, strengthen congregational life at St. John's, and help us serve our mission.



TALENT SHOW

OCTOBER 10th 11:00 - 1:00

Would you like to perform?
Bring your "Cherish All Children" mugs
If your talent is cooking, serving, or cleanup
Contact Pam*

***Pam G-G: ladylynneg@gmail.com 562.237.3781 ***

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

Barbara Dettle, Fred Huemoeller, Barbara Johnson,
Gordy Moore, Bruce Ohland, George Pinc

Those with ongoing health concerns

Ruth Smestad Anglin, Bill Carlson, Mary Cisar, Greta Matzner-Gore, Lowell Johnson,
Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, David Norman, Mary Ellen North, Rachel Peterson,
Alice Rickert, Ingrid Alberding, Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

All who are homebound, including

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson, Carolyn Jennings

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 7:
Chicken Pot Pie
(Vegetarian Option Available)

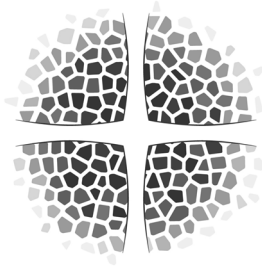
All are welcome!

Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.

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. 5	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	WELCA Executive Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Oct. 6	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
	5:30 p.m.	Wellspring Circle Bagged Supper Social, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Wellspring Circle Discussion Time, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Oct. 7	12:00 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Undercroft
	2:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee, Fireside Room
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:45 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group, Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Oct. 8	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, Youth Room
	1:30 p.m.	CVEC Class, St. John's Theater
	5:15 p.m.	Just for Kix Dance Class, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Sanctuary
Friday, Oct. 9	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Mary Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 10	11:00 a.m.	WELCA "Show Your Talent(s)" Event, St. John's Hall
		Mindful Walk in Hauberg Woods
Sunday, Oct. 11	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 13.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

500 Third Street West

Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor (On Sabbatical through October 17, 2026)

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Katie Fick, Bridge Pastor

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Steve Harner, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Nick Gilbert, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Faith Community Nurse

Arielle Loy, Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist

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.*