

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

Moment for Stewardship

*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

*Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Let us come before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

☞ **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.

☞ 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.

☞ **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

- ☐ 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. ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 5:1-7

Pew Bible, page 552

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

Psalmody — Psalm 80:7-12, 14-15

Refrain — all singing

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.

Music: Robert E. Kreutz © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

- ⁷Restore us, O¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we¹ shall be saved.
- ⁸You have brought a vine¹ out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and¹ planted it.
- ⁹You cleared the¹ ground for it;
it took root and¹ filled the land.
- ¹⁰The mountains were covered¹ by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees¹ by its boughs. *Refrain — all*

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
 and its branches | to the river.
¹²Why have you broken | down its wall,
 so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?
¹⁴Turn now, O | God of hosts,
 look | down from heaven;
¹⁵behold and | tend this vine;
 preserve what your right | hand has planted. *Refrain — all*

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

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the acclamation: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The melody is simple and melismatic, with long notes and ties.

***Gospel** — Matthew 21:33-46

Pew Bible, page 803; Spark Story Bible, page 302

Before the reading:

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

🎤 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎤 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 343

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Stanzas 1, 2, 5, & 6

***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) "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) "All Creatures, Worship God Most High!"

Greg Bottomley

*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”



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 — ACS No. 1064

“Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom”

Hymn — ELW No. 482

“I Come with Joy”

***Post-Communion Blessing**

*Prayer after Communion

☞ 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. 803

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

*Dismissal

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God!

Postlude

(8:30) Fugue in G minor, BWV 578

J. S. Bach

Jeremiah Knudson, organ

(10:45) “Allegretto” from Op. 101

Charles V. Stanford



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover artwork design by John Maakestad.

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Holy Communion Setting 2 from *ELW* composed by Marty Haugen. Festival setting by John Ferguson. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14028-LIT. Other liturgical aids are from *Sundays and Seasons* © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. Music reprinted and podcasted under One License A-708009.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Rod Christensen (10:45) Izzy and Madeline Rudser
Organists	Nathan Proctor (8:30) Jeremiah Knudson, Church Music Intern
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Communion Service	Jill Enestvedt
Greeters	(8:30) TBD (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Refreshments	Barb Eaves
Counters	Chris and Martha Erickson, Dan Franklin
Ushers	(8:30) Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Dan Franklin, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Keri Peterson, Joran Peterson

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 15):

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This 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)

Next Week (October 15)

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., Sanctuary)
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 Imogene Nelson and family. 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.

Updated Pictures for the Website

Today 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.

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.

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.

The Next Generation of Circles are Forming at St. John's

WELCA has a long history of gathering women in Circles for fellowship, study, reflection, and outreach. New groups are being planned this fall. Come and join us! Contact Jill Enestvedt for more information (jillenestvedt@gmail.com or 507-645-9330).

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

Announcements (continued)

**St. John's Forum: Earl Schwartz—“Who is like your people Israel, a singular Nation?”:
Jewish “Chosenness” as a Source of Inspiration and Tension**

Sunday, October 15, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

The St. John's forum continues its series on interpreting the Bible with sensitivity to other faith traditions with a presentation by Professor Earl Schwartz, ““Who is like your people Israel, a singular nation?": Jewish ‘Chosenness’ as a Source of Inspiration and Tension.” Christians are familiar with the biblical story of how the tribes of Israel came to understand their origin and purpose as covenantal partners with a sole, sovereign God. In this presentation, Schwartz begins with the extraordinary endurance of the Jewish descendants of those Israelites, which has generated questions about *why* such an identity developed among these particular people. He explores three themes that have come to be associated with these questions: divine decree, ancestry, and an instructed way of life, and he asks what Christians—also heirs of Abrahamic traditions—can learn from the ways in which these themes have wended their way through this uniquely Jewish story. Before his retirement, Schwartz taught in the religion department of Hamline University and was the first director of Hamline's program in social justice studies. He has also served on the faculty of the Talmud Torah of St. Paul and has written extensively on Jewish moral education and social ethics.

Oral History Update

Available now on the St. John's website is a 2019 oral history interview with Ruth Hansen, who passed away in 2022. Ruth's memories of St. John's extend back to her St. Olaf student days. She moved to Northfield and joined St. John's in 1992. The interview includes information about her family history as well as stories about her involvement in arts, music, and social justice at St. John's. You can hear the interviews by clicking on the “About” tab on the main page of the website, and then scroll down to “Oral Histories.”

Children and Youth

First 3rd Grade CAT Retreat, “Intro to the Bible”

Saturday, October, 28, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

3rd graders will receive a Spark Bible the next day, Sunday, October 29, at the 8:30 a.m. worship service. Please let Julie Brehmer know if your child will not be attending.

Trunk or Treat: October 29 during Sunday School 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 and trick or treat at a variety of decorated car trunks! Games and activities are also in Fellowship Hall. Email Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you are willing to decorate your car trunk or help with games and activities.

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, Kent Rommereim, Wendy Scholz, Julie Zdenek, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Rev. John Quam

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

All who are homebound, including

Dave and Pat Halsor, Elouise Quinnell

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 11:
Mostaccioli with Salad
(Vegetarian Option Available)

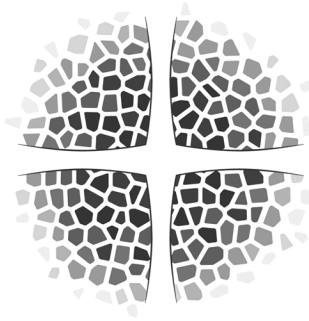
All are welcome!

*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. 9	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Contented Cow
Tuesday, Oct. 10	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Oct. 11	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Undercroft High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Oct. 12	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library Visitation - Rev. John Quam, Commons Funeral - Rev. John Quam Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Oct. 13	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Mary Circle, Fireside Room NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 14	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Fall Cleanup Day Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room Visitation - Jim Bronson, Commons Funeral - Jim Bronson
Sunday, Oct. 15	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i> Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary Confirmation Retreat (Grade 10), Youth Room



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*

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.