



SERVICE OF THE WORD

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 18, 2020 † 9:00 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

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.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — ON EARTH AND ALL STARS

Sally Drennan Mossier

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Hymn — "You Servants of God" (#825)

LYONS



You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and
As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet
Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let
Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all



pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful name; the
still he is nigh, his pres - ence we have. The
all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son. The
glo - ry and pow'r and wis - dom and might, all



name, all - vic - to - rious, of Je - sus ex - tol; his
great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing, as -
prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim, fall
hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove, and



king - dom is glo - rious and rule o - ver all.
crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, alt.; Music: attr. John Michael Haydn

*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

*Hymn of Praise — "Glory to God" (ACS #911)

GLORIA A DIOS

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est. Peace be to you, peace be to me, peace be to all, peace to all the earth." The score ends with a double bar line.

*Greeting

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

*Prayer of the Day

- P** Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live
in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you,
let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Exodus 33:12-23

¹²Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'¹³Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."¹⁴He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."¹⁵And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here."¹⁶For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

¹⁷The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."¹⁸Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray."¹⁹And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live."²¹And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; ²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

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

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



- ¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
- ²Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.
- ³**Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.**
- ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.** *Antiphon*
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**
- ⁹**Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.** *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to

serve a living and true God,¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Gospel — Matthew 22:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

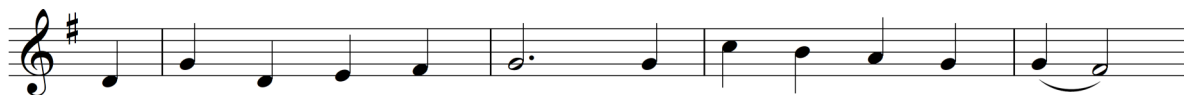
Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “We Give Thee but Thine Own” (#686)

HEATH



We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace— it is a Christ - like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

Text: William W. How, alt; Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

*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:

“Jesus Calls Us”

Gaelic Air, adapted John Bell

Jesus calls us here to meet him as, through word and song and prayer, we affirm God's promised presence where God's people live and care. Praise the God who keeps God's promise; praise the Son who calls us friends; praise the Spirit who, among us, to our hopes and fears attends. Jesus calls us to confess him Word of Life and Lord of All, sharer of our flesh and frailness, saving all who fail or fall. Tell his holy human story; tell his tales that all may hear; tell the world that Christ in glory came to earth to meet us here. Jesus calls us to each other: found in him are no divides. Class and gender, race and language— such are barriers he derides. Join the hand of friend and stranger; join the hands of age and youth; join the faithful and the doubtful in their common search for truth.

*Prayer for Caregivers and Healers

☞ God, our refuge and strength, on this day we remember St. Luke, the healer and physician, and we thank you for the compassion you infuse in your people, especially those who care for the physical and emotional needs of friends, family, and strangers. Strengthen all caregivers in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Giver of peace, enlarge our patience and enable us to embrace all those who live with difficulties we may one day share; in Jesus' name.

☛ **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 — “God’s Work, Our Hands” (ACS #1000)

EARTH AND ALL STARS



God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er, build - ing a
God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er, fol - low - ing
God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er, prais - ing, pro -
God is at work in and a - round us: seed - lings are



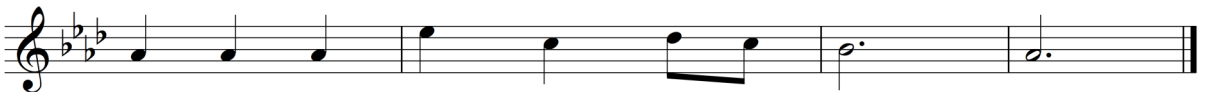
fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world, rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new
Je - sus to plac - es un - known, walk - ing as friends, march - ing for
claim - ing to all who will hear, pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for
sprout - ing and bread's on the rise! Washed and set free, hum - bled and



gar - dens, feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
free - dom, run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
jus - tice, claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
hon - ored, gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress; Music: David N. Johnson, © 1968 admin. Augsburg Fortress

*Dismissal

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Postlude — Processional in A-flat

David N. Johnson



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding and Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Nancy Ordahl-Kmoch
Organist	Nathan Proctor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Paul W.T. Tollefson by Shirley Tollefson. 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 Livestream

Worship at 9:00 a.m. will now be livestreamed via our website. We hope you'll join us via live-stream or radio on KY.MN. **Video of the service will still be available on the website later in the week.**

Virtual Sunday School and Virtual Youth Group take a break today and will resume next Sunday, October 25.

Reading the Bible Six Ways Resumes this Tuesday, October 20

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!

Reformation Day St. John's Forum Sunday, October 25, 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Deanna Thompson, Director of the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values and Community at St. Olaf College, will lead a St. John's virtual forum on "Uncomfortable Grace: Lutheran Tradition and Living Out Our Faith in Challenging Times." Dr. Thompson will lead us in discussion of how our Lutheran theology can help us navigate challenging conversations about public life, diversity, and equity. Zoom link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87593908694>

Reformation Week Event Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.

Eboo Patel, an international leader in interfaith dialogue, is speaking at a virtual event at St. Olaf on Racial Justice, Interfaith Cooperation, and the Common Good on Campus and Beyond. The event is free and open to all, but requires registration:

<https://stolaf.alumniq.com/index.cfm/events:register/home/eventId/6179>

Announcements (continued)

November Courageous Conversations: Todd Lippert, MN House of Representatives District 20B
Thursday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

Representative Lippert will speak on the November elections, Race, and where do we go from here? Registration required. Register at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous.

Operation Joy, the CAC's Annual Christmas Gift Drive

Operation Joy will be happening this year with a different approach. Along with the pajamas and quilts, the plan is to provide a \$50 gift card for each of the 850 children CAC works with throughout the year. Monetary donations are being requested this year so that Lisa Percy, Director of Operation Joy, can make the purchase of the gift cards in bulk. Donations can be made in 2 ways:

- visit <http://communityactioncenter.org/operation-joy> and make an online donation
- send a check directly to Operation Joy, c/o Community Action Center, 1651 Jefferson Parkway, Suite HS-200, Northfield, MN 55057

Message from St. John's Stephen Ministers

There are many losses we are all feeling with COVID-19 such as the death of loved ones, separation from family and friends, suspended worshipping at St. John's, and loss of income. St. John's Stephen Ministers are available to meet with you one-on-one or in small group sessions via Zoom where we can talk about these changes in our lives. If this would be helpful to you, contact one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates and Thistle Farms Hand Soaps

Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to place your order for contactless delivery.

Thank You for supporting the Blessing Box at St. John's!

The Blessing Box is located on the north side of St. John's and contains hygiene and food products as a "stop and go" location for anyone needing a helping hand. It's been a busy site this summer! All donations have been greatly appreciated. Items that go quickly are: toilet paper, hand soap/sanitizer, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant and feminine products, as well as take and eat food items. Feel free to donate items directly to the Blessing Box. Questions? Email Julie Brehmer: children@StJohnsNorthfield.org

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Our website contains additional information regarding events and programs, along with a link to our online church directory, Church Community Builder (CCB), in the top right hand corner. You can also access the church calendar.

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, Virginia Wright (mother of Sally Lindell)

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

Dorothy Ostlie, Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson

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 25):

Reformation Sunday

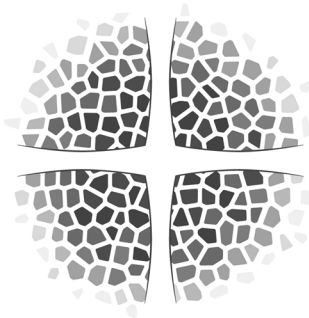
Jeremiah 31:31-34 † Psalm 46 † Romans 3:19-28 † John 8:31-36

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. 19	12:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study
Tuesday, Oct. 20	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.	Six Ways of Reading the Bible via Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers via Zoom
Wednesday, Oct. 21	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
Thursday, Oct. 22	6:30 p.m.	Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
Friday, Oct. 23		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, Oct. 24		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, Oct. 25	9:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream
	10:00 a.m.	Virtual Sunday School via Zoom
		Virtual Youth Group via Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Virtual St. John's Forum with Dr. Deanna Thompson



St. John's

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

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.