



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 19, 2025 † 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 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 — “Partita on ST. ANNE”

Paul Manz

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 632

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Stanzas 2 & 4 may be sung in harmony.

*Greeting

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

G And also with you.

Children's Message

“Wonders of Worship”



Musical notation for the song "Wonders of Worship". It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes.

I won-der. I won-der. The won-ders of wor-ship,
what does it mean? I won-der. I won-der. The won-ders of wor-ship,
what does it mean? Come and see! Come now and see!

Text and Music: Anne Krentz Organ

Prayer of the Day

P O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready
to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care.
Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

G Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Reading — Genesis 32:22-31

Spark Story Bible, page 46

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 121

Irish melody, arr. Austin C. Lovelace

*I will lift mine eyes unto the hills— from where does my help come?
My help shall come from the Lord, the maker of the heavens and earth,
Creator of all things. He will not let my foot be moved, he who keeps me will
not sleep. The God who watches Israel, the Lord, my keeper, never sleeps,
a shade on my right hand. The sun and moon shall not smite me; he will keep
me from all harm. The Lord shall watch over all my life, preserve my going
out and coming in, from this time, evermore.*

Robbie Shaw, baritone

Second Reading — 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and

encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Gospel — Luke 18:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’”

⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 769

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

*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

“Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown”

Scottish melody, arr. K. Lee Scott

Come, O thou Traveler unknown, whom still I hold, but cannot see; my company before is gone, and I am left alone with thee; with thee all night I mean to stay, and wrestle till the break of day. I need not tell thee who I am; my sin and misery declare; thyself hast called me by my name; look on thy hands, and read it there. But who, I ask thee, who art thou? Tell me thy name and tell me now. 'Tis Love! 'tis Love! thou diedst for me! I hear thy whisper in my heart; the morning breaks, the shadows flee; pure, universal love thou art. To me, to all, thy mercies move; thy nature and thy name is Love.

– Charles Wesley

*Offering Hymn — “For the Fruit of All Creation” stanza 1

AR HYD Y NOS

For the fruit of all cre-a - tion, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.

For the sow-ing, tend-ing, reap-ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep - ing, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing Company; Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

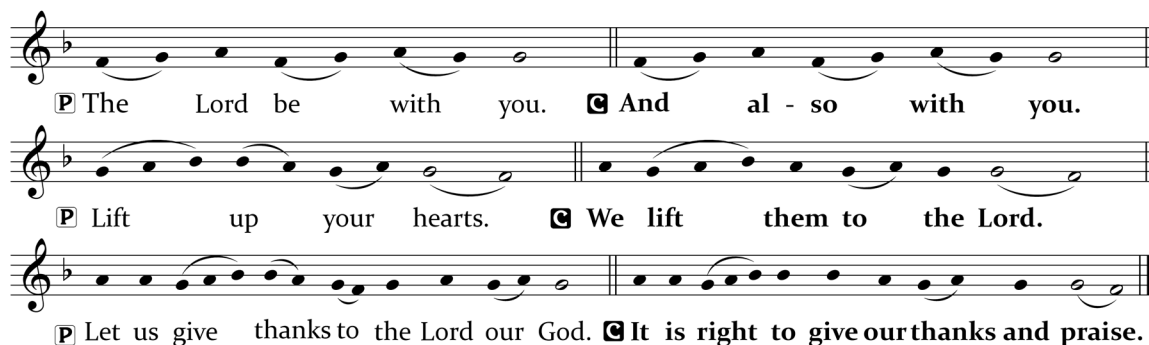
*Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray.

☑ Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

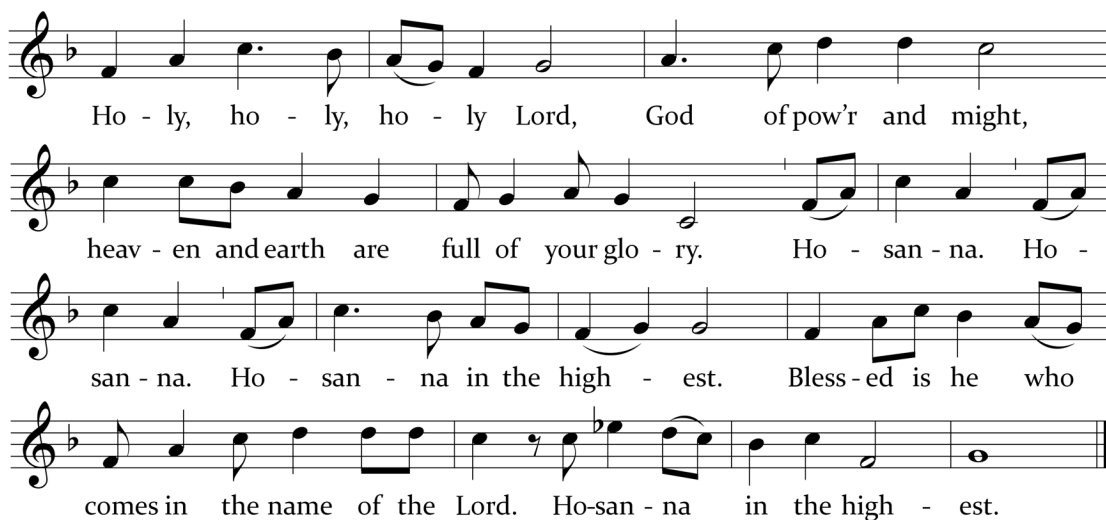


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. 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.

Hymn — ELW No. 624

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

Hymn — ELW No. 639

"When We Are Living"

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound

***Prayer after Communion**

ℒ O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 873

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

***Dismissal**

ℒ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Vincent Lübeck Jr.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Liturgy setting: Holy Communion Setting 3 by Richard Hillert.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Susanne Smith (10:45) Susan Canon
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	Robbie Shaw, Church Music Intern
Communion Prep	Joe and Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Brenda Nelson
Greeters	(8:30) Christy Hall-Holt, Craig Schultz; (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt
Refreshments	Judy Cederberg
Counters	David Becker, Reed Hagberg, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt, John Ophaug (10:45) Mike Bull, Ruth Dahl, Susan Immel

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (October 19)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
St. John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)
Accompany (9:45–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (October 26)

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)
Accompany (9:45–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)
Trunk-or-Treat (10:00–10:30 a.m.)

VOICES OF ST. JOHN'S

On Giving & Receiving

the Gospel, reaching out to those in need, and welcoming all who are seeking a relationship with God and with other Christians. I have found many meaningful ways to be active at St. John's over the years, and made friends of all ages. I feel that the donations I make are wisely used. Being a part of the Church and its mission are essential to me.



Giving to St. John's has always been meaningful to me. St. John's is a vibrant part of our local community, bearing witness to the power of



- Anonymous

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Mary Beth Bremer by her 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), contact the church office at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Next available dates: October 26 and November 2.

St. John's Forum: *Courage, Conversion, Care: Responding Faithfully to Climate Change*

Today, 9:30–10:45 a.m., St. John's Hall

Reverend Kathryn Schifferdecker explores biblical resources for thinking about environmental stewardship in her talk, *"Does 'Matter' Matter?—Biblical Foundations for the Care of Creation."* Dr. Schifferdecker is the Professor and Elva B. Lovell Chair of Old Testament at Luther Seminary.

ISAIAH MN is an interfaith organization working for racial, economic, and climate justice in Minnesota. To learn more about ISAIAH and how you can participate in upcoming events, either stop by the table in the Commons between services or contact Rod Christensen or Ron Hebensperger. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 7:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Come Have Lunch!

The Adult Ministry & Education Board invites you to join other members at St. John's for a lunchtime conversation on Sunday, November 16, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in St. John's Hall. As part of our fall series on responding faithfully to climate change, the focus of our conversation will be that morning's presentation on *Laudato Si'*, the message Pope Francis wrote "to every person living on this planet," about how we can and should be caring for our common home. Our speaker for that day, Dr. Colleen Carpenter, will launch the discussion which will give us the opportunity to imagine faithful, practical responses to climate change. We will need RSVPs for lunch. Sign-ups begin today and continue through Sunday, November 2. Please look for the sign-up table just inside St. John's Hall.

Online Giving Goes to a New Platform

We have moved our online giving from the previous Vanco platform to Pushpay. Members who have been enrolled in automatic online giving through Vanco should have received an email from Pushpay to move their giving to the new platform. The church staff are available to help if you want assistance navigating the new system.

Annual Fall Church Yard Clean Up

Saturday, October 25, 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.

Announcements (continued)

Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans

Monday, October 27, 9:00–11:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Our first speaker will be Kelsey Duffy, who will share information on how Healthy Community Initiative has been expanding education and economic opportunities in our community. Jeff Jarvis will be the second speaker of the morning. Jeff is a third-generation artist from Faribault who also enjoys history. Jeff will share his insight into the rise of flour milling in the Cannon Valley. Register for this event by emailing outnabouto22@gmail.com or calling 507-301-9094. Cost is \$15 for speakers and refreshments or \$20 for speakers, refreshments, and lunch. This is payable the day of the event (cash or check only).

Trunk or Treat, October 26, 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 too! Email Julie Brehmer at Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you are willing to decorate your car trunk or help with games and activities.

Children and Youth

Sunday Programming takes a break for MEA on Sunday, October 19.

3rd Grade Bible Retreat

Saturday, October 25, 11:00 a.m. Undercroft / St. John's Hall

All 3rd graders, along with a parent or parents, are invited to the first of three CAT retreats. This first retreat's theme is, "An Introduction to the Bible." We'll begin in the Undercroft and then move to St. John's Hall. It is a really fun retreat!

3rd Graders Receive Their Own Spark Bible

Sunday, October 26, at the 8:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, November 3: No School Day!

Come in your pajamas to Breakfast and Movie Morning for grades K–5

9:00–11:00 a.m. at St. John's

We start the morning with breakfast in the Commons and then head up to St. John's movie theater for movie time! Feel free to bring friends! Sign up on the bulletin board in the lower or upper Commons or let Julie know by sending an email to children@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Parent help is appreciated. Let Julie know if you can lend a hand.

Contact information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org

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

Fred Huemoeller, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, Dagfinn Moe,
Glen Norgaard (father of Brett Norgaard)

Those celebrating the baptism of

Sigrid Lilja Cheadle Pearson, daughter of Alyssa Cheadle and Paul Pearson

Those celebrating the marriage of

Maggie Odell and John Hall

Those with ongoing health concerns

David Halsor, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Patrice Nordstrand,
Mary Ellen North, Alice Rickert, Kathy Vang, Ruth Smestad Anglin,
Ingrid Alberding, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

All who are homebound, including

Carol Johnson, Bob Flaten

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.

WEDNESDAY
Night Meals
Come share a meal!

**Served from 5:15-6:15 p.m.
in St. John's Hall**

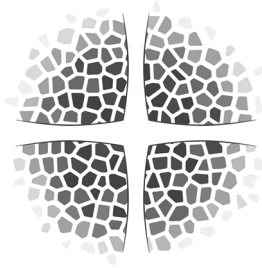
Menu for Wednesday, October 22:
Mostaccioli with Salad
Vegetarian Option Available

*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. 20	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Flaherty's Northfield Lanes
Tuesday, Oct. 21	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
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, St. John's Library
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Minister Training, Fireside Room
		NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Oct. 22	10:15 a.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite
	10:45 a.m.	Communion at NRC, Offsite
	11:15 a.m.	Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite
	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
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group, Youth Room
	6:30 p.m.	Politics & Faith Discussion Group, St. John's Library
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Oct. 23	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Suzuki Kids, Room 19
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony
	7:15 p.m.	ISIAH Steering Committee, Fireside Room
Friday, Oct. 24	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 25	8:00 a.m.	Fall Cleanup, Outside at St. John's
		Confirmation Breakfast / Rehearsal, St. John's Hall / Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	3 rd Grade Bible Retreat, Undercroft / St. John's Hall
Sunday, Oct. 26	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship~Confirmation, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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507-645-4429
office@StJohnsNorthfield.org
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
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*
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.*