



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 22, 2023 † 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

(8:30) "You Are Holy"

Rick Seaton

(10:45) "A Joyful Celebration"

Dan R. Edwards

Rejoice Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 526

"God Is Here!"

*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

☐ 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.

☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Psalmody — Psalm 96:1-9

“Sing a New Song”

Heinrich Schütz, arr. Carolyn Jennings

*Sing a new song to God the Lord, sing and give praise with one accord. Sing and declare
God's holy might, sing and give honor day and night. Worship the Lord in holiness,
hymns of great joy to God address, honor God's works and bless God's name, God's holy
truth to all proclaim. Heaven above and earth below, ocean and field God's glory show.*

*All of God's creatures bring their praise, let us now too our voices raise. Glory and
thanks to God belong, honor God evermore in song.*

– Psalm paraphrase: Carolyn Jennings

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 be-

came 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, ¹⁰and 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**

The musical notation consists of two staves in a G major key signature. 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 notes are simple, with some slurs and ties to indicate phrasing.

***Gospel — Matthew 22:15-22**

Spark Story Bible, page 306

- 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.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 525

“You Are Holy”

Sung twice.

*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) "A Song of Thanksgiving"

John Ferguson

Lord! You have been our refuge from one generation to another. Your love never ceases. Your mercies never end. For you are good, O Lord. Your steadfast love endures forever. Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way with countless gifts of love and still is ours today.

– Psalm 90:1, Lamentation 3:22, Psalm 100:5; adapt. John Ferguson

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Susan E. Geschke

*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

☐ Let us pray.

☑ **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.***

On the fourth Sunday of the month during communion, we offer the practice of anointing your brow with oil and receiving a blessing. If you want, you may ask for a specific prayer blessing from the anointer.

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. 695

“As Saints of Old”

Hymn — ELW No. 840

“Now Thank We All Our God”

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ 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. 705 “God of Grace and God of Glory”
Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — Andante from *Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Dennis Rinehart
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choirs	(8:30) St. John's Chorale (10:45) Rejoice Ringers, David Sims and Will Fecko, directors
Bass	(8:30) Davis Moore
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Craig Schultz
Greeters	(8:30) Kibby Errington, TBD (10:45) Kibby Errington, TBD
Coffee Service	Olaf and Christy Hall-Holt
Counters	Jill Enestvedt, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Olaf Hall-Holt, Leif Knecht, Todd Menssen, Eric Sponheim

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (October 22)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Next Week (October 29)

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)

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (October 29):

Reformation Sunday

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 † Psalm 1 † 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 † Matthew 22:34-46

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Mary Beth Bremer by John Bremer. 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 10, 17, 24, 25 & 31.

Stewardship 2024 Appeal is Underway

Members should have received a mailing last week including a pledge card, or you may respond electronically on the website or using the QR code. As you prayerfully consider your giving intentions for next year, the Stewardship Board challenges you to consider increasing your giving over 2023 by 1% of your income. See the skit from Sunday, October 8 on the website for a little help with the “advanced” math!



Second Fall Church Yard Cleanup Date

Saturday, October 28, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Thank you to all congregation members who cleaned the soggy grounds this past Saturday! The Property & Grounds Board needs additional help to finish the fall cleanup as the leaves fall. We will be happy to assign you a task! Please bring gloves, rakes, brooms, clippers, hedge trimmers, dandelion diggers, leaf blowers, tarps, wheelbarrows, leaf bags, and baskets. If possible, please bring garden trailers or trucks for transporting yard waste to the Northfield Compost Site.

Courageous Conversations: “Hope and Resilience in Palestine”

Thursday, November 2, 7:00 p.m., St. John’s Hall

Please join us for our November Courageous Conversations: “Hope and Resilience in Palestine.” Kris Ducett, Director of Bright Stars of Bethlehem, will share stories of inspiring young people from DAK University of Arts and Culture, founded by Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, a Palestinian Lutheran theologian and author. UPDATE: Within hours of Ducett’s return from ten days in Palestine/Israel, our world was changed. Along with our Bright Stars friends, we are heartbroken, and mourn the loss of thousands of Palestinian and Israeli lives. Please come to hear Ducett’s stories and updates on this crisis, and hear how we might BE the hope for these Bright Stars of Bethlehem and all of Palestine/Israel.

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. Contact Julie if you are willing to decorate your car trunk or help with games and activities. If you would like to donate candy, there is a collection pumpkin in the Commons.

Announcements (continued)

A/V Team...

Did You Know: Since 2020, the work of the A/V team has increased exponentially. You can help in many ways. Please reach out to Leah Garlie at 507-645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org to get connected to the A/V team.

Sing Boldly!

Monday, October 30, 7:00–8:30 p.m., The Contented Cow

Join the community chorus for a hymn song sing-a-long for sinners and saints of all sorts. There will be Reformation-themed songbooks all set, a group of musicians prepared to play, plus beer and wine and non-alcoholic beverages ready to be poured (so that all whistles can remain whetted whilst happily harmonizing).

Sunday Evening Gatherings

Tonight, 6:00–6:30 p.m., First UCC (300 Union St.)

Evening Gatherings are led by laypeople from First UCC and other local churches. Please join us for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. On the first Sunday of the month we will follow a traditional Taizé format, which focuses on repetitive singing, minimal spoken word, and does not include communion. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare for the coming week.

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. service.

Annual Northfield All ELCA Gathering for Middle & High School Youth and Parents

Wednesday, November 1, 6:15–7:30 p.m.

Watch for more details coming soon, but for now know that our speaker will be Louis Epstein and we will enjoy music from Louis & Dan and the Invisible Band.

Come in your PJs to Movie Morning!

Monday, November 6 (No School Day!), 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Kids 5th grade and younger are invited to come in their pajamas to movie morning at St. John’s. Come for breakfast and stay to watch a movie. Feel free to bring friends! Children younger than kindergarten need to be accompanied by a parent. Sign up on the bulletin board in the lower or upper Commons or email Julie at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Parent help is appreciated. Let Julie know if you can lend a hand.

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, Cindy Clauson, John Ferguson, Roberta Morse, Andy Nelson,
Kent Rommereim, Wendy Scholz, Gail Nemy (mother of Lori Skoglund),
George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Betty Stromseth

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

Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

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 25:
Baked French Toast with Sausage and Fruit

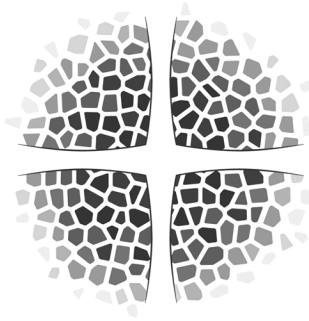
All are welcome!

*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. 23	8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Out'n About Speaker Event, St. John's Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Visitation - Evelyn Estenson, Commons Funeral - Evelyn Estenson, Sanctuary
Tuesday, Oct. 24	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Nfld High School Cross Country Team Potluck, St. John's Hall Church Council, Undercroft Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
Wednesday, Oct. 25	10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Undercroft High School Youth Group, Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Oct. 26	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:30 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 Book Buddies, St. John's Library Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Oct. 27	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Visitation - John Barber, Commons Funeral - John Barber, Sanctuary NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 28	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Confirmation Pictures and Rehearsal, Sanctuary Second Fall Church Yard Cleanup Date, St. John's Confirmation Breakfast, St. John's Hall 3rd Grade CAT Retreat, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, Oct. 29	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i> Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary



St. John's

ELCA · NORTHFIELD · MN

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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*
David Sims and Will Fecko, *Directors of Rejoice Ringers*

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