



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

REFORMATION SUNDAY † CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 25, 2026 † 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.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Today we rejoice in the gifts of baptism: the promise of God's faithfulness and forgiveness, the enlivening power of the Holy Spirit, and life together in the body of Christ.

At the 10:45 service, our 10th graders take part in Affirmation of Baptism—claiming God's promises for them at this moment in their lives. They have been through a long journey of catechesis in the faith, and many family members, teachers, and mentors have been part of this formation with them. We rejoice that they are ready to publicly claim God's promises as they state their intentions to continue in the faith: to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's word and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. They are:

Otto Bash
Violet Froehle
Jacob Mandsager
Noah Mandsager

Luke Nelson
Beau Paulson
Edie Pellinen
Emmett Rychner

Luke Thorsheim
Lucas Van Sickle
Liam Wilson

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “Fanfare”

William Mathias

Welcome and Announcements

(8:30) **Stewardship Temple Talk**

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 504

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Stanzas 2 may be sung in harmony.

***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

P Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message / (8:30) Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders

First Reading — Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Pew Bible, page 93

After the reading:

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Pew Bible, page 959

After the reading:

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.

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

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him.

³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 779

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

(8:30) ***Apostles’ Creed**

Front of ELW hymnal, page 105

(10:45) **Affirmation of Baptism and Rite of Confirmation**

Front of ELW hymnal, page 234

Presentation and Prayer

Profession of Faith

Following each article of the Apostles’ Creed:

P Lord, we believe.

G **Help our unbelief.**

Intent to Continue in Our Baptismal Covenant with God

Promise of the Assembly

- P** People of God, do you promise to support these siblings and pray for them in their life in Christ?
C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Prayer of Invocation

- P** Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. **C** Amen.

Confirmation through Laying On of Hands and Prayer

Pastors, parents, sponsors, and mentors lay hands on the Confirmand's head and pray:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| ✦ Otto Bash | ✦ Edie Pellinen |
| ✦ Violet Froehle | ✦ Emmett Rychner |
| ✦ Jacob Mandsager | ✦ Luke Thorsheim |
| ✦ Noah Mandsager | ✦ Lucas Van Sickle |
| ✦ Luke Nelson | ✦ Liam Wilson |
| ✦ Beau Paulson | |

- P** Stir up in *-name-* the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **C** Amen.

Celebrating with the Confirmands

- P** Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.
C We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Response Hymn — “Let My Prayer Rise Up” from *Holden Evening Prayer*

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the
lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Text and Tune: Marty Haugen, © 1990 GIA Publications

*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) "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Sylvia Oines

(10:45) "If I Can Help Somebody"

Alma Bazel Androzo, arr. André Thomas

*If I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song,
if I can show somebody he is traveling wrong, then my living shall not be in vain.
If I can do my duty as a Christian ought, if I can bring back beauty to a world
up-wrought, if I can spread love's message that the master taught,
then my living shall not be in vain.*

*Robert Shaw and Ian Carter, soloists
St. John's Chorale*

*Offering Hymn — "How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"

POTSDAM

How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

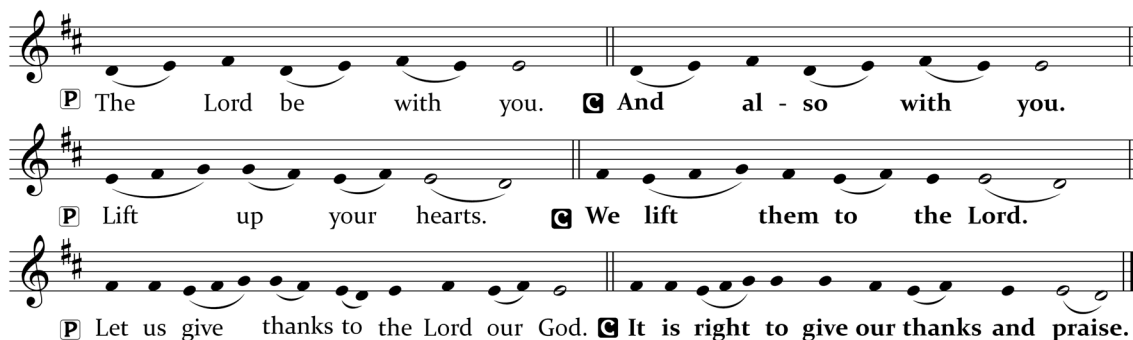
Text: Joseph A. Robinson, alt.; Music: W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

*Offering Prayer

- L** God of abundance,
C in your love, nothing is wasted. Take our lives and these gifts we bring to become nourishment for a hurting world. With this bread, break open our hearts to your presence here. With this cup, pour out your love for all who are thirsty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

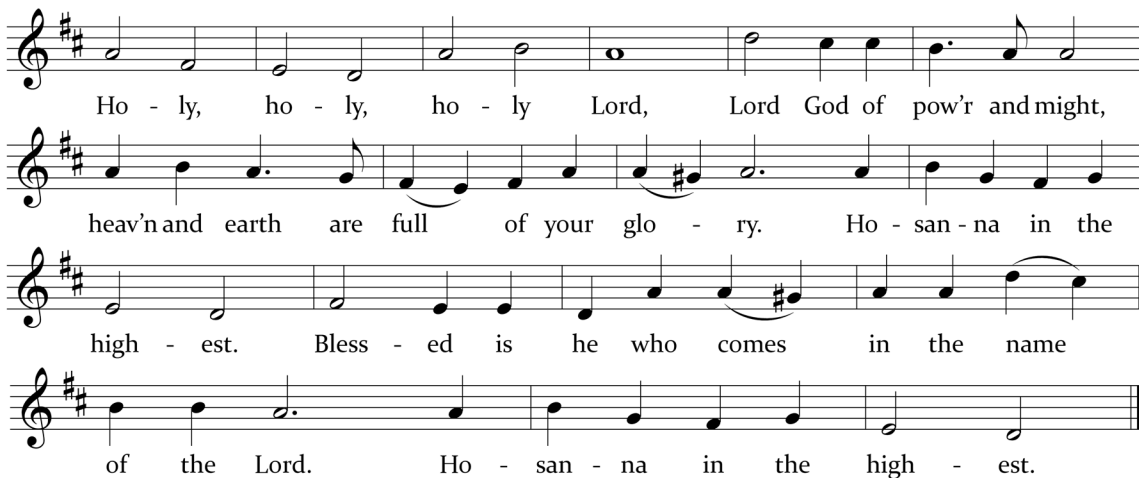


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Communion will be received standing at stations in the front of sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the center. After you have been served the bread you will be offered wine or grape juice. The grape juice is white and is located in the center of the tray. **If you are unable to come forward, let an usher know, and communion will be brought to you.***

Music during Communion

“Lamb of God”

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(10:45) **Anthem** — “Pues si vivimos (When We Are Living)” arr. Bradley Ellingboe

Pues si vivimos, para él vivimos, y si morimos para él morimos. Sea que vivamos o que muramos, somos del Señor. When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we're dying, it is in the Lord. Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God. 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace, whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God.

– Elise Eslinger, Roberto Escamilla; tr. George Lockwood

Hymn — ELW No. 464

“Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal”

(10:45) **Solo** — “Blessing”

Katie Moran Bart

Violet Froehle, soloist

***Post-Communion Blessing**

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

***Prayer after Communion**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☩ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 836

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

***Dismissal**

☩ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — ON EIN FESTE BURG

Charles Ore



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover artwork design by Judy Swanson.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Sandi Gerdes (10:45) Confirmands
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(10:45) St. John's Chorale
Soloists	(10:45) Robert Shaw, Ian Carter; Music Interns
Piano	(10:45) Marcia Yernberg
Percussion	(10:45) Dave Hagedorn
Livestream	Mark Gleason
Communion Prep	Craig Schultz
Communion Cleanup	Angie Gehring
Greeters	(8:30) Marilyn Calcutt, Judy Smith (10:45) Dimi DeRose, Sandra Nyvall
Coffee Service	Doug Johnson, Karen Schuette
Refreshments	Liz Rowley, Karen Schuette, Dawn Tommerdahl
Counters	Reed Hagberg, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Leif Knecht, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Bob Nyvall, Kent Rommereim, Mark Rydberg, Eric Sponheim

THIRD GRADERS RECEIVING THEIR BIBLES TODAY INCLUDE:

*Holden Ayers-Olson, Quinn Erickson, Caleb Hassanally, Jaymes Hauser,
Isaac Loy, Hazel Pierson, Isaac Randall, Maggie Yackel*

Bibles are gifted from the Johnson Bible Fund.



"How good, Lord, to be here!"

These were the disciple Peter's words upon seeing the Transfiguration, a mountain-top vision in which Jesus' face and clothes shone with brilliant light (Matthew 17:1-8).

This fall, the Stewardship Board invites you to reflect on ways we too say, "How good, Lord, to be here!" as we live in the light of Christ's love here at St John's.

Pledging for 2027 is happening now! Visit the Commons between services today to learn more.

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in celebration of Vern Koester's birthday on October 31 by Gracie and Justin Koester. You can guess how old he is after you see him water ski. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), contact the church office at 507-645-4429. Next available dates: December 6, 25 & 27.

Next Sunday, November 1, is All Saints Sunday, when the church gives thanks that all the baptized are sinners and saints, redeemed by God's grace. We will especially remember those who have died in the past year with candles, tolling of the bell, and a litany of remembrance at both services. On **Monday, November 2**, those who have lost a loved one within the past year are invited by the Faith & Health Board to a time of conversation from 7:00–8:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We will have refreshments, sharing, and a brief time of prayer together.

Stewardship 2027 Appeal is Underway

Members should have received a mailing including a pledge card, or you may respond electronically on the website, or use the QR code. As you prayerfully consider your giving intentions for next year, the Stewardship Board challenges you to consider increasing your giving over 2026 by 1% of your income.

Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans

Monday, October 26, 9:00–11:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Our first presenter will be Ellen Saul with *"Sand, Symbols, and Safe Limits: From Pain to Power."* Ellen will weave together clinical practice, personal story, and practical tools to offer a hopeful path from wounding to wholeness. Our second presenter will be Sam Daly with *"Transforming Veterans' Lives Through Service Dogs."* Believet founder Sam Daly joined the United States Marine Corps in 2010 as a civilian contractor providing bomb detection dogs to frontline units. Register for this event by emailing outnabout022@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).

ELCA's Safer Together: Beyond the Gun Control Debate

Tuesday, October 27, 6:30–8:45 p.m., St. John's Hall or via Zoom

Join people from across eight ELCA synods for the launch of **Safer Together**, a regional initiative creating space for learning, conversation, and faithful action around gun violence. The evening will feature Dr. Jillian Peterson, presenting *"Mass Shooting in the United States: Sources and Solutions,"* followed by Q&A and guided conversation grounded in ELCA teaching. Participants are encouraged to gather with others where there will be opportunities for conversation and discussion. Those unable to attend a gathering site are also welcome to participate individually via Zoom. St. John's is a regional teaching site. Learn more at: NWMNSynod.regfox.com/Safer-Together-Free.

Announcements (continued)

Pub Theology: Rapture and the Second Coming

Monday, October 26, 6:15-7:00 p.m., Flaherty's Northfield Lanes

We are continuing the Pub Theology series on words of faith. This week we are talking about the words rapture and the Second Coming. What have you heard about a so-called rapture? Does the Bible speak of a moment when some will be taken up to heaven and some will be left behind? Does a belief in the Second Coming of Christ have a part in your faith life? Come with your questions and ponderings! We will once again be using Marcus Borg's book *Speaking Christian* as a springboard for conversation. You can pick up a copy of the chapter to read at the Welcome Desk.

Annual Fall Church Yard Clean Up

Saturday, October 31, 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.

Courageous Conversations

Thursday, November 5, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

The November Courageous Conversations speaker will be Cathy Johnson, founding member of Coalition for Responsible Data Center Development (CRDCD). Johnson has had a front-row seat to something she never expected to see: a hyperscale data center proposed in her hometown of Farmington. She will speak about how the coalition was formed and how the grassroots resistance is holding up against big tech and big money.

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (October 25)

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 (9:45–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Trunk-or-Treat (9:45–10:30 a.m.)

Next Week (November 1)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

Sunday School: Preschool–Grade 5 (9:45–10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6–12, (9:45–10:30 a.m., Youth Room)

Fika (9:45–10:30 a.m., Downstairs Commons)

Accompany (9:45–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

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, Barbara Johnson, Joann Jorgensen,
Barb Knaak, Gordy Moore, George Pinc, Karen Wingate

Those with ongoing health concerns

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

All who are homebound, including

Laila Burns Hedstrom, Janice Helgeson, Carolyn Jennings

Involved in the mission of the church who have ties to St. John's

The Savior (El Salvador) Lutheran Church in El Cocuy, Colombia;
Iambi Lutheran Church in Iambi, Tanzania; Katie Larson, ELCA missionary in Colombia

Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests

Stephen Ministry Requests

Contact one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

Prayer Chain Requests

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or macisar@gmail.com, or contact a pastor.



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

Menu for Wednesday, October 28:
Chicken Wild Rice Casserole

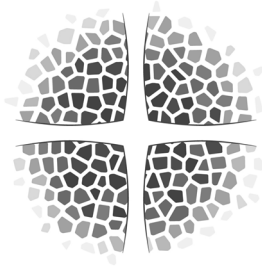
All are welcome!

*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. 26	9:00 a.m.	Out n' About: Conversations with Minnesotans, St. John's Hall
		Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	1:30 p.m.	CVEC Class, Sanctuary / St. John's Hall
Tuesday, Oct. 27	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
	4:00 p.m.	Enneagram Meeting, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	ELCA's Safer Together, St. John's Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council, Undercroft
Wednesday, Oct. 28	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
		Personnel Committee, Fireside Room
	12:00 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Undercroft
	2:00 p.m.	Nominating Committee, Fireside Room
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:45 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group, Youth Room
Thursday, Oct. 29	6:30 p.m.	Faith & Politics Discussion Group, St. John's Library
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	4:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversation via Zoom
	5:15 p.m.	Just for Kix Dance Class, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	Thursday Night Big Book Group (AA Meeting), Youth Room
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony
Friday, Oct. 30	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	5:00 p.m.	Laura Baker Services—Halloween Party, St. John's Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Oct. 31	8:00 a.m.	Fall Cleanup Day Outside at St. John's
Sunday, Nov. 1	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 13.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenschner, *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*

Nick Gilbert, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Sally Lindell, *Faith Community Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*

Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

Arturo Rosas, *Custodial Associate*

David Sims, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

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

*St. John's Lutheran Church stands on the
ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute band of the Dakota nation.
We respect and are grateful for the generations of native people who have cared for this land.*