



SERVICE OF THE WORD

REFORMATION SUNDAY † CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 31, 2021 † 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'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 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 to them stating 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:

Ave Little	Evan Loe	Madison Hansen	Samuel Swedin
Clara Menssen	Erik Boehning	Mari Hanson	Thea Hanson
Cora McBroom	Jacob Tanghe	Mason Vatter	William Becker
	Katherine Organ	Natalie DeGREGO	

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — ON EIN FESTE BURG

Johann Hanff, Johann C. Kittel, J. C. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 504

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

*Greeting

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

*Prayer of the Day

- P** O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

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

First Reading — Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalmody — Psalm 46

Refrain: Tom Witt (ACS #1035)

Refrain: *first time — cantor, then all singing*

Though the earth shall change, though the mountains tremble,
though the waters rage, you, God, are here.
Though the nations war, though the people battle,
though the empire falls, we will not fear.

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,
 and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
 God shall help it at the | break of day.
⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. Refrain — all singing
⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;
⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
 who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
¹⁰**Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”
¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. *Refrain — all singing*

Second Reading — Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

℣ The word of the Lord.

✎ Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**



***Gospel — John 8:31-36**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter. **G** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P The Gospel of the Lord. **G** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 1038

“God, We Gather as Your People”

Stanza 1 and Refrain — choir/cantor

Stanzas 2-4 — all

(8:30) *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.

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

Front of hymnal, page 234

Prayer

Profession of Faith

Following each petition:

P Lord, we believe.

C 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 sisters and brothers
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

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

✦ Ava Little
✦ Clara Menssen
✦ Cora McBroom
✦ Evan Loe
✦ Erik Boehning

✦ Jacob Tanghe
 ✦ Katherine Organ
 ✦ Madison Hansen
 ✦ Mari Hanson
 ✦ Mason Vatter
 ✦ Natalie DeGrego
 ✦ Samuel Swedin
 ✦ Thea Hanson
 ✦ William Becker

- ☐ 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. ☑ **Amen.**

Celebrating with the Confirmands

- ☐ Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.
 ☑ **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.

Musical Affirmation — “Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” (ELW #814) John Bell

Sung twice.

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;
 set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text and Music: John L. Bell, © 1995 Iona Community, admin. 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) “In Every Generation”

Carolyn Jennings

O God of all your people past, your grace is our salvation; your arms of love, their home secure, remain our habitation. We bring to you the praise they brought, we seek you as the saints have sought, in every generation. Their joy in you, the joy we bring, rings thrilling in its blending; the Spirit who in them did sing to us new song is lending. That song in them, in us, is one, we raise it high, we send it on, the music never ending. In every generation the song is one; we send it on. O Saints to come, take up the strain, and bless the Boundless Giver. Unbroken be the golden chain! Let not divisions sever. But safe in that dear dwelling place, and rich with that eternal grace, sing forever, sing on. Forever sing on, in every generation! Sing on!
—Thomas H. Gill

St. John’s Chorale

(10:45) “Sweden” from *Minecraft*

Daniel Rosenfeld

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

AR HYD Y NOS

**For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the sowing, tending, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth’s safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

☐ Holy God, mighty Fortress,
loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter,
as vegetation matures in forests and fields,
your living Word undergirds all that lives.

☑ **We praise your eternal Word.**

In the words of the Scriptures you offer us Christ:
our refuge, our savior, our friend,
accompanying us throughout our years
and renewing us in love.

☑ **We praise your eternal Word.**

We pray for power from your abiding Spirit.
Strengthen us to stand firm in faith,

in devotion to your Word,
and in service to others.

☞ We praise your eternal Word.

To you be honor and praise and glory,
today and forever.

☞ 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 — ELW No. 665**

"Rise, Shine, You People!"

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Postlude — ON EIN FESTE BURG

Charles Ore

Today, in an effort to mitigate risk of infection while offering the bread of life to everyone, we will hold brief Holy Communion liturgies in St. John's Hall immediately following the 8:30 and 10:45 services. If you wish to partake in Communion, join us in St. John's Hall for a time of sharing the bread and wine.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Elizabeth Bade (10:45) Confirmands
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Anthem Accompanist	(8:30) David Sims
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, David Nitz, Bill Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Cindy Clauson, Rick Hillard, Jim Sharrow, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Robert and Sandra Nyvall, Kent Rommereim

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover image by Thea Hanson.

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Ministry Moment from the Stewardship Board

The Stewardship Board has put together some brief stories to share with the congregation. The following is this week's Ministry Moment from Brian Evenson:

There are some people who have a gift for connecting deeply with others. It is no surprise therefore that despite the isolation we experienced in recent times, much of the "glue" that helped hold people together can be found in mentoring relationships. As Brian Evenson looks back on the last year and a half, he reflects that "there was a lot of good family time. It was a real opportunity to re-learn and remember that we need each other. People are social creatures and need that interaction. Removing social contact was a reminder that we thrive when we are connected. We need each other. Being apart was difficult. Any contact with others was much more special."

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Ralph and Marcia Yernberg. 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 Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Next available dates: November 7, 14 & 21. 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.

Holy Communion will be served indoors in St. John's Hall at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.

Communion will be served in the same post-service format we have offered outdoors these past several weeks. Those who attend worship in the Sanctuary, or who listen at home, are invited to come to the hall after either service. Please wear your mask in the building until you come forward to receive the bread and wine.

Wednesday Night Meal

Wednesday, November 3, 5:15–6:15 p.m., St. John's Hall

St. John's Meal Ministry Task Force is working with the Safe Operating Task Force to plan the next meal in November. It is important for us to know how many of you will be coming, both for preparing the correct amount of food and to keep the hall a safe place to gather. Please RSVP by scanning the QR code or calling the church office.



Pub Theology Returns in November

Mondays, November 1 & 15, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Pub Theology is a conversation led by the pastors around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy or theological biblical knowledge is needed to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences. The topic and location will be emailed prior to the meeting. If you would like to be on the Pub Theology email list, please contact Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Courageous Conversations: "Moving Forward"—St. Olaf Campus Life

November 4, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Deanna Thompson, Director, Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community

Alyssa Melby, Program Director, Academic Civic Engagement

Anja Dulin, St. Olaf Student

Learn how Lutheran values are supporting anti-racist action underway on campus, how these initiatives intersect with work occurring in the local community, and how anti-racist work in a predominantly white institution presents both challenges and opportunities. Please register at: www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous.



Children and Youth Ministries

Contact Information for Children and Youth

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

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org

Sunday School for Pre-K through Grade 5

Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m.

We will gather outdoors as much as possible this fall. Check for the *Inside* or *Outside* sign posted on Door #6 each Sunday to let you know where we will be meeting. Join us today for a **Halloween Sunday School**. We will play games and “Trunk or Treat” for Halloween treats!

Sunday Youth Gatherings (Grades 6-12)

Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Youth Room

Parent Gathering and Social

Sundays, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Courtyard

Pastors Pam and Jonathan invite parents of children and youth to gather between services for a chance to simply check-in and connect with each other.

Children's After School Programming (K-Grade 5)

Wednesdays, 3:45–5:15 p.m.

If you have any questions about programming, or can volunteer to assist, please contact Julie.

Confirmation & High School Youth Programming (Grades 6-12)

Wednesdays, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

We will meet outside by the Commons doors. Pizza is served at 6:00 p.m. Questions about Youth programming? Contact Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families.

**Third Graders attended a “Introduction to the Bible” Retreat
on Saturday, October 30.**

**Each receives a Spark Bible as a gift from St. John's either
at the retreat or at the 8:30 a.m. worship service today.**

St. John's Third Graders Receiving Bibles:

*Madelynn Bennett, Jacob Brownlee, Anthony DeGrego,
Arthur Godfrey, Makena Hansen, Liv Nelson, Iris Pellinen*

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

Day McLaughlin (mother of Jeff McLaughlin), Marland Madson, Rae Pearson,
Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings, John Bjorlie (brother of Ruthie Neuger),
Mark Wegner (son of Roberta Wegner)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Father Dennis Dempsey and the St. Dominic's Church Community

Those with ongoing health concerns

Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Bev Mahacheck
Guenther Moesler, Delores Nelson, Carole Nesheim, Becky Ness, John Quam,
Scott Quinnell, Lois Rand, Eldora Sietz, Jim Thompson, Howard Thorsheim,
Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde, Lois Pearson

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 (November 7):

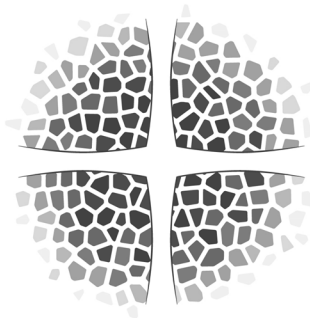
All Saints Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9 † Psalm 24 † Revelation 21:1-6a † John 11:32-44

This Week At-a-Glance

*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, Nov. 1	9:00 a.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	5:15 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall
	5:30 p.m.	NGC Grief Support Group, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Northfield Girl Scouts Leader Meeting, Undercroft
Tuesday, Nov. 2	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
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #27352, Undercroft
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers Training, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
		I Cantanti Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
		NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room
Wednesday, Nov. 3	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), St. John's
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), St. John's
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Nov. 4	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Center, Offsite
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, St. John's Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Courageous Conversations via Zoom
Friday, Nov. 5	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Rehearsal - CVRO, St. John's Hall
Saturday, Nov. 6	3:00 p.m.	Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra Concert St. John's Hall
Sunday, Nov. 7	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 5), St. John's
		Youth Gathering (Grades 6-12), St. John's
		Parent Gathering, Courtyard
	10:45 a.m.	Worship (Affirmation of Baptism), Sanctuary
	1:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #25258, Fellowship Hall



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
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 Rings*
Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

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