



SERVICE OF THE WORD

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 1, 2020 † 9:00 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this morning!

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.



OUR WORSHIP TODAY

The festival of All Saints occurs just as the landscape in the northern hemisphere heralds the dying of plants and the quiet of winter rest. In like manner, the readings and liturgy of this day call us to rejoice in all the saints: those who have died and now rest in Christ, those who live now, and those yet to come.

The Christian church celebrates "greatness" in a markedly different way than our world. Jesus calls blessed those who are meek, grieving, peaceful, and merciful, and we claim "sainthood" for anyone who has died with Christ in the waters of baptism. The Christian community speaks honestly about human frailty and mortality. At the same time, we confess our faith in the risen Lord, in the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

This morning we remember by name 24 saints of St. John's who have died since All Saints Sunday 2019. They were fathers and mothers, beloved grandparents, sisters and brothers.

Among them were pastors and professors, homemakers and physicians, farmers and secretaries, beloved parents and siblings. They were sinners and saints at the same time, claimed by God in the waters of baptism and redeemed by Christ's promises. Today we give thanks for them and remember God's promise to us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. On this day especially we long to sit shoulder to shoulder as the bells are rung, but we trust that there is no distance between these saints and God's embrace, and that our voices will be joined with theirs in God's ears.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “Elegy”

James Biery

Sonja Wermager, violin

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P We praise you, O God, for water—
the Cannon and Mississippi rivers,
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,
the water for drinking and bathing.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We remember the waters of Jesus—
baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee,
drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda,
washing the disciples' feet.

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P We praise you, O God, for this font
and for all the saints who have been joined together here.
Breathe into this water, wash away our sin,
and bring peace and joy to the new members of the body of Christ...

✦ Willow Rea	✦ August Traaseth
✦ Alarya Cook	✦ Jackson Hirdler
✦ Cecilia Gallagher	✦ Genevieve Timmer
✦ Wesley Barvir	✦ Paige Kuehn
✦ Aksel Loy	

C We praise you, O God, for water.

P O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.
O God, you are the River, saving us from death.
O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.
We praise you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
today, tomorrow, forever.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn — “For All the Saints” (#422)**

SINE NOMINE



For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; . . .
 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day; the
 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through
 thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . . .
 soon, soon to faith - ful ser - vants com - eth rest; . . .
 saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . . .
 name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.
 King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, © Oxford University Press

***Greeting**

- P** Beloved of God, called to be saints:
 Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- A** And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

- P** Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those you love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Litany for All Saints

P Let us remember all the saints before God.

We praise and bless you, O holy Trinity. You have taught your church that it is an ageless communion of saints. We thank you for gathering those who faithfully waited in hope for the redemption you promised, and now for adding us who celebrate the love of Christ for the redemption of the world. Prepare a place for us among those who are already with you. Help us remember them as an encouragement to saintly living, exciting us to love, in anticipation of an eternal reunion.

With them we praise and bless you, O holy Trinity.

P Christ says, Take my yoke upon you,
and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart,

All and you will find rest for your souls.

P For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light,

All and you will find rest for your souls.

P God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our brothers and sisters:

✝ Robert Noreen	✝ JoAnn Smith
✝ Betty Schuette	✝ Vernon Faillettaz
✝ Allan Nelson	✝ Donna Mathre
✝ Douglas Schuurman	✝ Alta Barber
✝ Sid Olson	✝ Craig Breimhorst
✝ Marvis Canon	✝ Wally Wegner
✝ Carol Carlson	✝ Sigrid Gronning
✝ Myron Dack	✝ Duane Olson
✝ Thomas Sorenson	✝ Susan Rezac
✝ Elsie Nelsen	✝ David Halvorson
✝ Gloria Keister	✝ Berta Diem
✝ Mary Beth Bremer	✝ Jackie Detlie

Music for Reflection — “Beautiful Savior”

David Cherwien

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

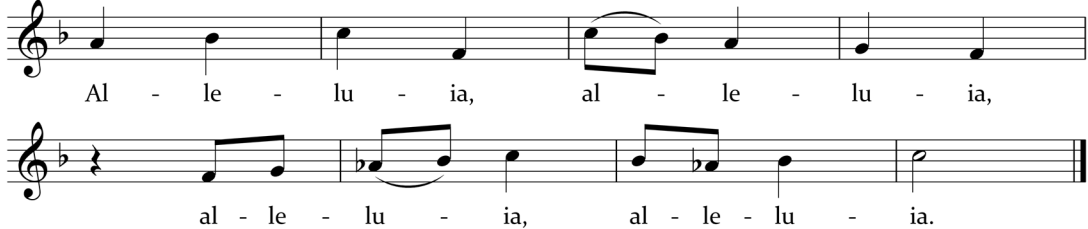
Second Reading — 1 John 3:1-3

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — "Children of the Heavenly Father" (#781) TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his
 God his own doth tend and nour - ish, in his ho - ly
 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er, from the Lord his
 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren

bo - som gath - er; nest - ling bird - nor star in heav - en
 courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he spares them,
 chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he show - eth,
 ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly

such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 in his might - y arms he bears them.
 and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, tr. Ernst W. Olson © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America; Music: Swedish folk tune

*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:

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" from Op. 122

Johannes Brahms

***Prayer for All Saints**

- Ⓐ Eternal God, your love is stronger than death, and your passion more fierce than the grave. We rejoice in the lives of those whom you have drawn into your eternal embrace. Keep us in joyful communion with them until we join the saints of every people and nation gathered before your throne in your ceaseless praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Ⓒ **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

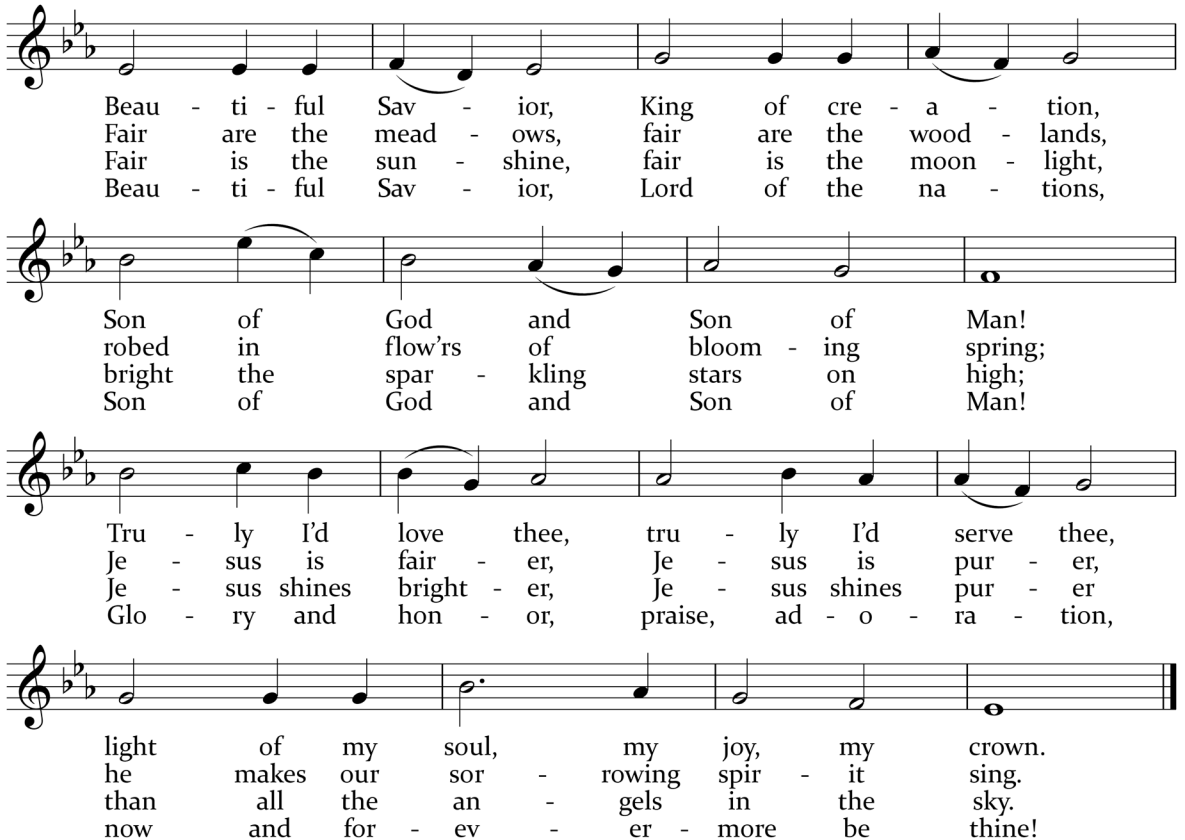
*Blessing

Response:

 Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Beautiful Savior” (#838)

SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU



Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,
 light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Munster, tr. Joseph A. Seiss; Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “O Day Full of Grace”

F. Melius Christiansen, arr. Bryan King



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	David Sims
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Violin	Sonja Wermager

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art by John Maakestad with text by William Blake.

Confirmation banner by Judy Swanson

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Duane and Marlene Engstrom in thanks for the calls and prayer support during Marlene's surgery this past summer for a malignant kidney. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Next available dates: January 31 and February 7, 21 & 28. 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.

Today's Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of JoAnn Smith by her family.

Worship with Us on Sundays via Livestream

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

Our Stewardship Appeal for 2021 is underway. Please let us know your intention for giving next year **by Sunday, November 15.** If you need a physical pledge card mailed to you, please contact Leah Garlie at the church office. You can now view the Stewardship "Words of Witness" from previous Sundays on the church website.

Pub Theology via Zoom

Mondays, November 9 & 23, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Pub Theology is a conversation led by Pastor Pam and/or Pastor Jonathan around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences.

Confirmation for Grades 6-9 via Zoom

Wednesday, November 4, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

November's Topic: *Food—Eating with Jesus*

Guest Speakers: Kristy Harms & Peggy Dell

November Courageous Conversations: Todd Lippert, MN House of Representatives District 20B

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

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

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

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

Announcements (continued)

ELCA World Hunger

- Hunger Facts: 821 million people around the world—that's more than 1 in 10—can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives. According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. That's 10% of the world's population. At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from. 39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.
- As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond to these staggering needs. Since the onset of Covid-19, these conditions have only worsened.
- Working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Each November we focus special giving on world hunger. Please consider a donation to ELCA World Hunger by mailing a check to the church (note ELCA World Hunger on the memo line of your check) or through online giving. Visit <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger> to learn more about how the ELCA has made positive differences in peoples' lives around the world. Thank you.

Can you help remote learners?

Northfield Healthy Communities Initiative is seeking volunteers who will offer remote support to kids doing distance learning this winter. Once established with a student and teacher, volunteers would offer 15-30 minutes 2-4 days a week to help students stay on track. Contact Laura@northfieldhci.org if you are interested.

Operation Joy, the CAC's Annual Christmas Gift Drive

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

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

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.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

David and Genevieve Quarberg

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marlene Engstrom, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Gene and Delores Nelson,
Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Gordon Smith, Joanne Sommers,
Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Virley Brown, Elouise Quinnell, Lester Gunderson

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 8):

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

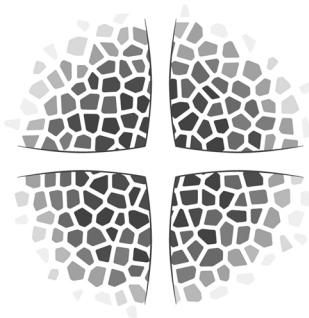
Amos 5:18-24 + Psalm 70 + 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 + Matthew 25:1-13

This Week At-a-Glance

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

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts
on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (www.kymnradio.net).**

Monday, Nov. 2	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, Nov. 3	7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	General Election, St. John's Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Six Ways of Reading the Bible via Zoom
Wednesday, Nov. 4	10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Communion at 3 Links, Offsite Confirmation for Grades 6-9 via Zoom
Thursday, Nov. 5	6:30 p.m.	Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
Friday, Nov. 6		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, Nov. 7		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, Nov. 8	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream Virtual Sunday School via Zoom Virtual Youth Group via Zoom



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenschner, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Tim Byers, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Christy Hall-Holt, Welcome Ministry Coordinator

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Parish Nurse

Arielle Loy, Director of Alleluia Choir

Zachery Pelletier, Director of Rejoice Ringers

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistants

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

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