



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 1, 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.*

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 15 saints of St. John's who have died since All Saints Sunday 2025. They were beloved children, parents, and siblings. Among them were professors, farmers, musicians, and homemakers. Some greeted death like a friend; others were gone from us much too quickly. 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 for all the beloved dead we bring on our hearts, and remember God's promise to us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

*You are invited to light a candle at the front
of the sanctuary in memory of a loved one.*

Prelude — “Aria”

Gerald Near

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn — ELW No. 422**

“For All the Saints”

Stanzas 1 & 2 — all
Stanza 3 — all in harmony
Stanza 4 — bass voices
Stanza 5 — treble voices
Stanzas 6 & 7 — all

***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** Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion
in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

✝ Patrice Nordstrand	✝ Josephine Alsaker
✝ Lois Houge	✝ Robert Flaten
✝ Lynn Matta	✝ Lila Prehall
✝ Carol Hollen	✝ Ronald James
✝ Donald Starkweather	✝ Carol V. Johnson
✝ David Halsor	✝ Darlene Schloeder
✝ Kathryn Thompson	✝ John Walters
✝ Barbara Dettle	

- P** Gracious God, we rejoice with thanksgiving for new saints you have claimed as your own, washed in the waters of baptism this year.
We thank you for:

✝ Cameron Berthelsen	✝ Lyla Kehret
✝ Claire Kuehn	✝ Erik Hahn
✝ Tyson Gorg	✝ Russell Johnson
✝ Bailey Laabs	

(8:30) **Anthem** — “God Is Seen”

arr. Alice Parker

*Through all the world below God is seen all around, search hills and valleys
through, there he's found. The growing of the corn, the lily and the thorn, the pleas-
ant and forlorn, all declare, God is there, in meadows drest in green, God is seen.
See springing waters rise, fountains flow, rivers run, the mist that veils the sky
hides the sun. Then down the rain doth pour, the ocean, it doth roar and beat upon
the shore, and all praise, in their ways, the God who never declines his designs.
The sun with all his rays speaks of God as he flies, the comet in her blaze 'God,'
she cries; the shining of the stars, the moon, when she appears, his awful name
declares; see them fly through the sky, and join the solemn sound all around.*

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) **Duet** — “Beautiful Savior”

arr. David Cherwien

*Ruth Bretheim Aaseng, flute
Jo Ann Polley, clarinet*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Reading — Revelation 7:9-17

Pew Bible, page 999

After the reading:

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading — 1 John 3:1-3

Pew Bible, page 990

After the reading:

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel — Matthew 5:1-12

Spark Story Bible, page 264

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. ²And 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 the sake of righteousness, 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 — ACS No. 1030

“Death Be Never Last”

*The Apostles' Creed

Front of ACS hymnal, page 17

*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) "Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers"

Timothy Takach

*And I believe. So I believe. I will lift my eyes to the hills. There, dost thou well
believe, no storm should come to mar the stillness of that angel-home;
there should thy slumbers be weighed down with honey-dew, serenely blessed.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, neither angels, nor demons,
nor powers, neither things present nor things to come, neither height nor depth,
nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God.
I do believe. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.
– Psalm 121:1, Felicia Dorothea Hemans, Romans 8:38-39, Revelation 7:17*

(10:45) "Shall We Gather at the River"

arr. Mark Hayes

*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.

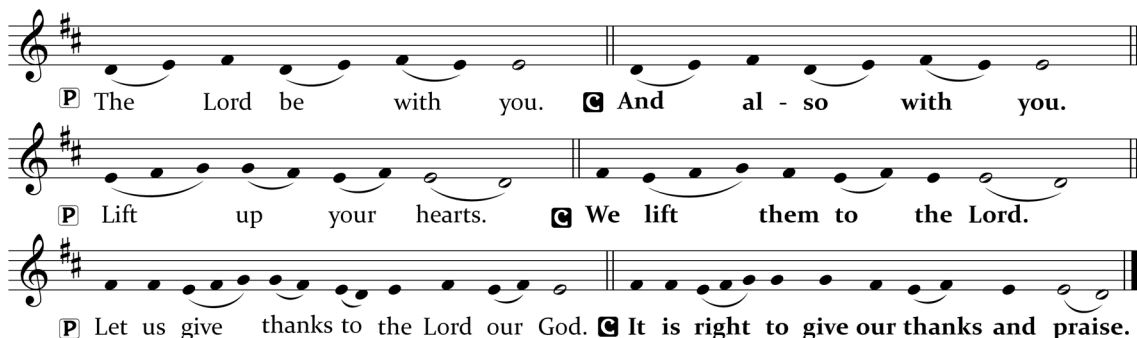
Text: Joseph A. Robinson, alt.; Music: W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

*Offering Prayer

- L** How good, Lord, to be here, **C** among friends and neighbors, as one body.
- L** How good, Lord, to be here, **C** with gifts to offer and gifts to receive.
- 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

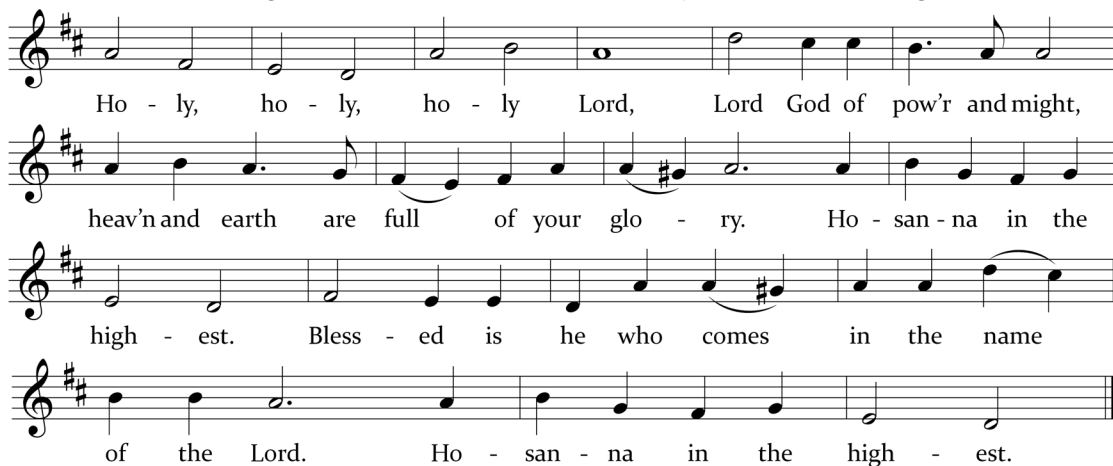


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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.

Hymn — ELW No. 781

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Hymn — ELW No. 423

"Shall We Gather at the River"

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of
your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.
- ☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- ☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 838

“Beautiful Savior”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Nimrod” from *Enigma Variations*

Edward Elgar
transcription, Alan Ridout



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Julie Zdenek
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Clarinet	Jo Ann Polley
Flute	Ruth Bretheim Aaseng
Livestream	Jon Kavanaugh, Rob Nutt
Communion Prep	Vicki Otis
Communion Cleanup	Sandi Gerdes
Greeters	(8:30) Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Mary Ellen North (10:45) Julie Cannon, Pam Groves-Gaggioli
Coffee Service	Herb and Pat Fick
Treats	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Rhonda Reece, Liz Rowley, Karen Schuette
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Janell Martin, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Cheryl Buck, Charles Cannon, Pat Fick, Roger Van Veldhuizen

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (November 8):

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This 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 for Parents (9:45–10:30 a.m., Downstairs Commons)
Accompany (9:45–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (November 8)

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)

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in honor of Nathan Proctor and the music at St. John's by David and Martha Brown. 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: December 6 & 27.

A Grief Gathering for those who have lost loved ones in the past year is being hosted by the Faith & Health Board **tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room**. Whether or not your loved one's name was lifted up in our All Saints Sunday service today, you are welcome to join the board and Pastor Fickenscher for refreshments and a brief time of reflection on living in the midst of grief.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. St. John's is a polling place for Ward 4 Precinct 1.

St. John's Hall will be closed tomorrow after set-up for voting is completed. A reminder that state law prohibits any partisan activity, messaging, or campaigning within 100 feet of a polling place, which is defined as all of St. John's property (including the parking lot). Your vote is your voice! To see your ballot, check your registration or your polling location, go to the Minnesota Secretary of State's website: <https://www.sos.mn.gov/>

Election Day Prayer Gatherings

On and around Election Day, November 3, there are multiple ways to engage individually and communally in prayer.

- **Prayer & Meditation During Voting Hours:** All Saints Episcopal Church will be available from 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. (polling hours) for individual prayer and meditation. No program. Light candles and pray for our communities. The Holy Eucharist with Prayers for the State and Nation will be offered at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.
- **Election Day Evening Prayer Vigil:** Various congregations in Northfield will be hosting a community Prayer Vigil in Bridge Square (Carleton Chapel as a backup/inclement weather location) with gathering at 8:00 p.m. This will be a brief and peaceful service of communal singing, prayer, silence, and candle-lighting. All are welcome.
- **Day After Election Day Vigil:** First United Church of Christ will hold a vigil at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4.

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). Cathy 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.

Announcements (continued)

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.



Join Us for Mission Morning

Saturday, November 7, 9:00–11:00 a.m., St. John's Hall

Calling all women! You are invited to Mission Morning. Have a fun morning of kit packing, quilt tying, bandage rolling, fellowship, making new friends, and changing the world for the better... one kit at a time. Check out the kit examples on display between services today.

St. John's Forum: *Exodus—The Shaping of a People*

Next Sunday, November 8, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

This fall, St. John's Forum returns to biblical drama in the pages of scripture with a series on the book of Exodus. We hope you will join us in opening your Bibles and minds to the rich meaning in these foundational stories that can still speak to us today.

- **November 8** Exodus 14–15: *Crossing the Red Sea and the Song of the Sea*, led by Prof. Charlie Wilson
- **November 15** Exodus 16–19: *Wandering in the Wilderness*, led by Prof. Cameron Howard

November is the month we especially lift up the work of ELCA World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger works in more than 60 countries as well as the United States to alleviate food insecurity and poverty. If you receive offering envelopes, you will have a special envelope this month.

Thanksgiving Eve we gather in worship again as three Northfield ELCA congregations together. A service of Word and Thanksgiving will begin at 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, followed by pie fellowship. A pop-up joint choir will meet at 5:30 p.m. to rehearse songs for the service.



"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.

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, Vikki Van Veldhuizen, Karen Wingate,
Phyllis Jurgens (mother of Shari Ohland)

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, Dick Werdahl, 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, November 4:
Tamale Pie with Salad and Fruit
Vegetarian Option Available

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, Nov. 2	9:00 a.m.	Monday Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	WELCA Executive Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Lifting Voices Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	Remembrance Gathering, Fireside Room
Tuesday, Nov. 3	7:00 a.m.	City of Northfield - General Election, St. John's Hall
	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
	5:30 p.m.	Wellspring Circle Bagged Supper Social, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Wellspring Circle Discussion Time, Fireside Room
Wednesday, Nov. 4	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
	12:00 p.m.	Bible Study of the Book of Mark, Undercroft
	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, Nov. 5	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
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	4:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversation Book Group 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, Nov. 6	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Courageous Conversations, St. John's Hall
	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Nov. 7	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
	9:00 a.m.	Mission Morning, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Nov. 8	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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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.