



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 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 — “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

Mary Howarth

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

***Gathering Hymn** — ACS No. 949

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

***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**

- ☐ O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with
the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to
the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

℣ The word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 70

Antiphon: Paul Manz



¹Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.

²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back
and | be disgraced.**

³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.

⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great | is the LORD!”**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry.

*Antiphon: E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All.*

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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.

*Gospel — Matthew 25:1-13

Spark Story Bible, page 314

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I

tell you, I do not know you.’¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 710

“Let Streams of Living Justice”

*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:

L Lord, in your mercy,

C 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) "City Called Heaven"

Spiritual, arr. Josephine Poelinitz

I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow, I'm left in this old wide world alone! I ain't got no hope for tomorrow, I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home. Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord. Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn. I heard of a city called heaven I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

-African American Spiritual

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) ON THAXTED

Lyle Neff

*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 tending, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

*Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray.

☑ **God of all goodness, generations have gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. As we gather these gifts and give thanks, we remember and care for all you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving



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

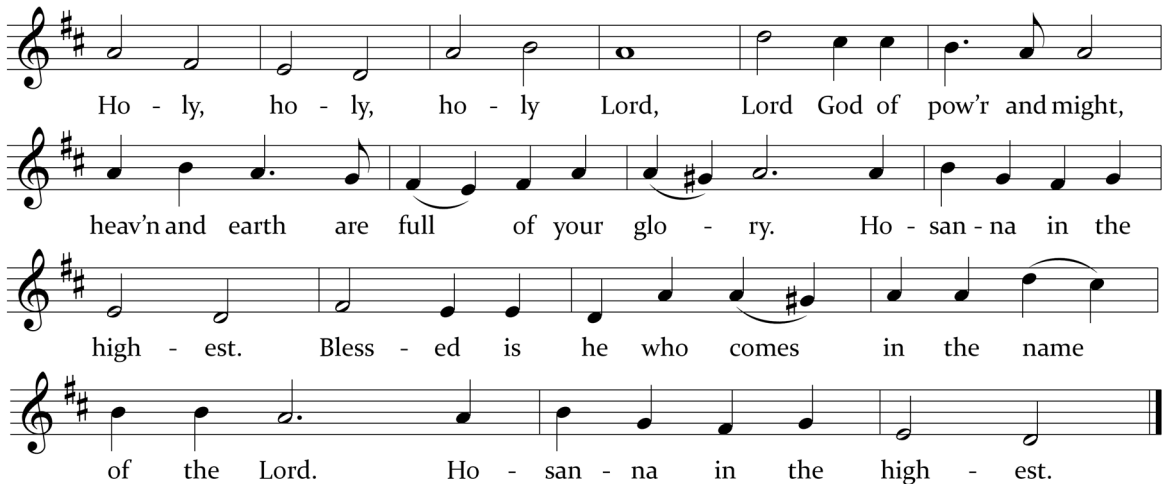


P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



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

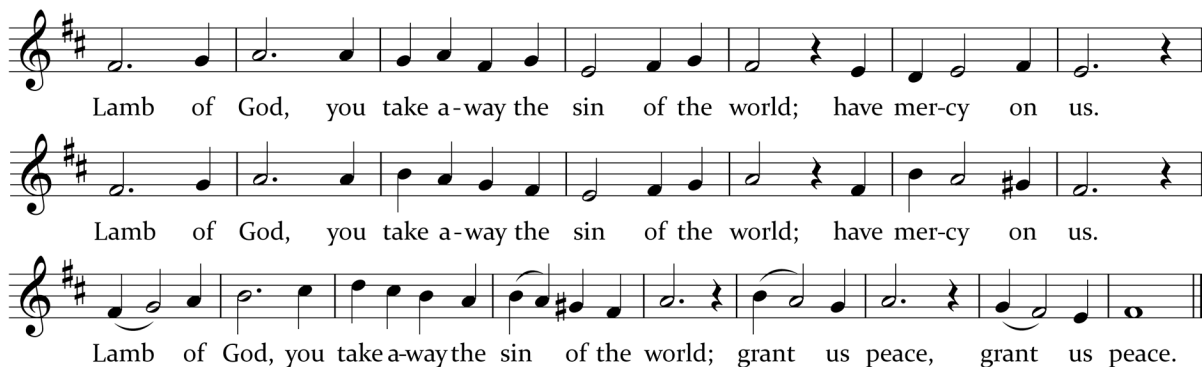
*The Lord's Prayer

**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.

(8:30) **Anthem** — “Bright Morning Stars”

Spiritual, arr. Alice Parker

Bright morning stars are rising and day is a-breaking in my soul. O where are our dear mothers? They are sowing seeds of gladness, and day is a-breaking in my soul. O where are our dear fathers? They have crossed the river shouting, and day is a-breaking in my soul. They are all by the streams a-dancing, and day is a-breaking in my soul.

Hymn — ELW No. 561

“Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory”

Hymn — ELW No. 522

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ 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. 815

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Dawning”

Franklin Ashdown



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover artwork by John Maakestad. The 2023 confirmation banner is by Jill Enestvedt.

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Alison Kavanaugh (10:45) Jenny Wright
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Soloists	(8:30) Audrey Lane-Getaz, Synneva Bratland
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Anthem Accompanist	(8:30) David Sims
Cantor	(10:45) Kristin Partlo
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	David and Debby Nitz
Greeters	(8:30) TBD; (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Bob and Pat Tabery
Refreshments	Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Bob and Pat Tabery
Counters	Char Carlson, Jane Rizzo, Bob Tabery
Ushers	(8:30) Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Dan Franklin, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Keri Peterson, Joran Peterson

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (November 12)

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)
St. John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)
Accompany (10:00–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (November 19)

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 (10:00–10:40 a.m., Fireside Room)

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (November 19):

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 † Psalm 90 † 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 † Matthew 25:14-30

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Tony Becker and Beckie Judge. 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: December 10, 17, 24, 25 & 31.

Stewardship 2024 Appeal: Bring Your Commitments Next Sunday, November 19

Members should have received a mailing 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!



St. John's Forum

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Meleah Follen, Healthy Community Initiative's "Youth Engagement and Northfield Community College Collaborative"

Healthy Community Initiative has collaborated on more than 30 initiatives in Rice County. Through TORCH they helped 500+ low-income students in grades 6–12 to graduate achieving a 98% graduation rate in 2022. HCI assisted 40+ mobile home residents with young children to improve safety and energy efficiency and hosted 34 Mental Health First Aid training events in 2022 to identify and respond to mental health concerns. HCI connected 100+ family, friends, and neighbor child care providers to First Aid/CPR and other training.

Join Us for the Advent Book Read

The Adult Ministry & Education Board encourages you to participate in a new opportunity at St. John's—the Advent Book Read. The group will read Amy-Jill Levine's *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*. The group will meet four times, beginning on Sunday, November 26, between worship services. We hope to have four Wednesday evening meetings as well. Sign-up and book purchase (\$15) are in the Commons between services. Contact an Adult Ministry & Education Board member for more information. Make the Book Read your spiritual practice for Advent!

November Special Offering: ELCA World Hunger

This month there is a special envelope for contributions to ELCA World Hunger. Realize that ELCA World Hunger works with and through ELCA congregations in the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, overseas Lutheran churches, and other partners to reach communities in need. They provide health clinics, microloans, water wells, animal husbandry, community meals, and advocacy, etc. Your contributions to ELCA World Hunger help provide sustainable

Announcements (continued)

solutions that get to the root causes of hunger and poverty. Your support makes a difference. Please consider a gift to ELCA World Hunger during the November appeal. Use the specially marked envelope in your packet or use the St. John's online donation system. Make checks payable to St. John's, noting ELCA Hunger Appeal on the memo line. Thank you.

St. John's Forum: Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS)

Sunday, November 19, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Did you know . . .

- That LIRS is celebrating 80+ years of providing services and a sense of home to immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees?
- That LIRS is the largest national faith-based nonprofit, with 1,000 partners and 50,000 volunteers?
- That LIRS has welcomed more than 750,000 newcomers to the U.S. since 1939?
- That LIRS reunited more than 8,000 children and families in 2022?
- That St. John's is considered a Cornerstone Congregation as a major donor?

Come learn more from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service representative Jon Buuck, LIRS Senior Philanthropic Advisor.

Joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22, 6:30 p.m., St. Peter's Lutheran Church

The three ELCA congregations of Northfield will again join together for worship on Wednesday, November 22. We will gather at St. Peter's Lutheran Church for a Service of the Word. Our joint offerings will benefit the food shelf of the Community Action Center and the Racial Equity Fund of the Minnesota Council of Churches, designated especially for indigenous communities in greater Minnesota. A pop-up choir will sing two pieces. Any singers are welcome to join in by coming at 5:30 p.m. to rehearse together. Pie fellowship will follow the service. Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!

St. John's Advent Fair

Wednesday, November 29

Everyone is invited to St. John's Advent Fair on Wednesday, November 29, in St. John's Hall. Come enjoy our Wednesday Night Meal and Advent activities for all ages. We encourage you to bring friends. The more the merrier!

- 5:15–6:15 p.m.: Wednesday Meal
- 5:45–7:00 p.m.: Advent Fair Activities

Can you help with the Advent Fair?

- Help with Crafts/Activities
- Food Demonstration—Show how to make your favorite Christmas treat!

Sign-up in the Commons or email Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you can help.

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

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

Lois Pearson, Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson

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**

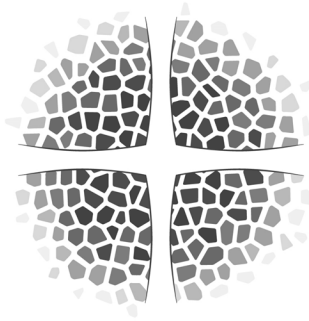
Menu for Wednesday, November 15:
*Sloppy Joes with Chips, Pickles, Carrots
(Vegetarian Option Available)*

*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. 13	9:00 a.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	4:00 p.m.	Audit Committee, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Foundation, Fireside Room
Tuesday, Nov. 14	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
	7:00 p.m.	Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Nov. 15	12:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study, 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
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Knitters, St. John's Library
		Capital Appeal Information Meeting, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Nov. 16	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Nov. 17	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Nov. 18		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Nov. 19	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary (For the schedule between services, please see page 11)
	10:45 a.m.	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.