



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024 † 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 — “Improvisation on a Norwegian Folk Tune”

Dagfinn Moe

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 835 “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”

Stanza 1 — all singing

Stanza 2 — treble voices

Stanza 3 — bass voices

Stanzas 4-6 — all singing

*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, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

After the reading:

- 📖 The word of the Lord.
- 🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 22:25-31

Antiphon: Mark Mummert

Antiphon: *All of us go down to the dust, yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia!*



- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the ¹great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who ¹fear the LORD.
- ²⁶**The poor shall eat ¹and be satisfied,**
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts ¹live forever!
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow ¹before God.
- ²⁸**For dominion belongs ¹to the LORD,**
who rules o- ¹ver the nations.
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ¹down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ¹fore the LORD.
- ³⁰**Their descendants shall ¹serve the LORD,**
whom they shall proclaim to genera- ¹tions to come.
- ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ¹yet unborn,
saying to them, "The ¹LORD has acted!" *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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 — John 15:1-8

Spark Story Bible, page 452

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 447

“O Blessed Spring”

*The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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) "O Blessed Spring"

Robert Buckley Farlee

(10:45) "Psalm 121"

Dagfinn Moe

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains, from where shall I find my help? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved. He who watches over you will not slumber. Behold, he keepeth you, he watches you, watches over Israel. The Lord is my keeper, the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; and he shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over you going out from this time and ever, evermore, forevermore.

St. John's Chorale

*Offering Hymn — "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

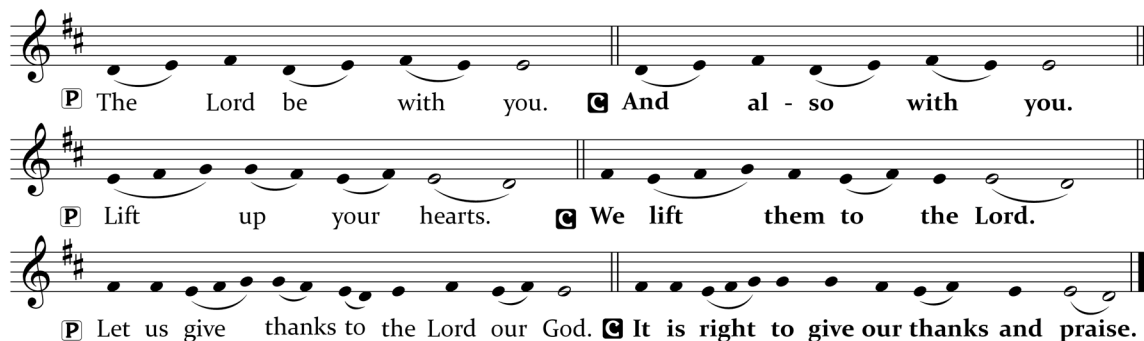
*Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray.

☑ **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your
abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the
world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

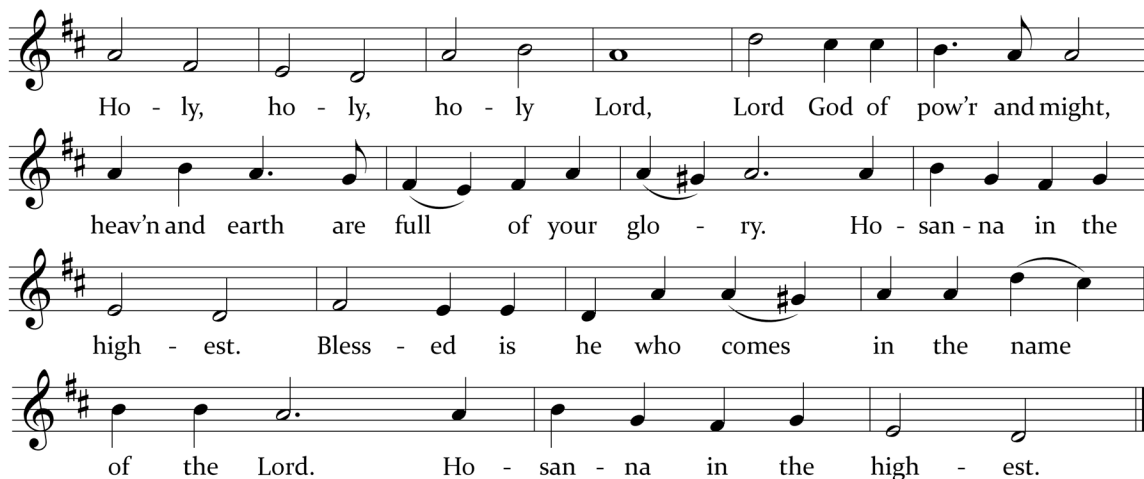


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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** — “Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green. The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but never can tell the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see tis found in Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Conducted by Abby Carter, Church Music Intern

Hymn — ELW No. 690

“We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord”

Hymn — ELW No. 466

“In the Singing”

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

ℒ Shepherd God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share
the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 881

“Let All Things Now Living”

***Dismissal**

- ℒ Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- ☞ **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**
- ℒ Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude — “Celebration”

Dagfinn Moe



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Rob Quanbeck and Dawn Tommerdahl
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(10:45) St. John's Chorale
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	Craig Schultz
Greeters	(8:30) Cindy Clauson (10:45) Susan Canon
Coffee Service	TBD
Refreshments	TBD
Counters	Chris and Martha Erickson, Judd Lohmann, Vicki Otis
Ushers	(8:30) Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Mark Rydberg, Todd Menssen, Bob Nyvall, Kent Rommereim, Eric Sponheim

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (May 5):

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Genesis 35:9-15 † Psalm 101 † 1 John 5:1-6 † John 15:9-17

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (April 28)

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: Valley Grove Tapestries—Meet the Artist (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

Next Week (May 5)

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)

St. John's Forum: Exploring the Bible with Interfaith Sensitivity (9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Staff Sgt. Paul Tollefson whose 100th birthday would have May 7 by Shirley Tollefson and daughters Paulette Tollefson, Karen Ferrel, Terry Rydberg, and Nancy Peterson. 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 507-645-4429 or office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Available dates: June 16, 23 & 30.

St. John's Forum: Valley Grove Tapestries—Meet the Artist

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

During the month of April, you might have noticed the new art exhibit of four tapestries hanging in St. John's Hall created for Valley Grove Church in Nerstrand, MN. This morning we welcome the artist, Minneapolis weaver Robbie LaFleur, and Margit Johnson, a member of the Valley Grove Preservation Society. They will share about the process of creating these tapestries and then we will explore all the fun details and history included in each piece.

Lutheranism 101 Class

Today, 12:15–1:45 p.m., Fireside Room

Are you new to Lutheranism and wondering why we do some things in a certain way or why we talk so much about grace? Maybe you have some language or phrase that feels like “insider Lutheran speak” and you're wondering what that all means. Or maybe you've been a Lutheran your whole life but still have some questions about how we read the bible or what it means to be a saint and a sinner (at the same time!). Pastors Pam and Jonathan would like to invite any and all people who are curious about what it means to be a Lutheran to their **Lutheranism 101** class after the second service. We will meet in the Fireside Room and spend time learning and asking questions together. All are welcome!

St. John's Forum: Exploring the Bible with Interfaith Sensitivity with Jason Ripley

Next Sunday, May 5, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

This session follows up on a question introduced last fall: “Is the New Testament anti-Jewish?” Special attention will be given to Paul's letter to the Romans, addressed to a mixed community of Gentile and Jewish followers of Jesus in the center of the Roman empire, facing challenges across religious, cultural, social, and political issues. We will explore how Paul engages the questions “Has God abandoned the Jewish people—and what might the implications be for Gentile followers? Can Jewish followers of Jesus still keep the Torah commandments? Must Gentiles? Does following Jesus entail rejecting Judaism?” Jason Ripley is currently chair of the religion department at St. Olaf. A New Testament scholar specializing in the Gospel of John, he teaches courses on biblical interpretation and regularly leads students on study-abroad programs. His publications address topics of religious violence, gender, and reinterpretation of the Hebrew Bible in early Judaism. He has been attending St. John's since 2020.

Announcements (continued)

Courageous Conversations: “I Am A Prisoner Of Hope” by Samuel Lotegeluaki

Thursday, May 2, 7:00 p.m., St. John’s Hall

Dr. Samuel Lotegeluaki is our speaker this month. His book, “I Am a Prisoner of Hope,” was written at a time when political divisiveness, polarization, extremism, hate crimes, xenophobia, and violence are increasing at an alarming rate. He will offer insights into what has led to some of these current problems, and how HOPE is seen as the driving force that sustains people through horrific circumstances and propels them to seek a better situation.

Parents! You are invited to a conversation around children, youth, and family ministry at St. John’s.

The Children and Youth boards, along with staff, have been reflecting on what matters the most for and about children and youth ministry at St. John’s as a way of visioning for the future. Now we would like to hear from you about your family’s experience. There will be two opportunities to share your thoughts:

- Wednesday, May 1, at 6:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room (main level).
- Sunday, May 5, at 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall (lower level) during children and youth programming.

We hope you’ll join us!

Attention All St. John’s Women!

You are invited to attend the Cannon River Conference Women’s Spring Event

Saturday, May 11, 8:00 a.m., St. John’s Hall

Registration table, treats, and display tables open from 8:00–9:00 a.m., program starts at 9:00 a.m. with lunch at 11:45 a.m. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, PhD, keynote speaker at the 2023 WELCA triennial and author of *Love Without Limits* and *Outlaw Christian*. Registration forms can be found at the WELCA bulletin board. Registration closes May 1 so sign up today!

Volunteers Needed on Friday and Saturday, May 10 & 11 to help St. John’s WELCA in hosting the Cannon River Conference Women’s Spring Event on Saturday, May 11, 2024. We host this event once every 8–10 years. Please consider helping make this event a success by signing up to bring muffins, cookies, set tables, etc. Sign up online at https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/need_detail.php?need_id=2251. The planning committee thanks you in advance for your help!

A heartfelt thanks to the 40 St. John’s members who participated in the WELCA Mission Morning on Saturday, April 20, and to others who donated cash, supplies, and applied for Thrivent Action Grants. As a result of your time and generosity, babies will have a better chance to thrive (50 Baby Care Kits were packed for Lutheran World Relief), hospice patients and others will have supplies for personal hygiene (64 Hospice Kits were assembled for Global Health Ministries and 50 Personal Care Kits for LWR), 6 more families will have the warmth of a quilt, and GHM will be able to ship 100 more rolled bandages to hospitals. It was truly a morning of God’s Work Our Hands.

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

Ruth Smestad Anglin, Janice Kasa, Will McLaughlin, Audrey Moe, Roberta Morse

Those with ongoing health concerns

Georgia Braulick, Jo Chambers, Jo Dahlin, Billi Faillettaz, John Ferguson, Bob Flaten, Paul Klinefelter, Greta Matzner-Gore, Donna James, Carolyn Jennings, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom, George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

All who are homebound, including

David and Pat Halsor, 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; Katie Larson, ELCA missionary in Colombia

Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests

Stephen Ministry Requests

St. John's Stephen Ministers offer care to those in a variety of difficult situations. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors at 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, May 1:
Chicken Pot Pie

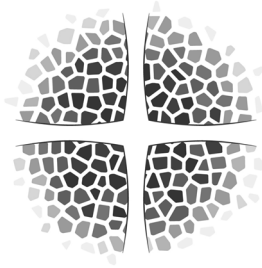
All are welcome!

*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, Apr. 29	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	4:00 p.m.	Audit Committee, Fireside Room
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Location TBD
Tuesday, Apr. 30	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
	10:30 a.m.	Writing Group: "Inspired Pens", St. John's Library
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministers, Fireside Room
Wednesday, May 1	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee, Undercroft
	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
	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, May 2	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
		Spotlight Bible Study, Offsite
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	7:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversations, St. John's Hall
Friday, May 3	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, May 4	9:00 a.m.	CAT Retreat, St. John's Hall
	3:00 p.m.	Christine Kallman Piano Studio Recital, Sanctuary
Sunday, May 5	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary (For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	3:30 p.m.	Asuka Kakitani Piano Studio Recital, Sanctuary



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

500 Third Street West
Northfield, MN 55057
507-645-4429

office@StJohnsNorthfield.org
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.

*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.*