



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 7, 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.



GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — "From Heaven Above" F. Melius Christiansen, arr. G. Winston Cassler

Welcome and Announcements



Cantors 1 “From heav’n above to earth I come to bear good news to ev’ry home!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring to all the world, and gladly sing:”

2 “To you this night is born a child of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
this newborn child of lowly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.”

3 “This is the Christ, God’s Son most high, who hears your sad and bitter cry,
who will himself your Savior be and from all sin will set you free.”

4 “The blessing that the Father planned the Son holds in his infant hand,
that in his kingdom, bright and fair, you may with us his glory share.”

5 “These are the signs that you will see to let you know that it is he:
in manger-bed, in swaddling clothes the child who all the earth upholds.”

**All 6 Now let us all with joyful cheer go with the shepherds and draw near
to see this wondrous gift of God, the blessed child to us bestowed.**

Low voices 7 Look, look, dear friends, look over there! What lies within that manger bare?
Who is that lovely little one? The baby Jesus, God’s dear Son.

**All 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, through whom this sinful world is blest!
You turned not from our needs away; how can our thanks such love repay?**

High voices 9 O Lord, you have created all! How did you come to be so small,
to sweetly sleep in manger-bed where lowing cattle lately fed?

Organ only 10 *Were earth a thousand times as fair and set with gold and jewels rare,
still such a cradle would not do to rock a prince so great as you.*

Pet owners 11 For velvets soft and silken stuff you have but hay and straw so rough
on which as king so rich and great to be enthroned in humble state.

Carls & Oles 12 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child, prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
a quiet chamber in my heart, that you and I may never part.

Norwegian 13 My heart for very joy now leaps; my voice no longer silence keeps;
sweaters I too must sing with joyful tongue the sweetest ancient cradle-song:

All stand during organ interlude.

***All 14 “Glory to God in highest heav’n, who unto us the Son has giv’n.”
With angels sing in pious mirth a glad new year to all the earth!**

*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 Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Children’s Message

First Reading — Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible, page 602

After the reading:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 72:1-4, 10-13

Antiphon: “The First Noel”

Antiphon: Noel! Born is the King of Israel.



¹Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king’s son;

²that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. *Antiphon*

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the ¹isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba ¹offer gifts.

¹¹May all kings bow ¹down before him,
and all the nations ¹do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out ¹in distress,
the oppressed, and those who ¹have no helper.**

¹³**He has compassion on the low- ¹ly and poor,
and preserves the lives ¹of the needy. *Antiphon***

Second Reading — Ephesians 3:1-12

Pew Bible, page 950

After the reading:

- The word of the Lord.
- 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 2:1-12

Spark Story Bible, page 218

- The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search

diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 296

“What Child Is This”

*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:

- ℣** 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

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” BWV 1 J. S. Bach, adapt. Mark Sedio
Sonja Wermager, violin

***Offering Hymn — “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” stanza 2 DIVINUM MYSTERIUM**

**Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world’s redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.**

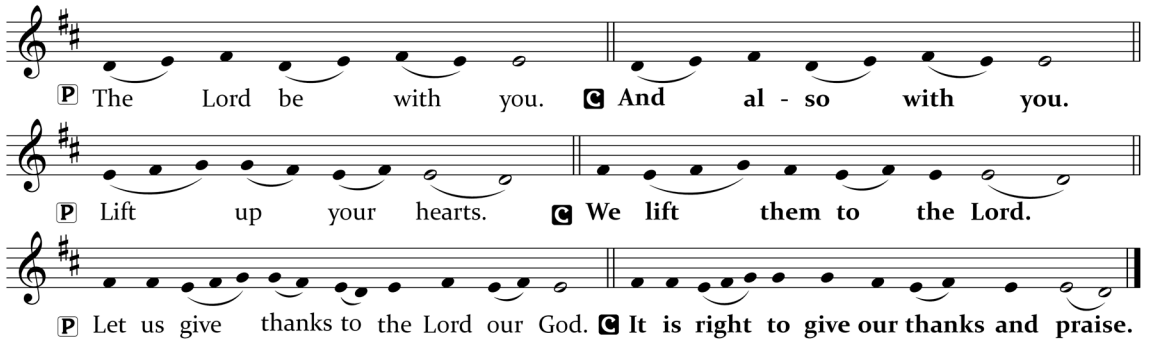
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

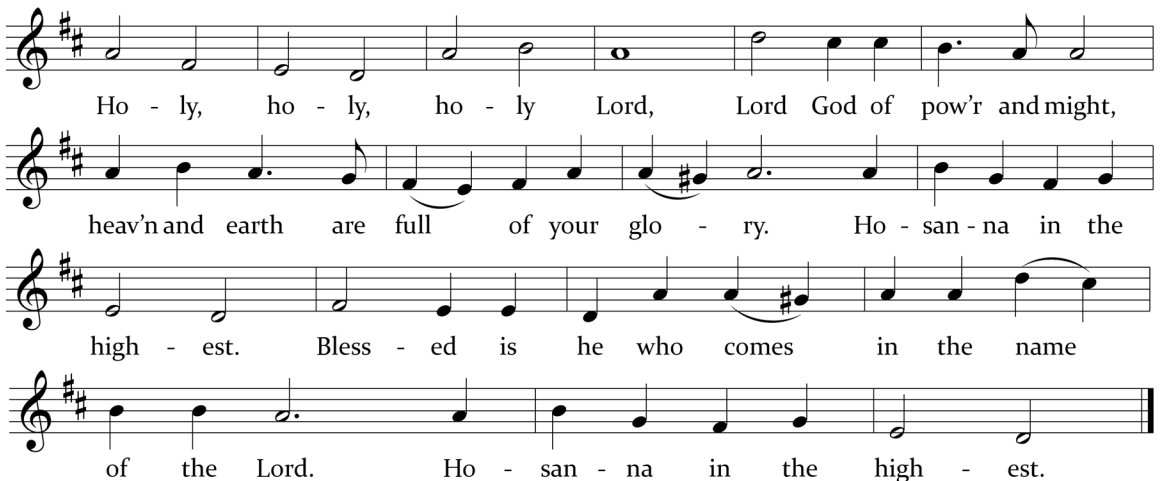


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

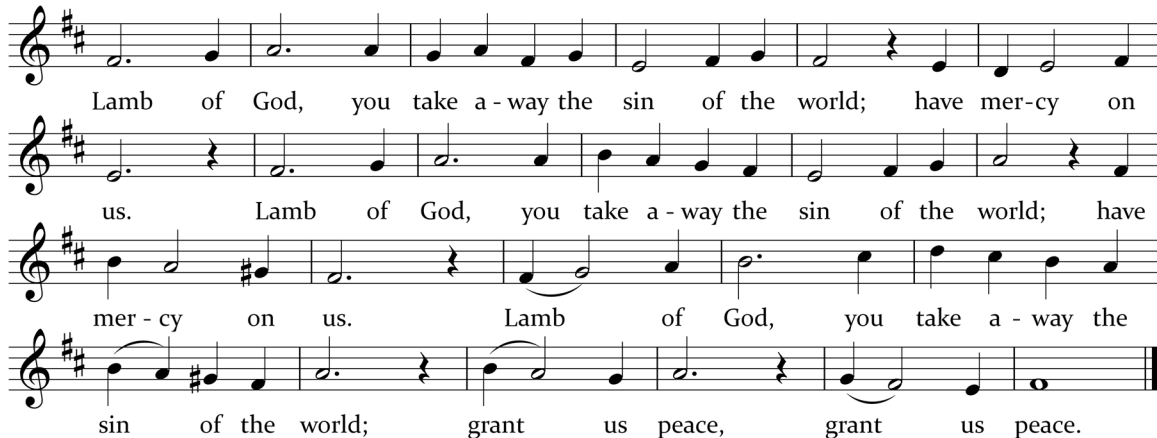
*The Lord's Prayer

**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.

Solo — “See, Amid the Winter’s Snow”

arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Hymn — ELW No. 294

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

- ☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 301

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “There’s a Star in the East”

African American spiritual
arr. David Sims



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (January 14):

Second Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 † Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 † 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 † John 1:43-51

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	David Legvold
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantors	David Sims, Kristin Partlo
Violin	Sonja Wermager
Communion Prep	TBD
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters	(8:30) TBD (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	TBD
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Judd Lohman, Jane Rizzo, Bob Tabery
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Alison Kavanaugh, Jon Kavanaugh, Christy Hall-Holt, Olaf Hall-Holt

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Liturgy setting: Setting Four by Ronald A. Nelson; Festival Setting by John Ferguson.

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Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (January 7)

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: ISAIAH and Faith-Based Organizing (9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Next Week (January 14)

Reception for the St. Olaf Choir, 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)

Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of Elmer & Cora Schultz and Ken Struss by Marie Struss and family. 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: January 21 & 28.

St. John's Forum: ISALAH and Faith-Based Organizing

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Kathryn Lozada has been the Southern Minnesota Regional Organizer with ISALAH for six years, organizing people of faith and shared values towards racial, economic, and climate justice in Minnesota. Join her and St. John's leaders to learn how ISALAH has been working for years on the state and local level and finally won significant victories this state legislative session! We also hope to hear from you how these policy wins could impact you and your loved ones, what our communities still need to thrive, and how we could put our faith in action and potentially have more collective impact by partnering with other faith communities.

We welcome the St. Olaf Choir and its director, Dr. Anton Armstrong, to worship services next Sunday, January 14. This is a long-standing and deeply beloved tradition at St. John's as we welcome the choir back to the place of its birth and are blessed by their wonderful leadership and music. A reception in honor of the choir will be held between services in St. John's Hall.

St. Olaf Choir Breakfast Donations and Clean-up Helpers are Needed

As a way to thank the choir for blessing us with their beautiful music, we serve them breakfast in our hall before the early service. Thus, we need food donations. If you can donate an egg bake, muffins, fruit, juice, or a crockpot of oatmeal, or if you can assist with the clean-up in the kitchen and hall following the breakfast at 8:30 a.m., please click this link to sign up in CCB: [St. Olaf Choir Breakfast Food Donations & Help Sign-up](#), or email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org, or call the church office. Thank you very much!

Pub Theology

Tomorrow, Monday, January 8, 6:00–7:30 p.m., The Contented Cow

What is Pub Theology? It is a weekly conversation 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. The topics vary and will be published ahead of time on Facebook, in the E-Voice, and an email list. Contact Pastor Jonathan (jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org) to add your name to the email list.

Announcements (continued)

An Epiphany Invitation

Tuesday Mornings, January 9, 16, 23 & 30, 10:30 a.m.– Noon, St. John’s Library

Have you ever thought you might like to write? Many have discovered that writing as a creative outlet can help us understand our past and renew our energy for living the Christian life. How have our stories transformed us? You’re invited to join us on an Epiphany journey of inspiration and discovery through writing and sharing our stories in a safe place. Whether you want to write for yourself, for others, or to leave a legacy, we welcome you. Questions? Please feel free to contact Barb Kuhlman at bkuhlman47@gmail.com or Chris Engstrom at revchristea@me.com.

The Adult Ministry & Education Board encourages you to save the evening of Tuesday, January 9, to hear Amy Jill Levine’s 2024 Fretheim Lecture at Luther Seminary.

Amy Jill Levine is the author of the books we are reading for the Advent and Lenten Book reads (*Light of the World; The Misunderstood Jew*). We will organize carpooling for those who want to attend in person and live-streaming at St. John’s who prefer this option. Send an email to rob.quanbeck@gmail.com if you are interested in either option.

Stewardship Moment

Happy New Year from your Stewardship Board! If you’ve already sent your 2024 pledge form in, we thank you! If it slipped your mind in the holiday bustle, be sure to get your pledge to the church office soon! Thank you! You can scan the QR Code on the right, [complete the online pledge form](#) on our website, return a card to the church office or in the offering plate, or email your intent to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. If you give electronically through automatic transfer, please review your giving and let us know your 2024 intent, even if it is to remain the same.



Children and Youth

Wednesday Afterschool Programming for Children Kindergarten–5th Grade will Resume this Wednesday, January 10

Northfield Week at Good Earth Village along with Bethel and St. Peter’s Churches

June 23–28, 2024

Good Earth Village offers camps for grades 2–7 with 2 or 5 night options (depending on grade). Use code NORTHFIELD24 for an additional \$100 off a full week or \$50 off a half week as a “campership” from St. John’s. Visit <https://goodearthvillage.org/northfield> for details or contact Julie or Kristin with questions.

Attention Youth: Coming Soon—Sign-Ups for the Summer Amnicon Trip July 7–12

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, John Ferguson, Roberta Morse,
Wendy Scholz, Gail Nemy (mother of Lori Skoglund)

Those with ongoing health concerns

Jo Chambers, Jo Dahlin, 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, Bruce Hella,
Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson), George Schneider (father of Betsy Gasior)

All who are homebound, including

Lois Pearson, Janice Helgeson, Carol Johnson

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, January 10:
Bacon Cheeseburger Tater Tot Bake

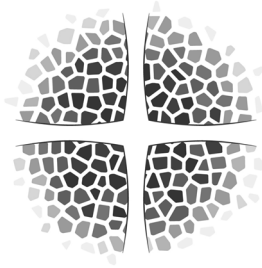
All are welcome!

*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, Jan. 8	9:00 a.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, The Contented Cow
	6:30 p.m.	Wellspring Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Foundation, Fireside Room
		Northfield Girl Scout Leaders Meeting, Undercroft
Tuesday, Jan. 9	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, Jan. 10	9:30 a.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:15 p.m.	J-Term Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Locations Vary
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
Thursday, Jan. 11	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	CPR/First Aid Training, St. John's Hall
		Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	1:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Executive Committee via Zoom
Friday, Jan. 12	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Mary Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Jan. 13	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Jan. 14	8:30 a.m.	Worship (with the St. Olaf Choir), Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship (with the St. Olaf Choir), Sanctuary
	3:00 p.m.	Sons of Norway Event, St. John's Hall



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

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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.*