



# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 8, 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 — *Three for Epiphany*

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| I. “Mingxing canlan ye wei yang”<br><i>Midnight Stars Make Bright the Skies</i>        | Marilyn Biery      |
| II. “Dejlig er den himmel blå”<br><i>Bright and Glorious Is the Sky</i>                | G. Winston Cassler |
| III. “Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern”<br><i>How Lovely Shines the Morning Star</i> | Mark Sedio         |

## Welcome and Announcements

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 301 “Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

***Stanzas 1 & 2 — all***

*Stanza 3 — bass voices*

*Stanza 4 — treble voices*

***Stanzas 5 & 6 — 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 and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through 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

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

**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.*



<sup>1</sup>Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;

<sup>2</sup>that he may rule your | people righteously  
and the | poor with justice;

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

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

<sup>10</sup>May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,  
and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.

<sup>11</sup>May all kings bow | down before him,  
and all the nations | do him service.



<sup>12</sup>For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,  
the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.  
<sup>13</sup>He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,  
and preserves the lives | of the needy. *Antiphon*

**Second Reading — Ephesians 3:1-12**

Pew Bible, page 950

☐ The word of the Lord.

☒ Thanks be to God.

**\*Gospel Acclamation**



**\*Gospel — Matthew 2:1-12**

Spark Story Bible, page 218

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “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.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>‘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.’”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then 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.” <sup>9</sup>When 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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On 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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**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 — ACS No. 915

“When a Star Is Shining”

*Verse 1 — choir/cantor, Refrain — all singing*

*Verses 2 & 3 — all singing*



### \*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,
- ☩ 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) "Walk in the Light"

African American spiritual, arr. André Thomas

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright. Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King." Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Christ the everlasting Lord! Jesus, the light of the world.*

*St. John's Chorale*

(10:45) "When a Star Is Shining"

arr. Bob Moore

\*Offering Hymn — "Of the Father's Love Begotten" stanza 2      DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

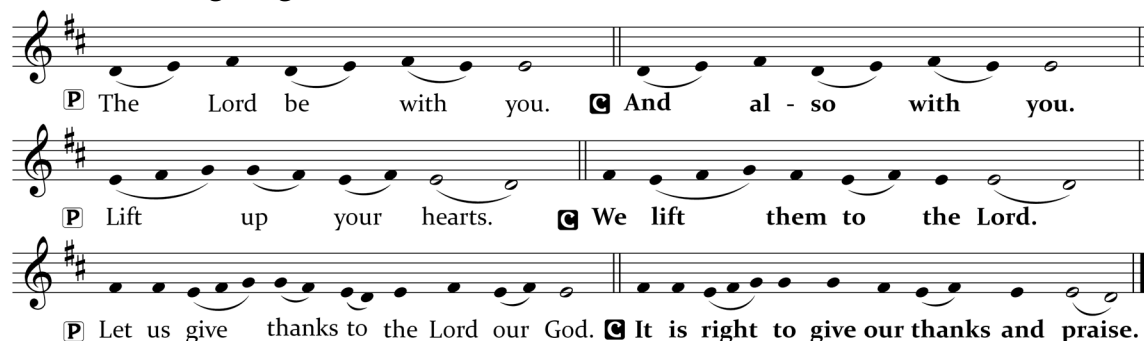
**Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,  
and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,  
evermore and evermore.**

## \*Offering Prayer

- ℒ Let us pray.
- ☩ God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered.  
Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table  
of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of  
your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.  
Amen.

# SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

## \*Great Thanksgiving

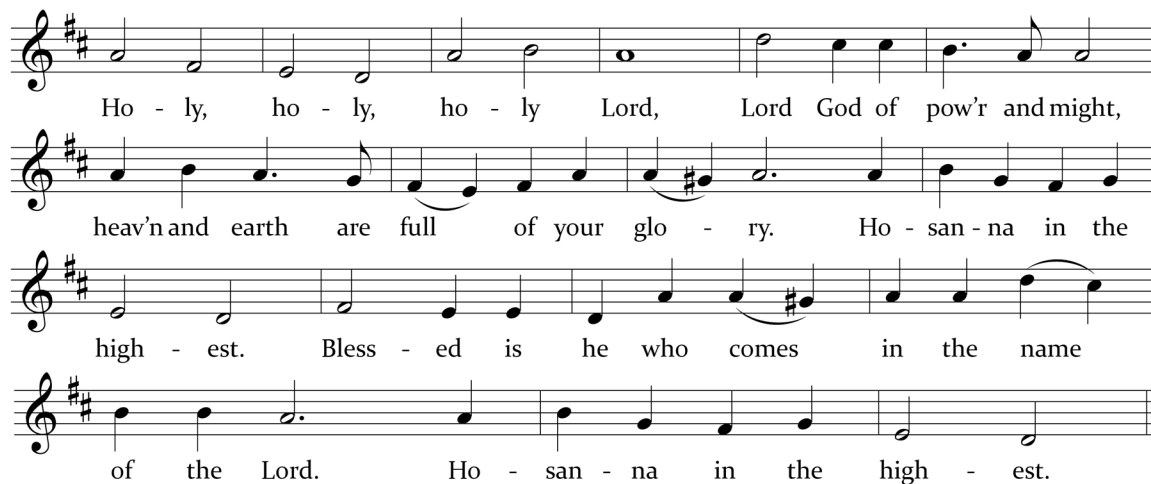


**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**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. 294

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

## \*Post-Communion Blessing

**\*Prayer after Communion**

**L** O Morning Star, fair and bright,  
you have refreshed again with heavenly food.  
You are our dearest treasure.  
Go with us now—  
today, tomorrow, and every day—  
that we tell the story of your never-ending love  
and sing your praise both now and forever.



**C** Amen.

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

**C** Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 300

“The First Noel”

*Stanzas 4 & 5*



**\*Dismissal**

**L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

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

African American spiritual  
arr. David Sims



**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover image from *Icon 1*. Used with permission.

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Holy Communion Setting 4 from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, composed by Ronald A. Nelson.

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14028-LIT. Other liturgical aids are from *Sundays and Seasons* © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. Music reprinted and podcasted under One License A-708009.

## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:**

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Chuck Hellie (10:45) Eric Sponheim
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Cantor	(10:45) David Sims
Communion Prep	Kristin Partlo
Communion Cleanup	Angie Gehring
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) TBD (10:45) TBD
Coffee / Refreshments	TBD
Counters	Dan Franklin, Michelle Kramer-Prevost, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Dan Franklin, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Kent Rommereim, Alison Kavanaugh, Jon Kavanaugh, Christy Hall-Holt, Olaf Hall-Holt

## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This Week (January 8):***

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall  
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons  
Toddler Time (9:50–10:30 a.m., Preschool Classroom)  
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)

### ***Next Week (January 15)***

Coffee and Fellowship with 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)

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (January 15):**

### ***Second Sunday after Epiphany***

Isaiah 49:1-7 † Psalm 40:1-11 † 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 † John 1:29-42

# **Announcements**

*Additional announcements can be found in the weekly E-Voice.  
Printed copies of the E-Voice are available at the Welcome Desk and by Door #1.*

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given by friends of St. John's. 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](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: January 22 & 29 and February 5, 19 & 26.

**We welcome the St. Olaf Choir** and its director, Dr. Anton Armstrong, to worship services on Sunday, January 15. 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.

## **Stewardship Moment**

Happy New Year from your Stewardship board! If you've already sent your 2023 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!

## **St. John's Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, January 29, 12:30 p.m., St. John's Hall and via Zoom**

The agenda will include the election of 2023 Board and Council members, along with the approval of the 2023 congregational budget. The Hearing Loop in the Hall will be operational for those who need hearing assistance. A hybrid Zoom option will be available for those who wish to listen and vote remotely.

## **PEEL Project**

Have you seen the portraits and poetry of St. John's members up around the church recently? Those works are part of a project called PEEL where 10–12 people gather together for a weekend to learn about photography, poetry, and each other. St. John's did one PEEL event last spring. It was a deepening and eye-opening experience to slow down and intentionally connect with another person we didn't know well before. This winter and spring we are trying an experiment at St. John's to explore what happens to a community like ours if a bunch of people have this kind of experience. Between January and April, we will host six separate PEEL events. Would you like to participate? All it takes is the time (Friday evening, much of Saturday, and Sunday afternoon) and the openness and curiosity to get to know another person and yourself as you learn about photography and poetry. No special experience or talent needed. PEEL weekends will be January 27–29, February 3–5, 10–12, 17–19, March 24–26, and April 21–23. If one of these weekends works for you, sign up in the Commons or scan the QR code or contact Kristin Partlo or one of the pastors.



# **Announcements (continued)**

## **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 a breakfast in our hall prior to 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](mailto:sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org), or call the church office. Thank you very much!

## **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Thursday, January 12, from 1:00–6:00 p.m.**

Please consider helping by donating blood at our upcoming blood drive. Sign up at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html> or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

## **Courageous Conversations Book Group Resumes in January**

Courageous Conversations book group begins again on Thursday, January 26, at 4:00 p.m. This time our book is *The 1619 Project*, created by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones. The group meets every two weeks: January 26, February 9 & 23, March 9, 23 & 30, April 20, and May 11. Books are available at Content Bookstore in Northfield. Please contact [dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com) to sign up and receive the reading plan and Zoom link!

## **Next Edition of the Voice: February/March 2023**

Please send submissions to [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) by Sunday, January 15.

# **Children and Youth**

**Wednesday Afterschool Programming for Children Kindergarten–5<sup>th</sup> Grade will Resume this Wednesday, January 11**

## **Middle School and High School Youth 2023 Summer Mission Trips**

Looking forward to the Mission trip next year? Both our HS and MS youth are going to **Nashville, Tennessee from June 24–July 1**. We are working with CSM mission partner, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, and First UCC to plan for two mission experiences in Nashville. The trip cost is \$400 per participant. Contact Emmanuel for additional information and to sign up.

## **Contact information for Children and Youth**

*Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at [childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

*Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at [youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org)*

## **Prayer Requests**

*We are called to remember one another in prayer. The church office has been made aware of the following persons for whom we pray today. This list is also for your use this week.*

### **Healing and Support**

*Those in the hospital or in need of healing*

Brad Knoch, George Pinc, Doris Ellingboe (mother of Karen Schuette),  
Bruce Hella (brother of Karl Hella), Aarin Morse (son of Roberta Morse),  
Melisa Simonet (daughter of Julian Trangsrud)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Scott Barvir, Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Donna James,  
Carolyn Jennings, Delores Nelson, Becky Ness, Paul Peterson, John Quam,  
Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom,  
Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

*All who are homebound, including*

Lester Gunderson, Tom Fjelde, 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*

Call one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

*Prayer Chain Requests*

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or [macisar@gmail.com](mailto: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 11:  
*Meatball Stroganoff with Vegetarian Option*

**All are welcome!**

*Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.*

# **This Week At-a-Glance**

*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed  
on our website at [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

<b>Monday, Jan. 9</b>	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom St. John's Foundation, Fireside Room Girl Scout Troop Leaders Meeting, Undercroft
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 10</b>	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Budget Committee, Fireside Room Church Board Meetings (2022 Boards), St. John's Hall
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 11</b>	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Northfield Grief Support Group, Fireside Room Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room J-Term Confirmation (Grades 6-8) Where Politics Meets Faith Conversation Group, Fireside Room Bible Overview for Grown-Ups, Room 19
<b>Thursday, Jan. 12</b>	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilters, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library American Red Cross Blood Drive, St. John's Hall Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library Executive Committee via Zoom
<b>Friday, Jan. 13</b>	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Mary Circle, Fireside Room NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Jan. 14</b>	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, St. John's Library
<b>Sunday, Jan. 15</b>	8:30 a.m.  10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary (For the schedule between services, please see page 11) Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary



St. John's  
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

500 Third Street West

Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

Pam Fickenschner, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers / Steve Harner, *Facility Managers*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Emmanuel Kaghondi, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Children's Music Director and Early Childhood Specialist*

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

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