

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 26, 2025 † 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 — *Suite Gothique*, Op. 25

Leon Boëllmann

I. Introduction — Choral

II. Menuet gothique

## Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn — ELW No. 843

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

## \*Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

☞ Amen.

☞ Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations  
of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

☞ **you speak blessing and compassion into the world.  
Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty,  
or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to  
scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.  
Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.  
Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair  
your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

☞ God proclaims these words of assurance:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine.”  
In † Christ, you are forgiven.  
In the Spirit, you are made free.  
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.

☞ Amen.



<sup>6</sup>It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-<sup>1</sup>vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom <sup>1</sup>to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>The statutes of the LORD are just and re-<sup>1</sup>joice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light <sup>1</sup>to the eyes.

*Antiphon*

**First Reading** — 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Pew Bible, page 933

*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** — Luke 4:14-21

Spark Story Bible, page 252

- The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."  
<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all  
in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scrip-  
ture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 401

"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"

*Stanzas 1-3*

\*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

- ℙ 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*

“Rise, Shine!”

Spiritual, arr. Marques Garrett and Tom Trenney

*Rise, shine! for the light is a-comin'; rise, an' shine! for the light is a-comin'; oh, rise, shine! for the light is a-comin', my Lord says he's comin' by an' by. This is the year of jubilee, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by. My Lord has set his people free, my Lord says he's comin' by an' by. Wet or dry, I intend to try, to serve the Lord until I die. I intend to shout an' never stop, until I reach that mountain top.*

*Ian Carter, baritone*

\*Offering Hymn — “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” *stanza 1*

SALZBURG

**Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
manifested by the star to the sages from afar,  
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**

## \*Offering Prayer

- ℒ Let us pray.
- ☩ **God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.  
Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts,  
our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with  
gratitude and generosity, now and always. 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 — “My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, O God” from *Holden Evening Prayer*

1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my spir-it re-joic-es in you,  
 2. You have cast the might-y down from their thrones, and up-lift-ed the hum-ble of heart,

You have looked with love on your ser-vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
 You have filled the hun-gry with won-drous things, and left the wealth-y no part.

Great and might-y are you, O Ho-ly One, strong is your kind-ness ev-er-more.  
 Great and might-y are you, O Faith-ful One, strong is your jus-tice, strong your love,

How you fa-vor the weak and low-ly one, hum-bling the proud of heart.  
 As you prom-ised to Sar-ah and A-bra-ham, kind-ness for-ev-er-more.

Text and Tune: Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

### Hymn — ELW No. 551

### “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

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

**\*Prayer after Communion**

- ℒ Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
- ☩ **Amen.**

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

- ☩ **Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 314

“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude** — “Psalm 19 — The Heavens Declare”

Benedetto Marcello



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

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Ron Hebensperger (10:45) TBD
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	Ian Carter, Church Music Intern
Communion Prep	Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Craig Schultz
Greeters	(8:30) TBD (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Angie Gehring, Craig Schultz
Refreshments	Rhonda Reece
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Judd Lohmann, Janell Martin
Ushers	(8:30) Leif Knecht, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Todd Menssen, Bob Nyvall, Mark Rydberg, Eric Sponheim

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This Week (January 26)***

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)

### ***Next Week (February 2)***

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)

# Announcements

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

**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 507-645-4429 or [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). Available Dates: February 2 & 23 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31.

## **2025 Budget Preview**

Council leadership will be offering a preview of the proposed church budget for 2025 on **Wednesday, January 29, at 6:15 p.m.** after the Wednesday Night Meal in the Fireside Room. This is an opportunity to get your questions answered prior to the annual meeting on Sunday, February 2.

## **Out'n About**

**Tomorrow, Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m., St. John's Hall**

Out'n About is thrilled to announce that Professor Charles Woodward will be joining us as our first speaker. Professor Woodward's talk is titled *New Views of the Cosmos From Your James Webb Telescope: Wonders and Mysteries*. Dr. "Chick" Woodward is a Professor in the Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics at the University of Minnesota. Our second speaker will be Logan Wells who grew up in Northfield. He will speak on "From Bridgewater School to KYMN News Director." Logan grew up in Northfield and attended Bridgewater School and Arcadia. Register for this event by emailing [outnabouto22@gmail.com](mailto:outnabouto22@gmail.com) or calling 507-301-9094. Cost is \$15 and payable the day of the event (cash or check only). The \$15 includes speaker, coffee/treats, and Hideaway Vault bag lunch.

## **The Courageous Conversations Series Resumes**

**Thursday, February 6, 7:00–8:30 p.m.**

The theme for 2024–2025 is, "We Belong to One Another." Our February 6 speaker is Rachel Williams, a senior at St. Olaf College studying economics, political science, and religion with a concentration in Middle Eastern studies. Her presentation is called "Rethinking Hope: the Palestinian concept of *Sumud*." She will draw on her 2024 internship in Jerusalem and Palestine to reframe the idea of hope in the context of those living through occupation and war. Rachel is the 2024 recipient of the NJP/I Ruth Hansen Palestine Travel Scholarship.

**"Revelation Unveiled: An Enduring Hope"** is a new Bible study on the book of Revelation, facilitated by Julie Zdenek, using as a reference her father's notes and lectures on the subject (which he taught here at St. John's in the early 1990s) as well as *Revelation for the Rest of Us* by Scott McKnight. It will be an eight week study on Zoom, Tuesdays from 5:30–6:30 p.m., probably starting in early February. Please contact Julie if you are interested: [julie.zdenek@gmail.com](mailto:julie.zdenek@gmail.com) or 618-698-4870.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **A Grace-Based Approach to Anti-Racism**

ELCA members from the Cannon River conference of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod are gathering to learn and build capacity for doing the work of inclusion with the Tending the Garden project. Led by the ELCA group Just Move, members of 10 different congregations will take part in two retreats and monthly Zoom gatherings. Leaders Dave Scherer and Joe Davis use poetry, music, conversation, and self-reflection to help us connect our faith with the issues of race, privilege, and equity in our communities. The St. John's Council is providing funding through the Foundation to allow St. John's members to take part. There is no cost to members, but participants should commit to both retreats and more than half of the monthly sessions. Contact one of the pastors for more information or to connect with other participants.

- Opening In-Person Retreat: Sunday, February 23 from 2:00–6:00 p.m. Good Earth Village is an option for a meeting location. (Backup date for Opening Retreat: Saturday, March 22)
- Closing Retreat: Saturday, September 27 from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

## **Children and Youth**

### **Good Earth Village Summer Camp Registrations are Now Open**

#### **Northfield Week is June 22-27**

Good Earth Village, located in Spring Valley, has opened the 2025 summer registration site online. Check out the schedule and registration fees on Good Earth Village's website at <https://goodearthvillage.org/summer>. St. John's gifts each camper a portion of the fee.

Check out these Registration Discounts:

- The Super Early Bird discount of 20% goes until January 26 with code SUPEREARLY2025
- Siblings can receive 25% off with code SIBLING2025
- Early Bird discount of 10% goes until March 2 with code EARLY2025

Does your camper want to attend more than one summer camp session? Each additional tier-priced reservation can receive a 25% multi-week discount with code MULTI2025. (Only one discount code per registration.)

### **Summer 2025 Summer Trip**

This summer's trip will be backpacking (for high school) and camping & hiking (for middle school) at Christikon in Montana. Youth and chaperones from St. John's, St. Peter's, and First UCC will adventure in the mountains July 19–27. Sign up by February 15!

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

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

*Kristin Partlo, 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*

Ingrid Alberding, Bill Carlson, Darlene Hand, Fred Huemoeller,  
Carol Schoen, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

*Those mourning the loss of a loved one*

Family of Henry De Vries (brother of Ray De Vries)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Scott Quinnell,  
Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Kathy Vang

*All who are homebound, including*

Billi Faillettaz, 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](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 29:  
*Swedish Meatballs w/Mashed Potatoes*

**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**

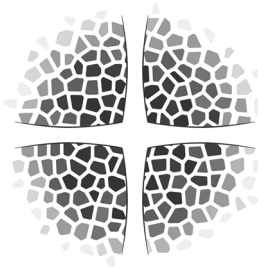
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed on our website at [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

<b>Monday, Jan. 27</b>	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans, St. John's Hall Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Pub Theology, Froggz BSA Troop #9313 / #7313 Court of Awards, St. John's Hall
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 28</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m.  10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall 7th Grade Courage Retreat, St. John's Hall S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Writing Group: Inspired Pens, St. John's Library Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 29</b>	3:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m.  7:00 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten - Grade 5), St. John's Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall J-Term Confirmation (Grades 6-8) High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Jan. 30</b>	7:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall Book Buddies, St. John's Library Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
<b>Friday, Jan. 31</b>	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Feb. 1</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, Feb. 2</b>	8:30 a.m.  10:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	Worship, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i> Worship, Sanctuary Annual Meeting, St. John's Hall

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 2):**

*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*

**Jeremiah 1:4-10 † Psalm 71:1-6 † 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 † Luke 4:21-30**



# St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD-MN

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Northfield, MN 55057  
507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)  
[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://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, *Director 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.*