



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 29, 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.*

☐ Pastor, ☐ Leader (Assisting Minister), ☐ 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 — Prelude and Fugue in G minor

J. S. Bach

Dina Dautova, piano

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 533

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**C we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

Our hearts have turned away from you.

For the sake of the world you so love,

**forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

P Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare.” God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

*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

- ☐ Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD. ⁶With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

- ☐ The word of the Lord.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain — *first time cantor, then all singing*

Lord, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?
Who may a - bide up - on your ho - ly hill?

Psalm Settings for the Church Year, © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

Cantor: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart; they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor. In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.

Refrain — *all*

Cantor: They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word. They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Refrain — *all*

Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

📖 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 5:1-12**

Spark Story Bible, page 264

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 1049

“Before the Waters Nourished Earth”

*Apostles' Creed

Front of ACS hymnal, page 17

*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

on ST. COLUMBA

Charles V. Stanford

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

SALZBURG

Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je-sus, Lord, to thee we raise; man-i-fest-ed
by the star to the sa-ges from a-far, branch of roy-al Da-vid's stem in thy birth at
Beth-le-hem: an-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i-fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth; Music: Jakob Hintze

*Offering Prayer

☒ Let us pray.

☑ **Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through 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.

Hymn — ELW No. 312


“Jesus, Come! For We Invite You”

*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:  Amen.

***Sending Hymn — “Sing a New World into Being”**

NETTLETON



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home,
Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry



Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled in God's sha - lom;
for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;




dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and ven - ge - ance cease.
when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, © 2006 GIA Publications; Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

***Dismissal**

 Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

 Thanks be to God!

Postlude — on NETTLETON

Marilyn Biery



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Gordon Moore (10:45) Mark Rydberg
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims
Piano	Dina Dautova
Communion Service	Jill Enestvedt
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Gerri Licke, Patrice Nordstrand (10:45) TBD
Coffee / Refreshments	Grant Aaseng, Dawn Tommerdahl, Mark Toov
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Chris and Martha Erickson
Ushers	(8:30) Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie, Keri Peterson, Joran Peterson

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (January 29)

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)
Piano Recital by Dina Dautova, (10:00–10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Next Week (February 5)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons
Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Day Signups, Commons
Toddler Time (9:50–10:30 a.m., Room 14)
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)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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 or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: February 5, 19 & 26.

St. John's Annual Meeting

Today, 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.

Thank You Coffee Hour

Today Between Services in St. John's Hall

So many people, making such a difference in our life at St. John's, in a very good way! We will be celebrating the people who leave their mark on our church home with cake and coffee between services. New this year: paper banners on the wall in St. John's Hall for you to give a shout out/thank you to the people or groups that have made you smile, made you laugh, made you think over the last years. This annual event took a break in 2021 and 2022, and it's back this year, because you all kept doing the amazing things that we appreciate. Let's begin a new tradition of recognizing the things (big or small) that make St. John's our church home!

Update on the St. John's Hall Acoustic Improvement Project

St. John's is bringing to a conclusion the Acoustic Improvement Project for St. John's Hall. Many members have expressed interest in making a contribution to the project, which is part of the church's overall ministry and commitment to those with hearing loss. Members may make a donation to the project between now and the end of February. If you are interested in knowing more about the project and possibly making a contribution to this initiative, please contact Pastor Pam or congregation president, Rod Christensen.

Courageous Conversations: Entertaining Angels Unawares

Thursday, February 2, 7:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

Northfield resident Gina Washburn—retired lawyer and Chair of First UCC's Immigrant Welcoming Ministry—traveled this October to the US/Mexico border with fellow UCC members to “bear witness to the conditions at our border.” Gina will share stories of people and organizations from whom she obtained first-hand knowledge, as well as provide facts about migration at the border and will offer recommendations about how we can contribute to helping our neighbors.

Announcements (continued)

As Tim Byers retires from his nearly nine years of service as St. John's Facility Manager, the Property & Grounds Board invites you to join in saying thank you. A collection box for notes and cash gifts will be available this morning and during the annual meeting.

The Evening Gathering: An Ecumenical Worship on Sunday Evenings Sundays, 6:00 p.m., First UCC (300 Union St., Northfield)

A new ecumenical worship service is created and carried out by laypeople from local churches. You are invited to join on Sunday evenings at First UCC for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare us for the week.

Sunday Suppers Return

Sunday, February 19, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

The Adult Ministry & Education Board has received many positive comments about the "Summer Suppers" held in July and August. There was a suggestion by one of the hosts that perhaps we should try to bring people together during the dark winter months when we don't seem to take those special moments together. We need to have both hosts and supper attendees sign up by Sunday, February 12. This can be done either by signing up online or in the Commons. We hope to have many St. John's members gathering at different locations throughout Northfield on a Sunday evening and enjoying great food and conversation. For additional information on how the Sunday Suppers work, please check the E-Voice or The Voice.

Oral History Update

You can listen to a 30-minute interview with Char and Bill Carlson about their decades-long experience as members of St. John's, including their work in coordinating the Christmas Day Dinner. Click on the "About" tab on the main page of the website, and then scroll down to "Oral Histories."

St. John's "Volunteer Day" for Habitat for Humanity Home Build

Saturday, February 25, 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Twin Lake Court, Faribault

Next Sunday, February 5, Jodi Wagner from Habitat for Humanity will be in the Commons during coffee hour to answer questions about the project and assist with volunteer sign-up.

Children and Youth

Valentine's Party

Sunday, February 12, during Sunday School

Our 3rd–5th graders are planning a Valentine's Party for the PreK–2nd graders on February 12 during our regular Sunday school time. Enjoy games, treats, and crafts with a Valentine's theme. Parents are welcome to attend too. Hope you'll be part of the fun!

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 Kmoch, Joann Rodland, Don Sahling, Doris Ellingboe (mother of Karen Schuette), 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, Dolores 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, or contact a pastor.

Wednesday Night



**Served from 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.
in St. John's Hall**

Menu for Wednesday, February 1:
*Beef Enchilada Casserole
(Vegetarian Option Available)*

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

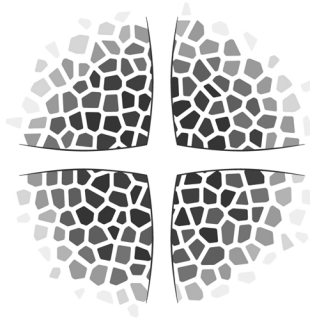
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Monday, Jan. 30	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Jan. 31	7:30 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
Wednesday, Feb. 1	12:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study, Fireside Room
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	4:00 p.m.	Northfield Grief Support Group, Fireside Room
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Overview for Grown-Ups, Room 19
		Where Politics Meets Faith Conversation, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
	7:30 p.m.	Ubuntu Youth Group, St. John's
Thursday, Feb. 2	7:30 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Three Links, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	7:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversations, St. John's Hall
Friday, Feb. 3	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Feb. 4	9:00 a.m.	Council Retreat, Offsite
Sunday, Feb. 5	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 5):

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a † Psalm 112:1-9 † 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 † Matthew 5:13-20



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*

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.