



# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 2, 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 — on HYFRYDOL

Ralph Vaughan Williams

## Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn — ELW No. 631

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*Stanzas 2 & 3 may be sung in harmony.*

## \*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.

**\*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**

- ☐ Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Children's Message**

**First Reading** — Jeremiah 1:4-10

Pew Bible, page 609

*After the reading:*

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

**Psalmody** — Psalm 71:1-6

Antiphon: Daniel Kallman

*Antiphon: From my mother's womb you have been my strength.*



- <sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I | taken refuge;  
let me never be | put to shame.
- <sup>2</sup>**In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;**  
**incline your ear to | me and save me.**
- <sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;  
you are my crag | and my stronghold.
- <sup>4</sup>**Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,**  
**from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor. Antiphon**

<sup>5</sup>For you are my hope, <sup>1</sup>O Lord GOD,  
my confidence since <sup>1</sup>I was young.

**<sup>6</sup>I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;  
from my mother's womb you have <sup>1</sup>been my strength;  
my praise shall be al- <sup>1</sup>ways of you. Antiphon**

## Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup>but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## \*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>21</sup>Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” <sup>23</sup>He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” <sup>24</sup>And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. <sup>25</sup>But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**Hymn of the Day** — ELW No. 722

“O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate”

\*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:*

- Ⓛ 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) "More Love"

Shaker hymn, arr. Sid Davis

*More love, more love; the heavens are blessing, the angels are calling,  
O Zion, more love. If ye love not each other in daily communion,  
how can ye love God, whom ye have not seen?*

*St. John's Chorale*

(10:45) "Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue"

Emma Lou Diemer

**\*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.**

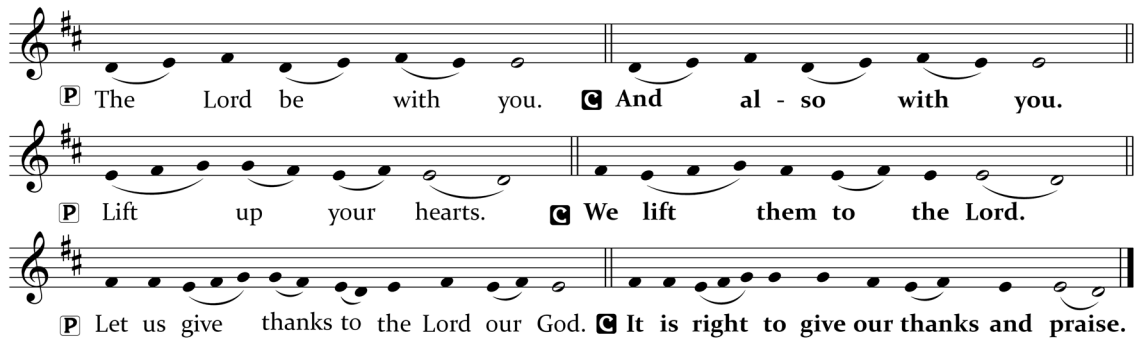
## \*Offering Prayer

**L** Let us pray.

**C** 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

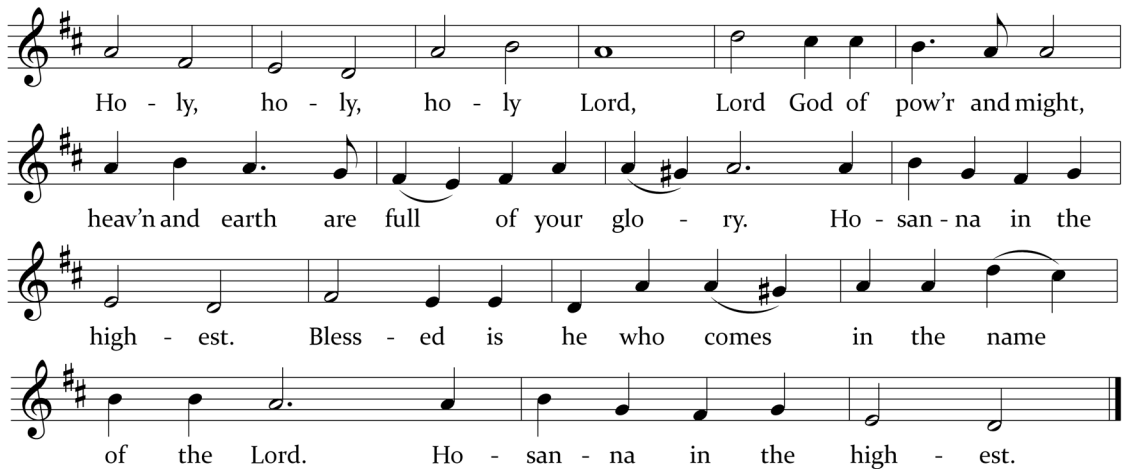


**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**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



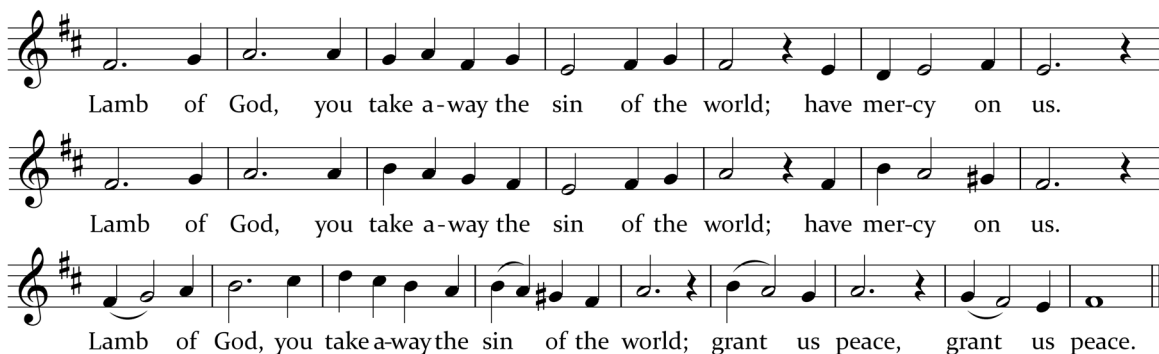
## \*The Lord's Prayer

**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 — ELW No. 644

"Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue"

Hymn — ELW No. 510

"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

## \*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. 836

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

**\*Dismissal**

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

**Postlude** — “Fanfare”

Guy Eldridge



### **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 9):**

*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

Isaiah 6:1-8 † Psalm 138 † 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 † Luke 5:1-11

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

Preaching and Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Rob Quanbeck and Dawn Tommerdahl
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Cantor	(10:45) Elizabeth Bade
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	Craig Schultz
Greeters	(8:30) Christine and Gary Engstrom, Mary Ellen North (10:45) Craig Schultz
Coffee Service	Fran Wood
Refreshments	Kibby Errington, Rhonda Reece, Carol Benson
Counters	Reed Hagberg, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Chuck Canon, Jon and Alison Kavanaugh, Gordon Moore

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This 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)

### ***Next Week (February 9)***

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)

# 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 23 and March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30.

**Today's flowers** are given to celebrate Pat Fick's February 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday with love from her family.

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

**Today, 12:00 p.m., St. John's Hall**

The agenda will include the election of 2025 Board and Council members, along with the approval of the 2025 congregational budget. The Hearing Loop in the Hall will be operational for those who need hearing assistance.

## **The Courageous Conversations Series Resumes**

**Thursday, February 6, 7:00–8:30 p.m., St. John's Hall**

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.

## **St John's Forum**

**Sunday, February 16, 9:45 a.m.**

*Ascending the Mountain: Genesis 22 in Jewish and Christian Interpretations* with Jason Ripley  
God's command in Genesis 22 for Abraham to sacrifice Isaac is viewed by many as one of the more terrifying texts of the Bible, and yet it is also often upheld as the pinnacle of faithfulness. In this forum presentation, we will engage in a close reading of this short passage and the questions it poses, and then explore how the Jewish and Christian interpretive traditions have variously grappled with this powerful text. Professor Ripley, an associate professor of Religion at St. Olaf College, is also a member of St. John's.

## **Wellspring Circle**

Wellspring meets on Tuesday, February 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Wellspring is a women's circle primarily focused on Generation-X (born 1965–1980). We welcome all women who are Gen-X or close to Gen-X age. We use the ELCA Faith Lens blog to guide our discussion. <https://blogs.elca.org/FaithLens>

## **Announcements (continued)**

“**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.

### **Fare for All Food Group**

**Everyone and anyone can shop at Fare For All** across 30+ pop up sites in the Twin Cities and Greater MN. Shop for quality, nutritious foods at discount and budget-friendly prices. We follow a co-op model, so the more people who shop, the better the discounts. Fare For All buys fresh produce and frozen meat in bulk from wholesalers, manufacturers, and growers. Volunteers bundle it into \$10–\$30 packages that are sold at sale locations. Northfield distribution is located at: St. Dominic’s Church, 104 Linden St. N. on February 13 from 3:30–5:30 p.m. Pay by credit, debit, EBT, or cash. Website: <https://www.thefoodgroupmn.org/groceries/fare-for-all>

## **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:

- Siblings can receive 25% off with code SIBLING2025
- Early Bird discount of 10% goes until March 2 with code EARLY2025

### **Valentine’s Party, Sunday, February 9 during Sunday School**

PreK–5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to a Valentine’s Party on February 9 during our regular Sunday school time. Enjoy games, treats, crafts, and a service project with a Valentine’s theme. Parents are welcome to attend too. Hope you’ll be part of the fun!

### **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!

## 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, Jo Kleber,  
Sue Renander, Carol Schoen, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

*Those mourning the loss of a loved one*

Family of Donald Baasch (brother of Dolores Nelson)

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

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

*All who are homebound, including*

Carol Johnson, David Halsor

*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, February 5:  
*Mac & Cheese w/Hot Dogs*

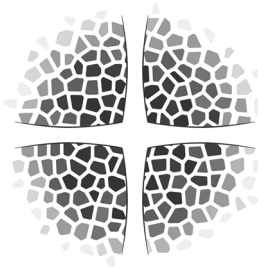
**All are welcome!**

*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, Feb. 3</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, TBD
	7:00 p.m.	Northfield Girl Scouts Troop Leader Meeting, Undercroft
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 4</b>	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
	6:00 p.m.	Wellspring Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room Northfield Rotary, St. John's Library
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 5</b>	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee, Undercroft
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten - Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Knitters, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Feb. 6</b>	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Courageous Conversations, St. John's Hall
<b>Friday, Feb. 7</b>	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Cookie Rally, Lower Level
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Feb. 8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
<b>Sunday, Feb. 9</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11.)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, 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 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.*