



SERVICE OF THE WORD

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

FEBRUARY 14, 2021 † 9:00 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are listening this morning!

During the season of COVID-19 pandemic, St. John's will continue to follow state and federal guidance for public gatherings. We deeply miss seeing our community in person and eating at the Lord's table together. We hold fast to the knowledge that we are not the first generation to experience fear of deadly disease, and we are not the first community separated unwillingly by circumstances.

We know that the resources of our faith can sustain us as we are apart.

Our prayer is that in this broadcast you can hear the Holy Spirit speaking to you through the Word; that you can sing along and join in fervent prayer for our world, and that as we share the peace, you can set an intention to reach out, in whatever ways this moment allows, to share God's love with someone else.



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 — Two settings of DEO GRACIAS

Paul Hofreiter, Kevin Uppercue

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God,

C you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin.

We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.

We distrust those who are not like us.

We exploit the earth and its resources.

Forgive us, gracious God,

for all we have done and left undone.

Even before the words are on our tongues,

you know them;

receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

P How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,

our sins are washed away and

we are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be

the beloved community living out Christ's justice

and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C Amen.

***Gathering Hymn — “Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair” (#316)**

DEO GRACIAS

Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by
 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and
 glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
 car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
 deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
 this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us
 moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 Ho - ly One says, “This is my be - lov - ed Son.”
 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
 song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale; Music: English ballad, 15th cent.

***Greeting**

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- A** And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

- P** Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure our vision of the world, and illumine it with your image, 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 — 2 Kings 2:1-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Antiphon: Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory.



- ¹The mighty one, God the | LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.
- ²**Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,**
God shines | forth in glory. *Antiphon*
- ³Our God will come and will | not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a | raging storm.
- ⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth | from above**
to witness the judgment | of the people.
- ⁵“Gather before me my | loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice.”
- ⁶**The heavens declare the rightness | of God’s cause,**
for it is God | who is judge. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- 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.

*Gospel — Mark 9:2-9

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

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

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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 — "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" (ACS #954) PICARDY



You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd. You, Lord, are both
Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain, stripped of might up -
You, who walk each day be - side us, sit in pow - er
Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus! Wor - thy is our



prince and slave. You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
on the cross, shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
at God's side. You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
cos - mic Christ! Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave. You, the ev - er - last - ing
beg - garded by a sol - dier's toss, you, the ev - er - last - ing
have a love that reach - es wide. You, the ev - er - last - ing
wor - thy still your peace and strife. You, the ev - er - last - ing



in - stant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.
in - stant; you, who are both gift and cost.
in - stant; you, who are our pil - grim guide.
in - stant; you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, © 1991 GIA Publications; Music: French folk tune, 17th cent.

*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:

“Beautiful Savior”

Aaron David Miller

*Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky*

***Blessing of the Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts**

After each petition:

- Ⓟ God of the world,
- ⓐ **help us see hope in our neighbors.**

*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.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Blessing

Response:

☐ Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” (#424)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and
O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the ser - a -
O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems ech - o -
thrones, raise the glad strain: “Al - le - lu - ia!” Cry out, do -
phim, lead their prais - es: “Al - le - lu - ia!” Thou bear - er
ing: “Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!” To God the
min - ions, prince - doms, pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:
of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:
Mak - er, God the Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:
“Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!” Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: J. Athelstan Riley, © Oxford University Press; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — “Cornet Processional”

David Dahl



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Dennis and Jane Rinehart, Cindy McBroom
Organist	Nathan Proctor

**Today in Worship We Celebrate
the Work of St. John’s Quilters**

Even during this pandemic year they delivered 32 quilts to Lutheran World Relief in November and 29 quilts for the CAC’s Operating Joy. Today more than 20 grace our pews before they go to Lutheran World Relief.

Materials and shipping costs for quilts are supported by your offerings. Because we cannot do a special in-person offering this year, the Benevolence & Social Concerns Board is designating funds to the quilting projects from their budget.

Thank you to the following quilters:

Pam Groves-Gaggioli
Cindy McBroom
Liz Wicks
Tricia Peterson
Carolyn Nitz
Sue Sharrow
Kathy Vang

Dao Hella
Marie Struss
Marie Benson
Mary Holleque
Cindy Clauson
Jane Rinehart
Dennis Rinehart

Dodie Mickelsen
Judy Smith
Shirley Falk
Marilyn Jacobson
Marilyn Boschee
Judy Pinc
Val Dennison

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Curtis Swenson and family in loving memory of Karen Swenson. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Next available dates: April 25 and May 9 & 16. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV)-cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Mardi Gras Drive-Thru Rescheduled

Next Sunday, February 21, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate the start of the Lenten season with a Mardi Gras Drive-Thru at St. John's! From your car, check out the stations along the way (listed below). The event starts at the corner of Poplar and Third Streets with a Welcome Greeting. Stops along the way:

- **BINGO Hunt/Mardi Gras Bells and Beads** - Begin at the Welcome station and pick up a Drive-Thru BINGO card, Mardi Gras bells, and beads.
- **Children's Activity Packet for Lent**
- **Children's Mardi Gras Mask Craft**
- **Hide "Alleluia" Craft for All**
- **Heart-Shaped Sugar Cookies**
- **Valentine Treat Bags**
- **Pancake Toss Game**
- **Easter Card Project** - Send Easter cards to St. John's members. Stop by and receive an addressed envelope, card, and instructions from the Adult Ministry & Education Board.
- **CAC Food and Essential Items Donation Drive** - Drop off items for the CAC/St. John's Blessing Box. Check out what items are needed most at: <https://communityactioncenter.org/files/CAC-5-Most-Wanted-Flyer.pdf>.
- **Northfield Promise Children's Book Drive** - Donate new and/or gently used books for Northfield children, ages birth-8th grade. February is "I Love to Read" month. Northfield Promise wants to build the supply of books for distributing to children during spring and summer breaks, as well as support teachers by supplying their classrooms with new and diverse titles. Content Bookstore has created a link with a wish list for easy sharing and online ordering.
- **Bread for the World** - Offering of Letters to support Bread for the World's mission to end world hunger.
- **St. John's Quilters** - Donate sheets/fabric to make quilts/bandages for LWR. Ready to sew kits for making a quilt top will be available to take home too.
- **Blessing and Sending with St. John's Pastors** - Pick up a daily devotion book for the season of Lent.

Announcements (continued)

St. John's Women are Offering "Jesus Sees Women," a Lenten Bible Study via Zoom

Thursdays, 12:00 p.m., February 18-March 25

The study is written by St. John's partners in ministry, Cynthia Holder Rich and Mark Rich, theology faculty at Tumaini University, Tanzania. St. John's Women Baby Boomers are enjoying the study on Saturdays and would like to open up a second class for the St. John's community. To register, email Julie Zdenek (facilitator) at women.stjohns500@gmail.com. For more information about the study, visit www.TheThoughtfulChristian.com.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, March 8, 1:00-6:00 p.m., St. John's Hall

We will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: St. John's Northfield to schedule an appointment.

Update from the Safe Operating Task Force

The Safe Operating Task Force, in light of improved infection rates, is allowing for small group meetings of up to 10 people in St. John's beginning February 1, with physical distancing rules observed. All groups meeting in the building must schedule with the church office by calling 507-645-4429 or contacting Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

The Adult Ministry & Education Board is pleased to offer members and friends of St. John's the opportunity to participate in the annual Lenten book read.

This year's book is *A Cross in the Heart of God: Reflections on the Death of Jesus* by Samuel Wells. The Canterbury Press Lent book for 2021 focuses on the significance of the story at the very center of Christianity: the crucifixion. Samuel Wells writes as a theologian and pastor to explore the cross in the purposes of God and how this act brings about salvation.

- Please email stjohnsadultministry@gmail.com to let us know if you or others in your household are interested in participating in one of the book groups. Or, you can go to CCB and complete the Lenten Book Read Interest form on the St. John's website: <https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/51/responses/new>.
- Ordering the Book: We encourage you to order your copy of the book through Content Bookstore in Northfield. Please order as soon as possible, as it will take approximately one week for the book to be ready for pick up once ordered. You will also need to pay for the book at the time of your order. The cost of the paperback is \$20.99. It is available for Kindle devices for \$15.99.
- Meeting Times: We anticipate that there will be two discussion groups. A third group may be added if responses warrant. Each group will meet four times between February 21 - March 14. The book group facilitators will follow up with you about preferred meeting day and time. As a reminder, Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 28.

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

John Alsaker, Eric Nicholson, Susan Rudser

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

The Family of Gordon Smith

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marlene Engstrom, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Delores Nelson,
Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Jim Thompson,
Howard Thorsheim, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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;
Mark Rich and Cynthia Holder Rich, ELCA missionaries in Tanzania

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

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (February 21):

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17 † Psalm 25:1-10 † 1 Peter 3:18-22 † Mark 1:9-15

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art from *Icon 1*.

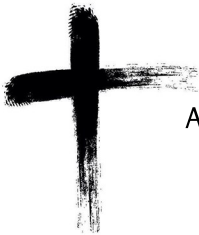
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This Week At-a-Glance

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

Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (www.kymnradio.net).

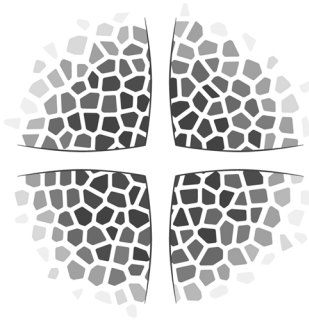
Monday, Feb. 15	12:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Feb. 16	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers via Zoom
Wednesday, Feb. 17	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
	6:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship via Livestream
Thursday, Feb. 18	12:00 p.m.	“Jesus Sees Women,” a Lenten Bible Study via Zoom
Friday, Feb. 19	5:00 p.m.	Wedding Rehearsal - Peterson/Westbrook
Saturday, Feb. 20	4:00 p.m.	Wedding - Peterson/Westerbrook
Sunday, Feb. 21	9:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream
	10:00 a.m.	Virtual Sunday School via Zoom
		Virtual Youth Group via Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour via Zoom
	5:00 p.m.	Mardi Gras Drive-Thru



Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 17

As the days slowly lengthen, we begin the holy season of Lent.
Join us for a livestream service at 6:30 p.m.

Watch for an email this week describing how
to prepare ashes for the service.



St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Tim Byers, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / Finance Manager

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Christy Hall-Holt, Welcome Ministry Coordinator

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families

Sally Lindell, Parish Nurse

Arielle Loy, Director of Alleluia Choir

Zachery Pelletier, Director of Rejoice Ringers

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, Security and Custodial Assistants

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

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