



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 23, 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 — *Psalm Preludes Set 1, No. 2*

Herbert Howells

“But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.”

– Psalm 37:11

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 711

“O Day of Peace”

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

G Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

G 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.

P 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.

G 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

- ☐ O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- ☑ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Pew Bible, page 37

After the reading:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 37

Antiphon: Aaron David Miller

Antiphon: The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.



- ¹Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.
- ²**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**
- ³Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴Take delight | in the LORD,
who shall give you your | heart's desire. *Antiphon*

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

¹⁰In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.

¹¹But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land;
they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and | rescue them;
because in you | they seek refuge. *Antiphon*

*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 6:27-38

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

📖 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good

measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 603

“God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”

*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) "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Brenda Portman

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. God has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with your God. For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord. Amen.

– Frederick W. Faber, Micah 6:8

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Timothy Shaw

*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

☐ 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

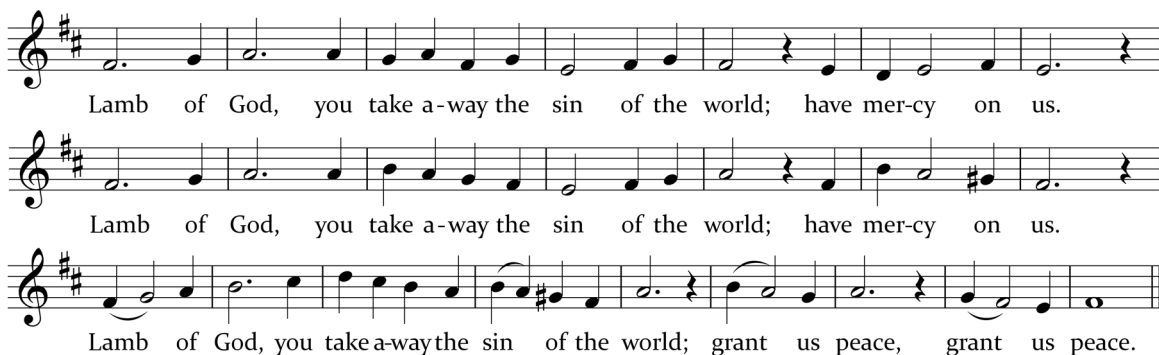
*The Lord's Prayer

**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.

(8:30) **Anthem** — "Lord, Have Mercy"

Undine Smith Moore

*Lord, have mercy on me. Christ, have mercy on me.
Every evening, every morning, Christ have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy on me.*

– Traditional

Hymn — ELW No. 733

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*Post-Communion Blessing

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

***Prayer after Communion**

- ☞ 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

(10:45) **Blessing and Sending of Susan and Carl Fox**

***Blessing**

Response: ☞ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 546

“To Be Your Presence”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — “Epilogue”

Norman Gilbert



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (March 2):

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 34:29-35 † Psalm 99 † 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2 † Luke 9:28-36

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Carol and Bruce Benson (10:45) Hassanally Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	(8:30) David Sims
Communion Prep	Craig Schultz
Communion Cleanup	Jill Enestvedt
Greeters	(8:30) Dan and Carrie Dauner (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Karl and Dao Hella
Refreshments	Dao Hella, Rhonda Reece
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Mark Ulmer, Pippa Younger
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 (February 23)

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)

St John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

Next Week (March 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)

St John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

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 office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: March 9, 16, 23 & 30.

St. John's Forum: *Qur'anic Abrahams with Jamie Schillinger*

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

This forum presentation explores the different ways in which the Abrahamic narratives appear in the Qur'an, how the Qur'anic depiction represents both continuity and change with the depiction in Genesis, and some ways that Muslims have interpreted both the Qur'anic and Genesis versions of Abraham. Professor Schillinger is chair of the religion department and the director of Middle East Studies at St. Olaf College.

Quilt Sunday is next Sunday, March 2

Quilts will be on the pews for a blessing before they are sent to Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries. Also, two quilts will be auctioned in a silent auction between services next Sunday in the Commons. The auction will end at 10:45 a.m. The two winners may choose any quilt from the pews and take it home after the second service. Donations are also appreciated for the Quilt and Kit Fund. Donation baskets will be at the entrances to the Sanctuary. If you would like to write a check, please make it payable to St. John's WELCA, with quilts and kits on the memo line. Many thanks to all who have donated fabric, supplies, money, and their time for making the quilts this past year! If you want to help the quilters, join us at 9:00 a.m. any Thursday in Fellowship Hall.

St. John's Forum: *Introduction to Our Lenten Book Read*

Next Sunday, March 2, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Dr. Lori Brandt Hale will introduce our Lenten Book Read with an adult forum on Dietrich Bonhoeffer and his legacy. Dr. Hale is Professor of Religion at Augsburg College and serves as President of the International Bonhoeffer Society, Board of Directors, English language section. She will introduce the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and contextualize his theology for our own times. She has written that the question for Christians today is not, "Is this a Bonhoeffer moment?" but instead, "Who is Christ for us now?"

Reminder of Deadlines

Please send all submissions electronically to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (April 2025 Edition): Due by March 15

Announcements (continued)

Lenten Book Read: *Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians* will be Available on March 2

Our Lenten book selection, *Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians*, sold out almost immediately this past Sunday. The books have been reordered and will be available for purchase again on March 2, in St. John's Hall before and after the forum. If you have not yet signed up for a discussion section, there will also be a sign-up sheet for you to do so.

Prayer Buddies for Grades 4 & 5 During the Lenten Season

Starting on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and continuing through the Lenten season, our 4th and 5th grade Catechism kids are paired with an adult member from our congregation to be their "Prayer Buddy." We ask Prayer Buddies to pray for their child during the Lenten season. With this program, we hope to create spiritual and caring connections with children and adults in our church community.

Electronic giving is a great way to support the ongoing ministry of St. John's, even when you are out of town or unable to worship in person. To sign up for electronic giving, contact Leah in the church office at 507-645-4429, or by email at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. "I Give Electronically" cards are now available in the pew racks, so you can show your support during the Sunday morning offering.

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

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 today!

Contact information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Kristin Partlo, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at 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

Darlene Hand, Fred Huemoeller, Jo Kleber, Sue Renander,
Carol Schoen, Darlene Schloeder (mother of April Fitzloff)

Those with ongoing health concerns

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

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, or contact a pastor.



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

Menu for Wednesday, February 26:
Taco Boats

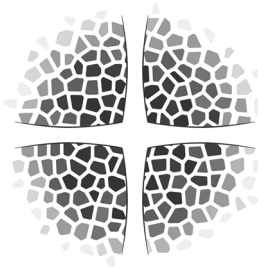
All are welcome!

*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, Feb. 24	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Feb. 25	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
	10:30 a.m.	Writing Group: "Inspired Pens", St. John's Library
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	5:30 p.m.	"Revelation Unveiled" Bible Study via Zoom
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council, Undercroft
Wednesday, Feb. 26	10:15 a.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite
	10:45 a.m.	Communion at NRC, Offsite
	11:15 a.m.	Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten - Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	5:45 p.m.	Prayer Buddy Get Together, Fireside Room
	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Feb. 27	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	1:30 p.m.	Book Buddies, St. John's Library
	4:00 p.m.	Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Feb. 28	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Mar. 1		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Mar. 2	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

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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*
Arturo Rosas, *Custodial Associate*
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.*