



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 5, 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.*

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 — “If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

Craig Phillips

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 769

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C Amen.

P Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and
do not trust your holy word; we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.

P Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave
the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for everyone.
God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C Amen.

*Greeting

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

C And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

P O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, 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 — Genesis 12:1-4a

Spark Story Bible, page 26

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 121



¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?

²My help comes | from the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.

³**The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.**

⁴**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
⁶the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.
⁷**The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.**
⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

Second Reading — Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🎵 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

We are turn - ing, Lord to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and
kind— slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***Gospel — John 3:1-17**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

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

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 948

“Womb of Life and Source of Being”

***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

(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 judgement 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 Faber, Micah 6:8

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten" BWV 642
"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

J. S. Bach

*Offering Hymn — "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

For music, see ELW No. 188

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

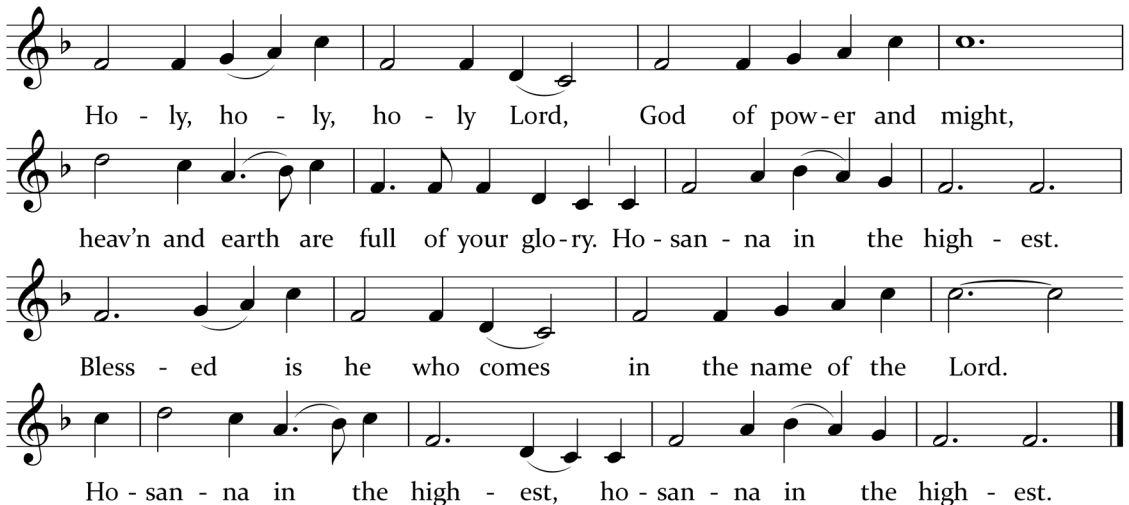
*Offering Prayer

- L** Let us pray.
- C** God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also 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, God of pow-er 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, 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"



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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.

(8:30) **Anthem** — "Lift Thine Eyes" from *Elijah*

Felix Mendelssohn

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber. – adapted from Psalm 121

Hymn — ELW No. 323

"God Loved the World"

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

℣ Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.

☞ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

☞ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 759

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

***Dismissal**

℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — on OLIVET

David Blackwell



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Fran Wood (10:45) Younger/Simpson-Younger Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Piano	(8:30) David Sims
Communion Prep	Angie Gehring
Communion Cleanup	TBD
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) TBD; (10:45) TBD
Coffee and Refreshments	TBD
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Jim Loe, David Nitz
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Kent Rommereim, Alison Kavanaugh, Jon Kavanaugh, Christy Hall-Holt, Olaf Hall-Holt

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (March 5)

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)
Lenten Book Discussions (9:45–10:45 a.m., Fireside Room)
Accompany (10:00–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (March 12)

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
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)
Lenten Book Discussions (9:45–10:45 a.m., Fireside Room)
Accompany (10:00–10:40 a.m., Undercroft)

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (March 12):

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7 † Psalm 95 † Romans 5:1-11 † John 4:5-42

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 Tony Becker and Beckie Judge. 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. Available Dates: March 19 & 26 and April 2, 9 & 30.

Pub Theology

Monday, March 6, 6:00–7:30 p.m., El Tequila Mexican Restaurant

Last week, the President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod called for the discipline of white supremacists who are disrupting LCMS congregations and threatening church leaders. While he does not have the power to do so alone, the church's documents provide a way to discipline and if necessary excommunicate those who are promoting heresy or harming the church. We will discuss what it means to call out un-Christian behavior or heretical ideas. What are the risks? Who gets to decide? What should church authority look like in an age of disinformation? Copies of the article are available at the Welcome Desk.

Sign up for St. John's Seraphs Summer Softball

It's time to start thinking about green grass and softball diamonds! Will you play for the St. John's Seraphs in Northfield's Summer 2023 Church Softball League? Sign up on the [St. John's Summer Softball Interest Form](#) (link available in the E-Voice). We hope that the 2023 team will be a combination of returning veterans and aspiring new talent. Recruit a friend and introduce them to St. John's through softball! As a reminder, players need to be high-school age and older. Games are played on Sunday evenings and will begin in late May. Questions? Contact Steve Taggart at staggart@northfieldschools.org, or Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

St. John's Forum: Sandi Gerdes with Laura Baker Services Association

Sunday, March 12, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

Laura Baker Services Association is grateful to be one of St. John's local mission partners. We look forward to updating everyone on what we've been up to since we were last able to be with you. We will talk about how we are emerging from Covid-19, our related triumphs and our challenges. We will talk about new initiatives (family navigation, housing support, and behavioral support services), update you on our creative arts, and share with you our advocacy needs.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent members can benefit St. John's at no cost to them by designating their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's. 2022 funds need to be directed by March 31. Log in to your account at thrivent.com to direct funds.

Announcements (continued)

St. John's Women (Men, too): Discover Dakota History

Thursday, March 16, 12:45 p.m.

Join us for an enriching afternoon in Shakopee, visiting Hočokata Ti's (*pronounced 'ho-cho-ka-ta tee'*) public exhibit, *Mdewakanton: Dwellers of the Spirit Lake*, which provides visitors with a cultural experience that enhances their knowledge and understanding of the Mdewakanton (*pronounced 'med-ah-wah-kah-ton'*) Dakota people and their history. From in-depth discussions to hands-on learning, this is an experience for everyone. A professional cultural interpreter will guide us through the exhibit, providing insight into the meaning behind the displays and artifacts. The cost is \$7.00, carpool from St. John's at 12:45 p.m. Sign up is required. Email women.stjohns500@gmail.com, or sign up at the women's bulletin board in the commons.

Oral History Update

Available on the St. John's website is a 30-minute interview with Marie and Duane Benson about their decades-long experience as members of St John's, including stories about their families, work, and experience in the many boards and activities of the church. You can hear the history and other interviews by clicking on the "About" tab on the main page of the website, and then scroll down to "Oral Histories."

LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP: WATERY WORDS

The Season of Lent is traditionally a time of baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal. We recommit to spiritual practices that remind us of our need for God and each other during these six weeks as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection.

This year we have invited five members of St. John's to speak around the themes of water, bringing together a watery word, or Scripture verse with their own experience.

Lenten Vespers—taken from the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy—will take place each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. from March 1 through March 29.

- March 8: David Zdenek
- March 15: Patsy Ophaug
- March 22: Ashley Gallagher
- March 29: Kathy Shea

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

Joanne Rodland, Don Sahling, Doris Ellingboe (mother of Karen Schuette),
Aarin Morse (son of Roberta Morse), Melisa Simonet (daughter of Julian Trangsrud),
John Walters Jr. (son of Barbara and John Walters)

Those with ongoing health concerns

Scott Barvir, Jo Chambers, Billi Faillettaz, Bob Flaten, Jane Gelle, Donna James,
Carolyn Jennings, Dagfinn Moe, Dolores Nelson, Becky Ness, Paul Peterson,
John Quam, Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Laila Burns Hedstrom,
Karl Jacobson (son of Pastor Del Jacobson)

All who are homebound, including

Richard Olson, David and Pat Halsor, Dolores Nelson

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, March 8:
Wild Rice & Ham Soup
Black Bean Soup

All are welcome!

Soup Suppers are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.

This Week At-a-Glance

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

Monday, Mar. 6	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	5:30 p.m.	Northfield Grief Coalition Support Group, Fireside Room
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, El Tequila Mexican Restaurant
Tuesday, Mar. 7	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
	10:30 a.m.	St. John's Women of the ELCA Committee, Undercroft
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
Wednesday, Mar. 8	9:30 a.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	4:30 p.m.	Lenten Book Discussions, Fireside Room
	5:15 p.m.	Lenten Soup Supper, St. John's Hall
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Vespers, Sanctuary
		Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall
		High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Mar. 9	7:30 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	1:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Mar. 10	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Mary Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Mar. 11	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, St. John's Library
Sunday, Mar. 12	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary (For the schedule between services, please see page 11)
	10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary



St. John's
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Pam Fickenschner, *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.