



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 8, 2020 † 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 pew hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship),
page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section,
and hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn section.*

An asterisk () invites you to stand as you are able.*

☐ Pastor, ☐ Leader (Assisting Minister), ☐ Congregation

***Children are welcome** to participate throughout our
worship service, including at Holy Communion.*

*Parents, please assist children when they come forward for communion
to extend their hands if they are to receive the bread and wine.*

***Children's Bibles and activity bags**
are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary
and scribble cards are available in the pews.*

*Hearing assistance devices are available outside the Sanctuary or from an usher.
For those with hearing aids, the Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop.*

Large print bulletins and hymns are available for worship services.



*St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace
and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as
we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance,
sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or
relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement,
political affiliation, or religious background.*

*While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together,
believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.*

We warmly welcome you here.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

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

Craig Phillips

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — No. 323

“God Loved the World”

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who gathers us in the wilderness
to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

C Amen.

P If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your
resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever.
Amen.**

P Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

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

- ☐ 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. ☑ Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Genesis 12:1-4a

Spark Story Bible, page 26; Pew Bible, page 8

After the reading:

- ☐ The word of the Lord. ☑ 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.**

After the reading:

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

***Gospel Acclamation**

KAS DZIEDĀJA

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

Pew Bible, page 863

Before the reading:

- The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

- The Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — No. 796

“How Firm a Foundation”

***The Apostles' Creed**

Front of the hymnal, page 127

*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) "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

arr. David Cherwien

If you but trust in God to guide you, with hopeful heart through all your ways, you will find strength, with God beside you, to bear the worst of evil days; for those who trust God's changeless love build on the rock that will not move. What gain is there futile weeping, in helpless anger and distress? If you are in God's care and keeping, in sorrow will God love you less? For Christ who took for you a cross will bring you safe through every loss. Be still and wait God's pleasure in cheerful hope, with heart content, trusting that grace which knows no measure will by unbounded love be sent; nor doubt our inmost wants are clear to One who holds us always near. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving; offering your service faithfully, and trust God's word, though undeserving, there find the truth to set you free; God will not fail to guide and bless those who embrace God's faithfulness.

- Georg Neumark (1621-81)

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "God Loved the World"

Martin Hotton

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

For music, see Hymn 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

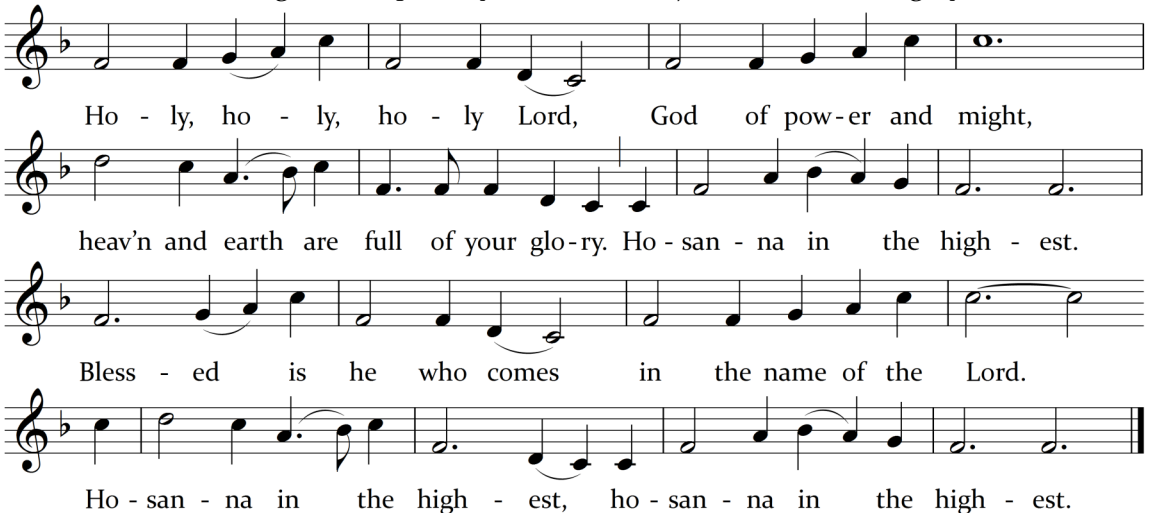
- ℒ Let us pray together.
- ℳ **Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

- ℙ The Lord be with you.
- ℳ **And also with you.**
- ℙ Lift up your hearts.
- ℳ **We lift them to the Lord.**
- ℙ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- ℳ **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"



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 — No. 735

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

Hymn — No. 442

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

℣ Let us pray.

℟ **We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

℣ **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** — No. 543

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Stanza 1

***Dismissal**

℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

℟ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” BWV 642

J. S. Bach



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Lillian Almen, Natalie DeGrego, Marissa Vatter
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Acolytes	(8:30) Madison Hansen, Clara Menssen (10:45) Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie
Communion Preparer	Angie Gehring
Communion Servers	TBD
Communion Cleanup	Pam Groves-Gaggioli
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Elden and Solveig Zempel (10:45) Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Nathan and Michele Knutson
Coffee and Refreshments	Jim and Judy Cederberg, Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Mark and Mary Polzin, Jeanette Rondestvedt
Nursery	Erica Anderson
Counters	Meryl Calcutt, Chris and Martha Erickson, Dan Franklin
Ushers	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jim Enestvedt, Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Brent Mueller, Don Sahling, Dick Werdahl (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Alex Dell, Terry Dell, Trevor Dell, Fred Huemoeller, Dick Kleber, Emmett Norrie, Wyatt Norrie

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Lectionary Readings for Next Week (March 15):

Third Sunday in Lent

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

LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

In the Gospel of John, which is where many of our Lenten Gospels come from on Sundays, testimony plays a crucial role. Very often people hear about Jesus and Jesus' deeds not directly from him, but from other people. Even some of the apostles are called "second-hand" by one person witnessing to another.

It is clear that John did not consider his Gospel to be the final word on Jesus' action in our world either. He concludes the Gospel this way: *"This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written."*

Today we are still part of writing the "many books" that contain the works of Jesus. While many Christians are uncomfortable talking about their faith, personal experience of God's work in our lives is the core of faith. Our own faith is strengthened when someone we know well experiences God's grace and healing.

This year, five St. John's members have been invited to share their story of God at work in their life. We are so grateful to these individuals for their courage in sharing their story with us, and we are excited to see how their example helps all of us think more deeply about our experience of Jesus.

Lenten Vespers—taken from the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy—will take place each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. through April 1.

- March 11: Erik Lindell
- March 18: Pam Groves-Gaggioli
- March 25: Brian Evenson
- April 1: Emmanuel Kaghondi

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (March 8):

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

Bread for the World: Offering of Letters (9:30-10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Sunday Morning Youth Group: Grades 6-12 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room)

St. John's Forum: Update from Lutheran Mideast Development (9:45-10:30 a.m., Sanctuary)

Accompany Newcomer Gathering (9:45-10:30 a.m., Undercroft)

Toddler Time (9:50-10:30 a.m., Room 14)

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Ken Struss and Elmer & Cora Schultz by Marie Struss and family. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: March 29 and April 5, 12, 19 & 26. 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.

Bread for the World: 2020 Offering of Letters Continues Sundays, March 8 & 15, Between Services in St. John's Hall

Letter writing is made easy between services at tables in St. John's Hall. See also bread.org.

Easter Garden Orders

If you would like to order a flowering plant in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of Easter, the Chancel Guild will be taking orders today between services and continuing Sundays, March 15 & 22. They will also be taking orders during the soup suppers on Wednesdays, March 11 & 18. Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church. Your plant may be taken home after the last service Easter morning. The last day to order is Sunday, March 22.

St. John's Forum

Today, 9:45-10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Topic: *Questions About the Middle East? Come get some answers!*

Today's forum will feature an update from Lutheran Mideast Development (LMD). Matthew Hand, LMD's International Director, with more than 30 years in the field, will give a presentation with visuals from his most recent trip. You will hear compelling and hope-filled stories, along with time for questions and answers. Come, be encouraged by the good work supported by the ELCA.

The Courageous Conversations book discussion group is moving to Mondays during Lent.

Mondays, March 9 and April 13

6:00-7:00 p.m., St. John's Library

We'll discuss *Loaded* (about the 2nd Amendment) by Roxanne Durban-Ortiz. Books will be available at Content Bookstore. Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com for more information or if you have questions. The group is open to everyone!

3rd Grade Catechism Retreat

Saturday, March 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m., St. John's Hall

Third graders, along with their parent(s), are invited for a Catechism retreat on the Sacrament of Communion. If you are unable to attend, please contact Julie Brehmer at 507-645-4429 or children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Announcements (continued)

Choral Arts Ensemble Concert: “Where We Love”

Saturday, March 14, 3:00 p.m., St. John’s Hall

The Choral Arts Ensemble of Rochester, directed by Rick Kvam, will present a concert at St. John’s on Saturday, March 14. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. said that “where we love is home—home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.” Working to support our region’s various initiatives on homelessness and developing low-income housing, the Choral Arts Ensemble will sing of the joys of home, and point to every human’s need for a home. The concert will premier a new work by Janika Vandervelde. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students.

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

Join the largest grassroots food and fund drive in Minnesota! Since 1982, Minnesotans have come together to support their communities and local food shelves during the annual Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. Join in supporting Minnesota’s hunger-relief network while also advocating for and supporting long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in Minnesota. This year’s campaign goes from March 1 to April 12. Please consider a donation to our local food shelf via check or online giving. If donating by check, please note Minnesota FoodShare/CAC on the memo line. Thank you!

Thrivent Member Reminder

Eligible Thrivent Financial members have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2019 Choice dollars in their accounts to charitable non-profits. St. John’s welcomes your Choice dollars which are used to support of our ministry among youth and the Women of St. John’s Lutheran Church. To learn more, go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after prompt. If you need assistance or have questions, Brad Knoch will be happy to help you. Just send him an email (bknoch@gmail.com) or call him (952-807-4702). Note that your 2019 Choice dollars will disappear if not directed, so act before March 31.

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a global, ecumenical prayer movement linking prayers for peace, justice, and reconciliation with “least coins.” The coins are used to fund projects of evangelism, service, ecumenical solidarity, relief, and awareness-building among women. There are two ways to participate. One way is by contributing today to the large jar in the Commons. A second way is by taking a small jar home and making a monetary contribution when a prayer is said. All donations will be turned in as part of the general WELCA meeting held on May 7th at 7:00 p.m. held in St. John’s Hall.

Attention Youth: Are you interested in helping film Sunday worship services?

Interested in putting your video/film making skills to work? St. John’s Audio/Visual Team is looking for apprentices to film Sunday services. If you have wondered how to experience the world through the camera lens, contact Dave Zdenek at dzdenek@gmail.com or 618-698-6757.

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

Donna James, John Quam

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Alta Barber

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Mary Ingbritsen, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, Joanne Sommers,
Tom Sorenson, Jim Thompson, 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.



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

Wednesday, March 11

Zuppa Toscana

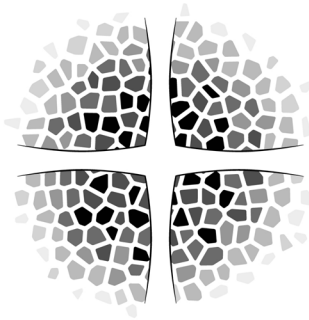
Tortellini Soup

All are welcome!

This Week At-a-Glance

*The calendar below contains only St. John's events.
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Mon., Mar. 9	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Manna and Mercy Text Study, Fireside Room Courageous Conversations Book Group, St. John's Library
Tue., Mar. 10	8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:45 p.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Knitters (World Vision: Knit for Kids), Offsite Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wed., Mar. 11	9:00 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 4:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Hall Wednesday After School Programming (Grades K-5) CAT (Grades 4-5), Grade 4 - Undercroft / Grade 5 - Room 20 Alleluia Choir (Grades K-2), Room 205 Lenten Book Read Small Groups, Fireside Room / Library Jubilate Choir (Grades 3-5), Room 209 Lenten Soup Supper, St. John's Hall Laudate Choir (Grades 6-12), Room 205 Creative Arts Group, St. John's Library Lenten Worship Service, Sanctuary St. John's Chorale, Room 209 O.W.L., Youth Room
Thursday, Mar. 12	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
Friday, Mar. 13	8:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall Northfield Middle School Courage Retreat, St. John's Hall Tai Chi Chih, Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Mar. 14	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room 3rd Grade Communion Retreat, St. John's Hall Choral Arts Ensemble Concert, St. John's Hall
Sunday, Mar. 15	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery Coffee and Fellowship, Commons Bread for the World: Offering of Letters, St. John's Hall Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5, Lower Level Sunday Morning Youth Group: Grades 6-12, Youth Room St. John's Forum: Creation Care, Sanctuary Accompany Newcomer Gathering, Undercroft Worship / Nursery



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*
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*
Bernie Renander, *Finance Manager*

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