



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 31, 2019 † 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.*

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.

Large print bulletins 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 — “The Prodigal Son” from *Three Gospel Scenes*

James Biery

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — No. 666

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

☑ **Amen.**

☐ In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,
and receive God's promise of mercy.

God at the margins,

☑ **We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

☐ Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care.
Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy.
Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day,
forgiving your sins for the sake of Christ, leading you from death into life.

☑ **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

P God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Psalmody — Psalm 32

Paraphrase Michael Morgan, MERLE'S TUNE



How blest those whose trans - ges - sions the Lord for - gives through grace;
The Lord with ab - so - lu - tion will greet the pen - i - tent,
In - still in me your wis - dom, in - struct me in your ways;



who, as the heirs of mer - cy, find peace be - fore God's face.
and send the dawn of mer - cy be - fore the night is spent.
grant but a word of par - don and I re - spond with praise.



The heart with guilt so heav - y it bends to bear the strain
God to the meek and low - ly a hid - ing place shall be;
God's stead - fast love sur - rounds me, and doubts shall soon de - part;



can yield God its af - flic - tion and claim its strength a - gain.
in dan - ger, their sal - va - tion; from sin, their lib - er - ty.
re - deemed, my soul re - joic - es, and glad - ness fills my heart.

Music: Hal Hopson, © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

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** — Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Spark Story Bible, page 378; Pew Bible, page 850

Before the reading:

- The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15th chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

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

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — No. 779

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

***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) "The Road Home"

PROSPECT, arr. Stephen Paulus

*Tell me where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost, so long ago?
All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know there's a way, there's a road
that will lead me home? After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from
a dream in the gold of day, through the air there's a calling from far away, there's a
voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, come away is the call,
with love in your heart as the only song; there is no such beauty as where you belong,
rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.*

-Michael Dennis Browne

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Wondrous Love"

David N. Johnson

*Offering Hymn — "Create in Me"

FRANCKE

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your
Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal -
va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Offering Prayer

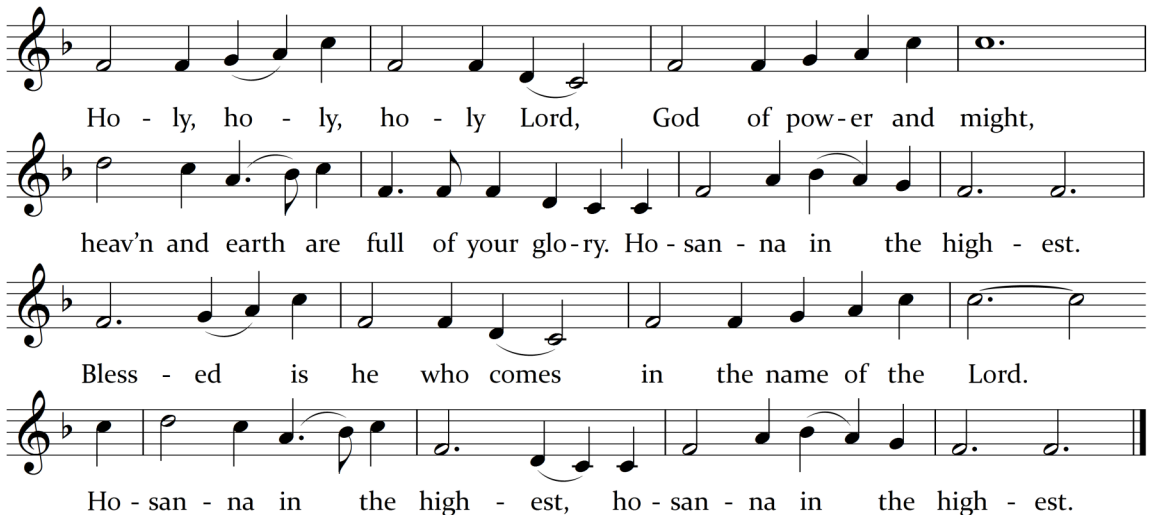
- L** Let us pray together.
- M** **Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land,
and you provide for our every need.
Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor,
and transform them into a feast that welcomes all,
in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.
Amen.**

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.**

*All God's children are welcome at the table. Communion will be received standing at the front of the sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the middle. 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 — **"See What Love"** from *St. Paul* Felix Mendelssohn

*See what love hath the Father bestowed on us in his goodness,
that we should be called God's own children. -1 John 3:1*

Hymn — No. 323 "God Loved the World"

Hymn — No. 462 "Now We Join in Celebration"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

℣ Let us pray.

℟ Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response: ☩ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

ST. COLUMBA

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever

***Dismissal**

℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord. ℟ Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Finale” from *Das Holsteinische Orgelbüchlein* Hans Friedrich Micheelsen



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding and Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Pat Fick
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Soloist	(8:30) Julia Woodring, Church Music Intern
Piano	(8:30) Marcia Yernberg
Acolytes	(8:30) Tristan Mattson, Austen Mathre (10:45) Ben Blomberg, Mason Babbini
Communion Servers	(8:30) Bill and Char Carlson (10:45) Julie and Howard Thorsheim
Communion Cleanup	Kristy Mikula
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Steve and Suzy Taggart (10:45) Gavin Moore, Joyce Moore, Char Nelson
Coffee and Refreshments	Elizabeth Busa, Jim Cederberg, Joyce Moore, Mark and Mary Polzin
Nursery	Erica Anderson
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Alyssa Ness, Ted Peterson, Bob Tabery
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Duane Benson, Len Hoffmann, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Andy Nelson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Bonnie Jean Flom, Ruth Dahl, Susan Immel, Greg Norman, Doug O'Leary, Wally Wegner

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art: "Prodigal Grace" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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

Wednesday, April 7
Chicken tortilla
Creamy tomato soup (veg)

All are welcome!

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (March 31):

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
St. John's Forum: TEDxStJohns - Karl Hella and Accepting Grace (9:45 a.m., Sanctuary)
Accompany Newcomer Gathering (9:45 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (April 7):

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons
St. John's Forum: *Anti-Judaism, Anti-Semitism, and the Use of the Passion Story in Churches*
Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)
Middle School Youth Group: Grades 6-8 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)
Accompany Newcomer Gathering (9:45 a.m., Undercroft)

Lenten Wednesday Worship

The Gospel of Luke is known for its many stories of healing — so much so that tradition has held that the author was a physician. Healing and salvation are words with common roots, and while in our times we often separate the physical from the spiritual, the Bible usually makes no distinction. We are healed as whole persons - mind, body, and spirit all held in God's grace.

As we celebrate 150 years at St. John's, we know that the arts have been a major part of the healing grace offered in this place. Music, visual art, and poetry have all been part of how salvation is celebrated and experienced by many in this congregation.

Sometimes the arts celebrate what God has done, but just as often they are the vehicle through which God's healing hand is at work.

This year our Lenten series will invite five members of the congregation to reflect on the ways that the arts and healing have intersected in their faith lives. Whether reflecting on a favorite hymn or sharing a story of the process of creating art, they will give us glimpses of the mysterious ways God's grace comes to us as we create and as we are created anew in Christ's love.

Wednesday, April 3

Nathan Knutson

Wednesday, April 10

Service of Healing

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Anthony Becker and Rebecca Judge. 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: April 7, 21 & 28. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television – cable channel 180, Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

St. John's Forum

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

Topic: *Karl Hella and Accepting Grace*

In a new forum series we are calling "TEDxSt.John's", a St. John's member will give a TED Talk style presentation on ideas or stories that are worth sharing. In this edition, St. John's member Karl Hella will share his thoughts on accepting grace.

Easter Garden Orders Continue

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 31 and April 7. They will also be taking orders during the soup suppers on Wednesday March 27. Order forms are also available at the Welcome Desk and on the St. John's website. There is an assortment of plants to choose from with different price ranges. Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church. Your plant will be labeled with your name and may be taken home after the last service Easter morning. The last day to order is Sunday, April 7.

Courageous Conversations: "Immigration Law: What is and isn't working"

Thursday, April 4, 7:00 p.m., Sara Karki, speaker.

Sara Karki of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM) is passionate about human rights, language access and social justice issues. ILCM is a nonprofit agency that provides immigration legal assistance to low-income immigrants and refugees in Minnesota. She also offers free legal advice to clients at the new free legal clinic in Northfield. Open to the public.

Food Share Donations During March

Did you know that the CAC Food Shelf can stretch your donation dollars up to \$10 from a \$1 with their buying power through local food banks? When you give during the month of March, your donations are stretched even further through their partnership with MN FoodShare. St. John's is collecting monetary donations each week. Please use the St. John's special offering envelope for the CAC Food Shelf or donate through St. John's website, by choosing "CAC Foodshelf" in the drop down menu. Thank you!

Announcements (continued)

Limited Church Office Hours During Spring Break, March 23-April 1

This year spring break for Northfield Public Schools will not be during Holy Week. With that many staff members will be taking some time off. Our Office Manager, Leah Garlie, will be out of the office from March 22-April 2.

Call for Volunteers for Holy Week Hospitality: Everyone is welcome to sign up!

Are you planning on attending any of the special services leading up to Easter Sunday? Please sign up online or in the Commons for greeting at the doors, attending the Welcome Desk, preparing, cleaning up, and serving Communion. It's easy to combine the two and be doubly blessed! If you can help, please contact Christy Hall-Holt or Angie Gehring at 507-645-4429 or sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org. Thank you!

Are you a Thrivent member?

Thrivent Choice dollars for 2018 must be directed by March 31. St. John's gratefully designates these dollars for youth and world relief special projects. Don't miss this opportunity to give "free money" to our congregation!

St. John's Website

Please check out our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Our website contains additional information regarding events and programs, along with a link to our online church directory, Church Community Builder (CCB), in the top right hand corner. You can also access the church calendar.

Children and Youth Ministries

Northfield's Spring Break: March 25-April 1

No Sunday school or Middle School Youth Group today.

Upcoming Middle School and High School Youth Event! Visit to Trapped Puzzle Rooms in St. Paul! Sunday, April 7, 1:00 p.m. (Meet at St. John's to Carpool)

Enjoy the challenge of escaping either a Spy vs. Spy room, or a Harry Potter room! Afterwards, you'll all go out for ice cream at nearby Nelson's, where the scoops are huge! The cost is \$10 plus ice cream money. There is a limit of 14 spots, so RSVP right away by emailing Angie at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org or putting your name on the sign up sheet hanging outside the Youth Room.

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

Bob Noreen, Elizabeth Trangsrud

Those celebrating the marriage of

Logan Kochendorfer and Tyler Carpenter

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Marjorie Kilber

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Fred Gonnerman, Elvin Heiberg, Fred Huemoeller, Mary Ingbritsen, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, Betty Schuette, Eulalie Smestad, Joanne Sommers, Karen Swenson, Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Maggie Lindell, Elaine Feroe, Lois Pearson

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; Curtis and Katie Kline, ELCA missionaries in Colombia

Members of St. John's studying at seminary, including

Henry Burt, Hayden Kvamme

Refugees from Ethiopia being sponsored by St. John's

Paul, Ariat, and their family

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 (April 7):

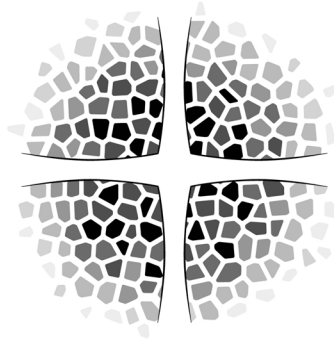
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21 † Psalm 126 † Philippians 3:4b-14 † John 12:1-8

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., April 1	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Manna and Mercy Text Study, Fireside Room Pub Theology, Offsite
Tue., April 2	8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	150 th Anniversary Capstone Meeting, Fireside Room SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Knitters (World Vision: Knit for Kids), Offsite Northfielders for Justice and Peace, Fireside Room
Wed., April 3	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 4:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	3 Links Communion, Offsite 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 Jubilate Choir (Grades 3-5), Room 209 Lenten Soup Supper, St. John's Hall Laudate Choir (Grades 6-12), Room 205 Confirmation (Grade 6), Undercroft Confirmation (Grades 7-8), Fellowship Hall High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Youth Room Lenten Vespers, Sanctuary St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, April 4	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, Room 19 Rejoice Ringers, Balcony Courageous Conversations: <i>Immigration Law</i> , St. John's Hall
Friday, April 5	8:45 a.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall
Saturday, April 6	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Guild, Fireside Room
Sunday, April 7	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Worship / Nursery (<i>For Schedule Between Services, please see page 11</i>) Worship / Nursery Trapped Puzzle Rooms Event, Offsite



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*

Melissa Berthelsen, *Parish Nurse*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager*

Angie Gehring / Emerson Clay, *Youth Support Staff*

Angie Gehring / Christy Hall-Holt, *Shared Ministry Coordinators*

Arielle Loy, *Director of Alleluia Choir*

Zachery Pelletier, *Director of Rejoice Rings*

Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, *Security and Custodial Assistants*

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

Bernie Renander, *Financial Manager*

Call the Church Office, or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.