



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 5, 2020 † 8:30 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.

Video of this week's service will be posted for one week only on the home page of our website www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website. If you wish to have a text copy of the sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office. Other helpful links and resources will be posted as they become available at the St. John's Facebook page.



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.

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

Prelude — “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Emma Lou Diemer

Welcome and Announcements

*Greeting

P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest!

*Processional Gospel — Matthew 21:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

*Blessing of the Palms

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.


P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of Christ. Amen.

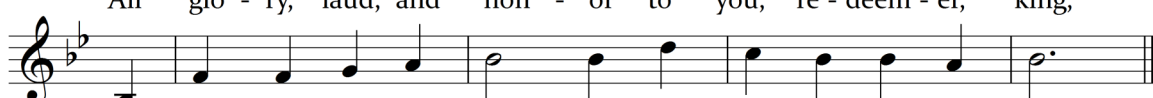
*Gathering Hymn — “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

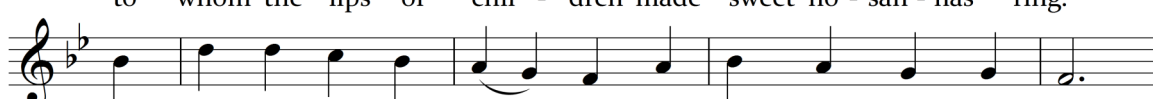
Refrain




All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - ra - el and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
3 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
4 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale

*Prayer of the Day

☐ O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through 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

Psalmody — Psalm 118, “This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made”

ELLACOMBE

This is the day the Lord hath made, the hours are all God's own;
Blest be the Lord, who comes in power with mes-sag-es of grace,
let heav'n re-joice, let earth be glad, and praise sur-round the throne.
who comes in this ac-cept-ed hour to save our sin-ful race.
Ho-san-na to the com-ing King, to Da-vid's ho-ly Son!
Ho-san-na in the high-est strains the church on earth can raise!
Help us, O Lord; de-scent and bring sal-va-tion from the throne.
The high-est heav'ns in which God reigns shall now re-sound with praise.

Text: Isaac Watts

First Reading — Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

***Gospel — Matthew 27:11-54**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 27th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. ¹⁶At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” ¹⁸For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. ¹⁹While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” ²²Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” ²³Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” ²⁵Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” ²⁶So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ³⁰They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

³²As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

³⁸Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” ⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴²“He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he

said, 'I am God's Son.' " ⁴⁴The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. ⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

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 — "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"

THOMAS



Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your death we are re -
We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed on through act and
Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling though our steps may
God of all our fear and sor - row, God who lives be - yond our



born; though you die in all of his - t'ry, still you
word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and bro - ken wears the
be; one with you in joy and sor - row, we the
death, hold us close through each to - mor - row, love as



rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn.
bod - y of our Lord, wears the bod - y of our Lord.
riv - er, you the sea, we the riv - er, you the sea.
near as ev - 'ry breath, love as near as ev - 'ry breath.

***The 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:

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Michael Costello

*Thanksgiving for the Word

☐ O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

☑ Amen.

*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 — “My Song Is Love Unknown”**

LOVE UNKNOWN

My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es
Here might I stay and sing— no sto - ry so di -
me, love to the love - less shown that they might
stow; the world that was his own would not its
sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas
vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was
love - ly be. Oh, who am I that for my
Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my friend in -
to our king. Then “Cru - ci - fy!” is all our
grief like thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet
sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
deed, who at my need his life did spend!
breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
praise I all my days could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman; Tune: John Ireland

The Changing of the Paraments

*The paraments are changed from purple to scarlet,
marking the beginning of Holy Week.*

Postlude — “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Joe Cox



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Assisting Minister	Rod Christensen
Organist	Nathan Proctor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Holy Week Radio Worship Broadcasts on KYMN Radio (www.kymnradio.net):

Palm Sunday, April 5 - 8:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10 - 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12 - 9:30 a.m.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (April 12):

Resurrection of our Lord

Jeremiah 31:1-6 † Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 † Colossians 3:1-4 † Matthew 28:1-10

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Barry and Sandy Kailhofer in celebration of the birth of Genevieve Alice Timmer. 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: June 7, 14, 21 & 28. 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.

Video of this week's service will be posted for one week only on the home page at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. Audio recording of the sermon will be archived under the worship tab of the website. If you wish to have a text copy of the sermon mailed to you, please contact the church office. Other helpful links and resources will be posted as they become available on the COVID-19 page on the St. John's website and on the St. John's Facebook page.

Here at St. John's the pastors and staff are closely following the recommendations from the CDC for the preparation for and prevention of the spread of COVID-19, also known as the Coronavirus. Important tips for us all to remember are: wash hands with soap and water frequently for at least 20 seconds, cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue when possible and then throw it in the trash, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and stay home if you are sick. The recommendations do not include stockpiling food or other supplies and wearing a mask as a protective measure to prevent infection. We are following all updates from the CDC closely and will keep you informed of any changes.

2020 Census

As we stay at home, there is one activity that you can do to help promote the completion of the census. If you have not done so, please fill yours out now or as soon as it arrives in your mailbox. It is so important to Minnesota, Rice County, Northfield, and the school district that everyone be counted. It is easy to do online or via phone. The count is used to distribute future federal funds to our state, redistricting at federal, state, county, and local levels, planning for development, etc. Without an accurate count, we could lose a lot. So go online, or call 844-330-2020 to respond via phone. The web site is my2020census.gov.

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.

How Can You Help?

This question continues to be asked everyday. It's heartening to know that we have a community that is ready to step up in a crisis.

First and foremost, you've all heard the reminders about allowing for physical distance and minimizing direct contact, even if you are currently well. That must be everyone's first priority. Item two is to connect with neighbors and friends, especially health care workers, those who are at risk, and people with small children who suddenly find themselves 24/7 together.

Other things that are happening.

- Many prayer shawls made by our knitters were distributed to members who are on lockdown in care facilities. If you would like to make one (the patterns are easy) contact Sue Sharrow at sue_sharrow@msn.com to learn how.
- The Red Cross still needs blood, maybe now more than ever. Go to the Red Cross website www.redcross.org if you are eligible to donate. Drives are still happening locally.
- The Community Action Center is preparing for a deluge of needs. The quickest way to help is to donate financially. The CAC can make those gifts go further than your own grocery donations. They also are building their volunteer base here: <https://communityactioncenter.org/community-response-to-covid-19/>
- Local businesses, especially the ones that are usually social hangouts, are trying to quickly pivot to serve you in different ways. Take advantage of all those take-out and delivery options. And if you can't use them now, buy a gift card that you can use in the future. The Northfield Chamber of Commerce is also offering a special on chamber bucks, which can be given to others and used at wide number of local businesses.
- St. John's continues to need your regular financial gifts. Although we can't be with you all in person, we want to continue to pay our staff. Giving online is easy at StJohnsNorthfield.org. Contact the church office at 507-645-4429 to set up automatic gifts. Or mailed offerings will continue to be welcomed. If you are in a position to pay ahead on your annual pledge, that will also help us get through this difficult time. Contact Leah Garlie if you would like to set up automatic online giving.

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

Craig Breimhorst

Noah Parker

Tim Oberle, son-in-law of Sue and Dave Hagen

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Gene and Delores Nelson,

Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Joanne Sommers, Tom Sorenson,

Jim Thompson, Julie Westerbäck, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde, Lois Pearson, Gloria Porter, Lois Rand, Dorothy Ostlie

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.

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.*

The governor has indicated that social distancing should continue at least through the first week of May; a further extension of the current stay-at-home order is also possible.

We will worship virtually as long as there are restrictions on large gatherings.

Contact the church office at 507-645-4429 if have any questions.

For the radio broadcasts (www.kymnradio.net) of Holy Week Worship Services see page 11.

Virtual Pub Theology – Mondays, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

During this season of keeping physical distance, we think it is important to connect to each other and our faith more regularly. Therefore, for now, we will have weekly Virtual Pub Theology via ZOOM from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Monday nights. Pub Theology is a space where we gather for connection and conversations around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. A topic and a link to ZOOM will be emailed out on Sunday and shared on Facebook. If you would like to be added to the email list or have questions about using ZOOM, please email Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study – Mondays, 12:00 p.m.

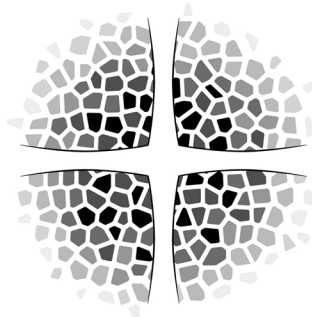
Our weekly Manna and Mercy Text Study will gather on Monday from 12:00-1:00 p.m. via ZOOM. Manna and Mercy Text Study is a time to read and wrestle with the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday. Together we will wonder about what these texts have to say to us in this particular time and place. No Biblical experience necessary! The link to ZOOM will be emailed out on Monday morning and shared on Facebook. If you would like to be added to the email list or have questions about using ZOOM, please email Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

St. John's Virtual Church Coffee Break

Join us on your computer, tablet, or phone for St. John's Virtual Church Coffee Break throughout the week. For 30 minutes, we will simply check in, connect, and have a thought for the day. If you cannot stay the whole time, but simply want wander through and say "hello!," please do! The link to ZOOM will be posted on Facebook each morning. If you have questions about using ZOOM, please email Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Virtual Coffee gathering times will be:

Tuesday @ 2:00 p.m., Wednesday @ 10:00 a.m., Thursday @ 2:00 p.m., and Friday @ 10:00 a.m.



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenschner, *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.