



SERVICE OF THE WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021 † 9:00 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.



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 — on LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Emma Lou Diemer

Welcome and Announcements

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

*Hymn — “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” (#367)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of
E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our
Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; set heart and
A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the
love that still a - bounds: “Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv - ing!”
heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv - ing!”
will on things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri-umph;
heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has tri-umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!”
Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their
Now still he comes to give us life and by his
grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our
Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it
song of glo - ry here: “Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv - ing!”
pres - ence stills all strife. “Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv - ing!”
lives we tru - ly say: “Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv - ing!”
blest, most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

- ☐ Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

*Baptism Acclamation — “You Have Put On Christ” (#211)

You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: International Commission on English in the Liturgy © 1969; Music: Howard Hughes © 1977

*Prayer of the Day

- ☐ Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be
your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses
to the resurrection of 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 — Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Psalm 4

Antiphon: David Sims

Antiphon: The LORD does wonders for the faithful.



¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.

²**"You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?"**

³Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and | do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed. Antiphon**

⁵Offer the appointed | sacrifices,
and put your trust | in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, "Who will show us | any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness | in my heart,
more than when grain and | wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;**
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure. *Antiphon*

Second Reading — 1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation (#174)



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, © 1985 admin. OCP Publications

*Gospel — Luke 24:36b-48

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he

took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Faith Begins by Letting Go” (ACS #1004)

RATISBON

Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what
Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's
Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en -

had seemed sure, tak - ing risks and press - ing on,
roots a - live so that hope may bear its fruit;
larg - ing hearts, shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer,

though the way feels less se - cure: pil - grim - age both
prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive, not through mer - it
bind - ing up the bro - ken parts; till we find the

right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1996 Hope Publishing Company; Music: J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

***The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

After each petition:

- ℣** Lord, in your mercy,
- ℣** hear our prayer.

***Peace**

- P** The peace of Christ be with you always. **C** **And also with you.**
You are invited to share God's peace with those around you.

Offering of Our Gifts

Music at the Offering:

"Aria"

Craig Phillips

***Thanksgiving for the Word**

- P** Praise to you, O God, for your Word of life: creating a wondrous universe,
proclaiming freedom from captivity, becoming the song of your people.

C **We praise you, O God, for your Word.**

Your Word is made flesh among us:
with Mary in the garden, you call us by name.
With Thomas beholding your wounds, you call us to believe.
With sheep of others folds, we are gathered by your voice.
Your Word names our death and our life.

C **We bless you, O God, for your Word.**

By your living Word, we are witnesses of these things.
Breathe into us your Holy Spirit. Fill us with strength to love,
not in word or speech alone, but in truth and action.
With every creature in heaven and on earth
and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them,
we join in the hymn of all creation:

C **We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word. 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 — “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” (#389)

TRURO



Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing.
 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound
 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war,
 Wom - en and men, in age and youth,
 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring

The cross stands emp - ty to the sky.
 to dis - tant years in Pal - es - tine,
 where col - or, scorn, or wealth di - vide,
 can feel the Spir - it, hear the call,
 good news to this and ev - 'ry age,

Let streets and homes with prais - es ring.
 but sav - ing, heal - ing, here and now,
 Christ suf - fers still, yet loves the more,
 and find the way, the life, the truth,
 till earth and sky and o - cean ring

Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company; Music: T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

*Dismissal

- ℣ Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- ☩ **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**
- ℣ Go in peace. Proclaim the resurrection.
- ☩ **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude — “The Peace may be exchanged” from *Rubrics*

Dan Locklair



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Bill and Char Carlson
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Cantor	David Sims, Nathan Proctor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Ansgar and Muriel Sovik by Elisabeth Sovik, Kathy Sovik-Siemens, and Brian Siemens. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 612-532-6863. Next available dates: August 1, 8, 15 & 29. 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.

Today we welcome Dayna Norvold from Habitat for Humanity of Rice County as we fulfill our Grace Overflowing pledge of \$40,000 to the Northfield Faith Builds Project. You're invited to the groundbreaking celebration of a Northfield Quad on Sunday, May 2, at 4:00 p.m. Please RSVP at habitatricecounty.org. Opportunities to volunteer at the build site later this summer will be opening up in the near future.

In-Person Worship Sign-ups

As we begin to increase the number of people in the sanctuary for Sunday worship, we are taking a gradual approach to practice new habits of being together. Today, we have invited the ushers to worship to retrain them in assisting with in-person services in the weeks ahead. We are now inviting all vaccinated persons or those who have recovered from COVID-19 to sign up to attend one in-person worship in our sanctuary on either April 25, May 9, May 16, or May 23. (Sunday, May 2, is reserved for high school seniors and their family members only.) More slots may be opened up in the weeks ahead, but for now, we ask you to make sure there is room for others who also want to be in worship by only signing up for one Sunday. More information about our plans for in-person worship can be found on the FAQ page at our website: StJohnsNorthfield.org. Sign-ups are available using the link in the E-Voice or by calling the church office.

Holden Village is opening registration for late summer 2021 this Friday, April 23.

Pastor Pam and some St. John's members are planning to visit the week of August 15. Because registration is limited and conducted online, those who are interested are urged to register themselves as soon as possible. Much more information about Holden's guest plans can be found at: <http://www.holdenvillage.org/visit/guest-rates/>

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, May 10, 1:00-6:00 p.m.

We will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter St. John's Northfield to schedule an appointment.

Announcements (continued)

Courageous Conversations Book Group

Begins Again Thursday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m.

This time our book is *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. Books are available at Content Bookstore. The group will meet eight times on Thursdays: April 29, May 13 & 27, June 10 & 24, July 8 & 22, and August 5. Please contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to sign up and receive the reading plan and Zoom link.

St. John's Audio-Video Group Volunteers Needed

The St. John's Audio-Video Group is aiming to train new volunteers to work on our Sunday service streaming and other events. During the summer, especially, the church will need to have multiple A/V teams to cover for vacation and travel of team members. No prior A/V experience is necessary. The time commitment is generally two hours on Sunday morning. If you are interested in being part of a two-person team (one of them being a women's team), please contact Mark Gleason of the Evangelism & Communication Board at mjg6601@gmail.com.

Northfield's Earth Day Celebration 2021

Saturday, April 24

There will be morning outdoor workshops from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and an afternoon outdoor Earth Fair from 1:00-4:00 p.m. with Cannon Valley Farmers Market, sustainable exhibitors, kids activities, and more. Come join us outside—with masks on—for socially-distanced events. Check out our community efforts as we strive for sustainability and resiliency at northfieldearthday.com where you can register for the Saturday morning workshops by clicking on “Workshop Sessions.”

Fellowship of the Least Coin

Please bring your jars to church on any Tuesday morning from now through the end of April between **9:00 a.m.-noon** when the quilters are meeting in Fellowship Hall. **Enter via door #10 at the corner of Poplar and 3rd.** Jane Rinehart or another quilter will happily take your jar. If you are unable to do that, please contact Dodie Mickelsen to make other arrangements (507-645-8101 or gordiedodie@gmail.com). Thank you!

Thank You for supporting the Blessing Box at St. John's!

The Blessing Box is located on the north side of St. John's and contains hygiene and food products as a “stop and go” location for anyone needing a helping hand. It's been a busy site this past year and the need is great at this time! All donations have been greatly appreciated. Items that go quickly are: toilet paper, hand soap/sanitizer, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant and feminine products, as well as take and eat food items. Feel free to donate items directly to the Blessing Box. Questions? Email Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Prayer Requests

We are called to remember one another in prayer. The church office has been made aware of the following persons for whom we pray today. This list is also for your use this week.

Healing and Support

Those in the hospital or in need of healing

Marilyn Boschee, Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Andy and Izzie Nelson, Susan Rudser

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Marlene Engstrom

Those with ongoing health concerns

Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Delores Nelson,
Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Jim Thompson,
Howard Thorsheim, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Elouise Quinnell, Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe

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

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (April 25):

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12 † Psalm 23 † 1 John 3:16-24 † John 10:11-18

This Week At-a-Glance

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

**Our radio worship schedule will continue with broadcasts
on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (www.kymnradio.net).**

Monday, Apr. 19	12:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Apr. 20	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers via Zoom
Wednesday, Apr. 21	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Outside Book Group, Church Library
Thursday, Apr. 22	9:00 a.m.	Staff Retreat, Offsite
	1:30 p.m.	Book Buddies Meeting, Church Library
Friday, Apr. 23		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, Apr. 24		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, Apr. 25	9:00 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream
	10:00 a.m.	Virtual Sunday School via Zoom
		Virtual Youth Group via Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour via Zoom



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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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.