



# SERVICE OF THE WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 25, 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!*

*As we enter a new phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to follow CDC guidelines for public gatherings. We feel the different impacts of this time on our community and long for a time when we will be able to safely share in Holy Communion indoors, and to socialize without concern for public health. Whether this morning finds you in the sanctuary or joining in worship from home, please know that this is not our “new normal,” but a time of gradually learning how to be together in-person while we wait for more vaccinations and fewer COVID infections in our community.*

*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** — Variations on “Earth, Earth, Awake!”

Robert Powell

## Welcome and Announcements

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

**\*Hymn** — “Earth, Earth, Awake!” (ACS #937)

STUEMPFLE



Earth, earth, a - wake! Your prais - es sing! Al - le - lu - ia!  
All na - ture sings of hope re - born! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Win - ter is past; the night is gone! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise we the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son! Al - le - lu - ia!



Greet with the dawn your ris - en King! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ lives to com - fort those who mourn! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ's light, tri - um - phant, brings the dawn! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise we the vic - t'ry God has won! Al - le - lu - ia!



Bright suns and stars, your hom - age pay! Al - le - lu - ia!  
First fruit of all the dead who sleep! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Cre - a - tion spreads its spring - time bloom! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise we the Lamb who reigns a - bove! Al - le - lu - ia!



Life reigns a - gain this Eas - ter day! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Prom - ise of joy for all who weep! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Life bursts like flame from death's cold tomb! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise we the King whose rule is love! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., Music: Sally Ann Morris © 1996 GIA Publications, Inc.

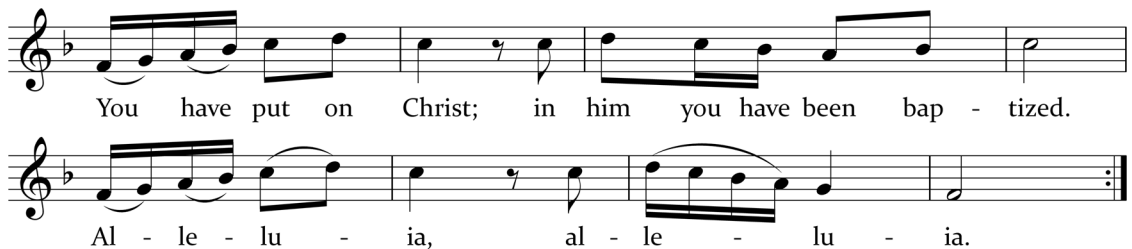
## \*Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P** 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.

**C** 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

- P** O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us  
into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole.  
Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

## Children's Message

### First Reading — Acts 4:5-12

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' <sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalmody — Psalm 23 "Shepherd Me, O God" (#78o)

SHEPHERD ME

#### *Refrain — all*



Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from death in-to life.

Text: Marty Haugen, based on Psalm 23; Music: Marty Haugen © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

*God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain***

*Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain***

*Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain***

*You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. **Refrain***

*Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **Refrain***

## Second Reading — 1 John 3:16-24

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

**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 — John 10:11-18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it

down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Davis

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” (#712) BEACH SPRING



Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:  
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas - sion bids us bear,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.

Text: Albert F. Bayly © Oxford University Press; Music: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

## **\*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:*

"Have No Fear Little Flock"

Mark Sedio

## **\*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 — “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (#502)

ST. COLUMBA



The King of love my shep - herd is, whose  
Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my  
Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but  
In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with  
Thou spreadst a ta - ble in my sight; thine  
And so, through all the length of days, thy

good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
ran - somed soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
thee, dear Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my  
un - ction grace be - stow - eth; and, oh, what trans - port  
good - ness fail - eth nev - er. Good Shep - herd, may I

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.  
of de - light from thy pure cha - lice flow - eth!  
sing thy praise with - in thy house for - ev - er.

## \*Dismissal

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

**Postlude** — “Finale” from *Das Holsteinische Orgelbüchlein*

Hans Friedrich Micheelsen



## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:**

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	Jim and Judy Cederberg
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Trumpet	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Cantor	David Sims, Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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# **Announcements**

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in by Rick and Nancy Moe. 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](mailto: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.

## **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. 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 May 9, May 16, May 23 or May 30. (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](http://StJohnsNorthfield.org). Sign-ups are available using the link in the E-Voice or by calling the church office.

## **Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom**

**Tomorrow, Monday, April 26, 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

Topic: *Which Comes First?*

Many of us grew up with a certain order: confession, then forgiveness; baptism, then (often much later) communion. But what if the way we order these things sends a confusing message? Let's talk about grace—how you experience it, and how our worship does or doesn't give witness to how we are changed by God's work.

## **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/>

## **Courageous Conversations Book Group**

**Begins Again this 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](mailto:dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com) to sign up and receive the reading plan and Zoom link.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter St. John's Northfield to schedule an appointment.

## **Outdoor Afternoon Coffee and Communion**

**Wednesdays, May 5 & 19, 2:00 p.m., Courtyard**

The Adult Ministry & Education Board will host outdoor church coffee and communion. As a first step to reintroducing face-to-face fellowship, the gatherings will be limited to 24 people. Please bring your own coffee or tea, and wear a mask. The Adult Ministry & Education Board will set up appropriately spaced chairs in the courtyard. After catching up a bit over coffee, Pastor Pam or Pastor Jonathan will lead communion. You can sign up for one of the coffee and communion events on Sign-Up Genius (the link can be found in the E-Voice). Coffee and communion will be canceled in the event of inclement weather.

## **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](mailto:mjg6601@gmail.com).

## **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 3<sup>rd</sup>.** 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](mailto:gordiedodie@gmail.com)). Thank you!

## **Courageous Conversations' May Program via Zoom**

**Thursday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.**

The May Courageous Conversations program will present Professor Jennifer Kwon Dobbs. The St. Olaf associate professor of English/creative writing and program director of Race and Ethnic Studies, will speak on "*And Still We Rise: Against Anti-Asian/AAPL Hate.*" Register at: [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/Courageous](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/Courageous).

## **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 Sharon Steltzer and Virginia Steltzer (aunt and grandmother of Scott Barvir)

*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*

Tom Fjelde, Lois Pearson, Gloria Porter

*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](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (May 2):**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 8:26-40 + Psalm 22:25-31 + 1 John 4:7-21 + John 15:1-8

## **This Week At-a-Glance**

*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed  
on our website at [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

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

<b>Monday, Apr. 26</b>	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom
<b>Tuesday, Apr. 27</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Staff Retreat, Offsite Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom Church Council via Zoom
<b>Wednesday, Apr. 28</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Packing Hospice Kits, Fellowship Hall Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break Middle School Bonfire, Offsite High School Bonfire, Offsite
<b>Thursday, Apr. 29</b>	6:30 p.m.	Courageous Conversations Book Group via Zoom
<b>Friday, Apr. 30</b>		No Scheduled Activities
<b>Saturday, May 1</b>		No Scheduled Activities
<b>Sunday, May 2</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.  10:30 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream Virtual Sunday School via Zoom Virtual Youth Group via Zoom 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.