

SERVICE OF THE WORD

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 22, 2020 † 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.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Today we rejoice in the gifts of baptism: the promise of God's faithfulness and forgiveness, the enlivening power of the Holy Spirit, and life together in the body of Christ. This year, as we cannot gather all our 10th graders and their families at once, we will be celebrating Affirmation of

Baptism with each student on separate Sundays—claiming God's promises for them at this moment in their lives. They have been through a long journey of catechesis in the faith, and many family members, teachers, and mentors have been part of this formation with them. We rejoice that they are ready to publicly claim God's promises to them stating their intentions to continue in the faith: to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's word and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. They are:

**Mason Babbini, Ben Blomberg, Rhett Garlie, Lucy Menssen,
Johann Schroeer, Thomas Weber, Gus Welbaum**

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “We Praise You, O God”

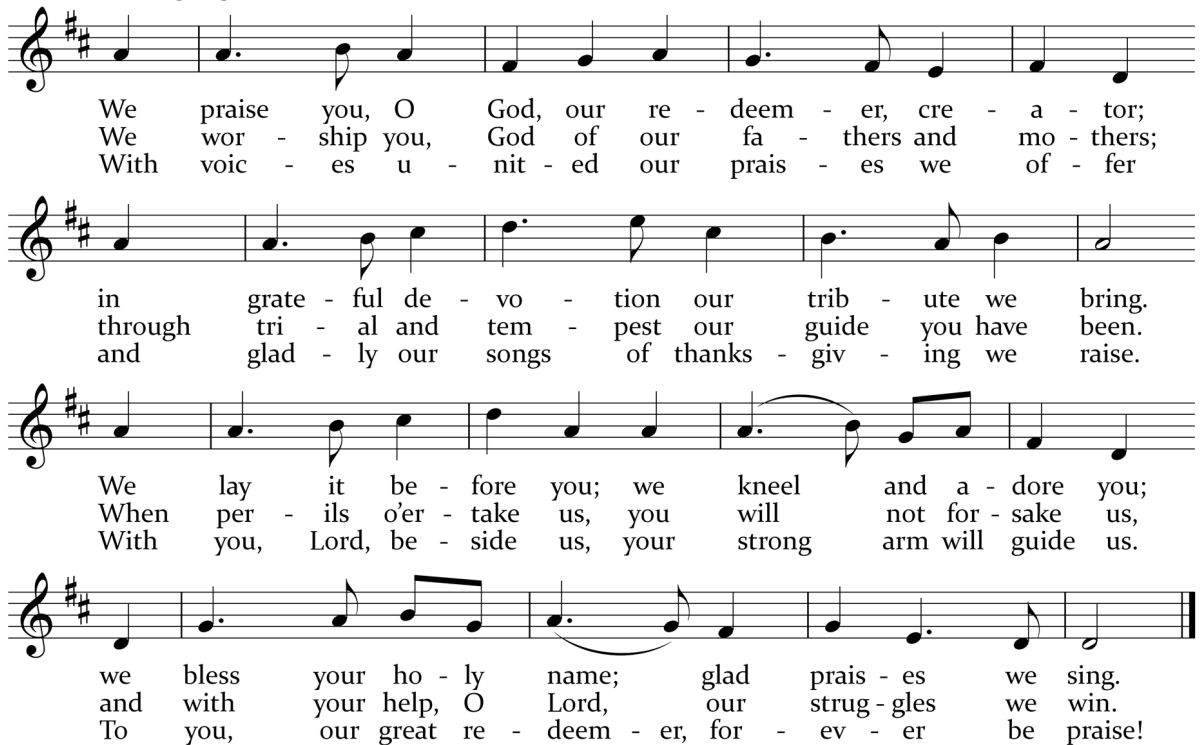
Daniel Kallman

Welcome and Announcements

Words of Witness — Mary Hoff and Allene Moesler

*Gathering Hymn — “We Praise You, O God” (#870)

KREMSE



We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory; Music A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

*Confession and Forgiveness

☞ Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

☛ Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Holy One,

C **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We carry sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation.**

P Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

C **Amen.**

***Greeting**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

P O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service,
and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us wisdom to
know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

📖 The word of the Lord. 🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — 95:1-7a

Psalm setting by Carolyn Jennings

For full text — front of hymnal, page 300

Refrain — all; Verses — cantor



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

Second Reading — Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his

right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L The word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation — “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” (#634) CORONATION**

All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
bring forth the roy-al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the roy-al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, Music: Oliver Holden

***Gospel — Matthew 25:31-46**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome

me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’
⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

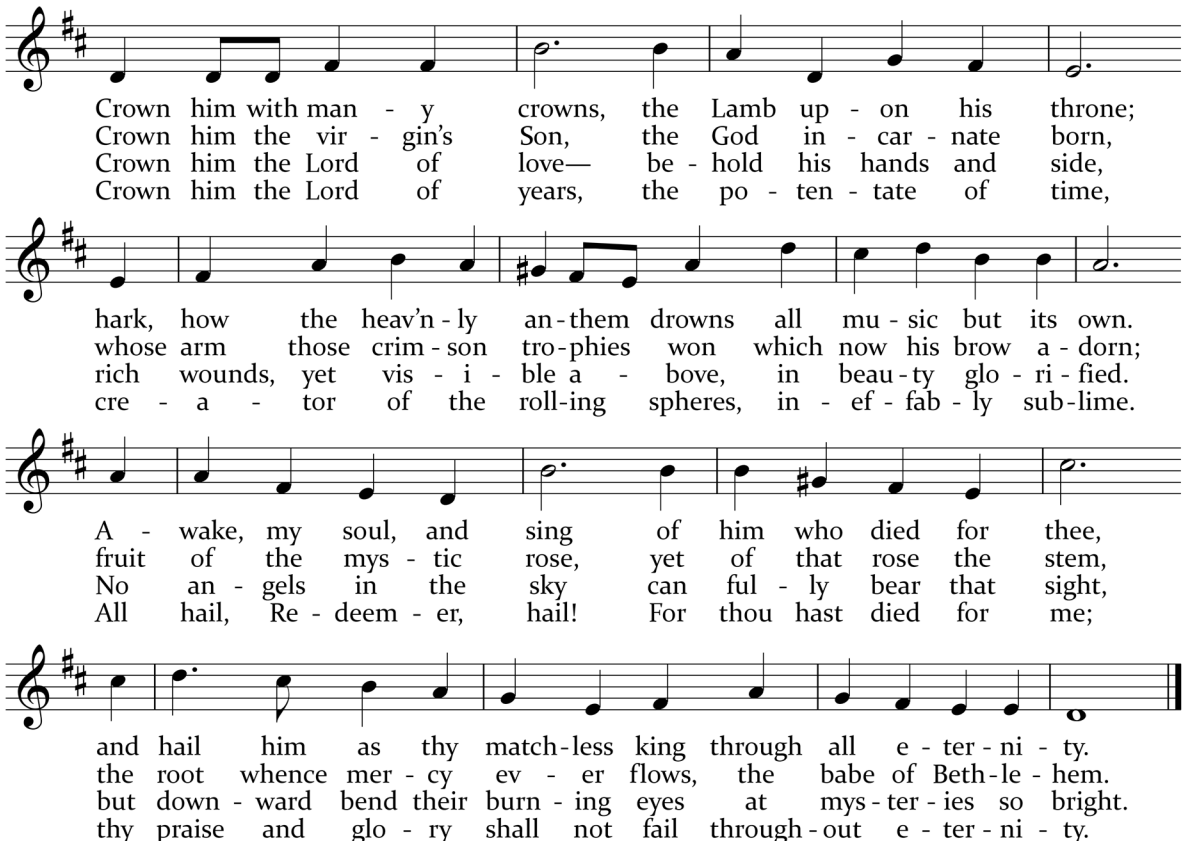
Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (#855)

DIADEMATA



Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,
 hark, how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.
 A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;
 and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

***Affirmation of Baptism and Rite of Confirmation**

Presentation of Mason Babbini

Prayer

Response: **☞ Amen.**

Profession of Faith

☞ Lord, we believe.

☞ Help our unbelief.

☞ Do you believe in God the Father?

☞ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

☞ Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

☞ 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.

☞ Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

☞ 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.

Intent to Continue in Our Baptismal Covenant with God

Promise of the Assembly

☞ People of God, do you promise to support Mason
and pray for him in his life in Christ?

☞ We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Prayer of Invocation

☞ We give you thanks, O God, that through water
and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth,
cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

☞ Amen.

Confirmation through Laying On of Hands and Prayer

Celebrating with the Confirmand

- P** Let us rejoice with Mason, our brother in Christ.
- C** **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.

*Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

- L** Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **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:

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Christine Sullivan

*Thanksgiving for the Word

- P** Gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, rich in love, we bless your name and give you thanks. In our need, you make haste to help us. You plant us beside streams of your wisdom, you teach us in pastures greenening with truth, and guide us on the path of your promise. By your Spirit awaken our faith, that, feasting on your Word, we may love you more fully and serve our neighbor more faithfully; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer

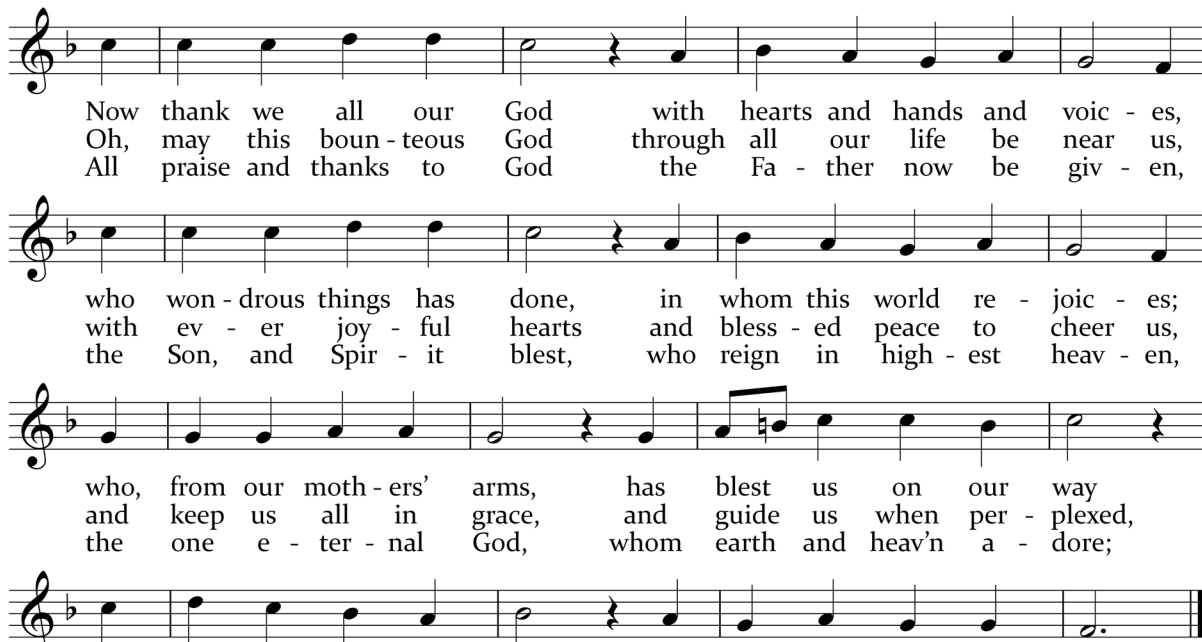
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Blessing

Response:  Amen.

*Sending Hymn — “Now Thank We All Our God” (#840) NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT



Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heav- en,
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus is was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, tr. Catherine Winkworth; Music: Johann Crüger

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Now Thank We All Our God”

Sigfrid Karg-Elert



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	Mary Hoff, Allene Moesler, Tim Babbini
Organist	Nathan Proctor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Confirmation banner by Judy Swanson

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Joe Shaw and daughters, Nancy, Betsy, Margaret, and Mary, in memory of Mary Virginia Shaw, who died on November 22, 2014. 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 the church office. Next available dates: February 28 and March 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.

Worship with Us on Sundays via Livestream

Worship at 9:00 a.m. is livestreamed via our website. We hope you'll join us via livestream or radio on KYMN. **Video of the service will still be available on the website later in the week.**

Thanksgiving Eucharist via Zoom

Today, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us for remote Holy Communion. As we celebrate Christ the King and end the liturgical year together, we pause for a moment of thanksgiving, prayer, and communion. Prepare your own bread and wine, and we will share this holy meal together virtually. The Zoom link is available on the church calendar.

Our Stewardship Appeal for 2021

Knowing members' intentions helps us plan next year's ministry. Please submit your giving intention for next year via the online form on our website. If you need a physical pledge card mailed to you, please contact Leah Garlie at the church office or email Leah with your intent at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom

Mondays, November 23 and December 7, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Pub Theology is a conversation led by Pastor Pam and/or Pastor Jonathan around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences.

Poinsettia Orders for 2020

There are a limited number of poinsettias available for purchase to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone, or in celebration of Christmas, please contact Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 612-532-6863.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates and Thistle Farms Hand Soaps

Contact dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com to place your order for contactless delivery.

Announcements (continued)

Holden Village in 2021?

With a hopeful stance toward next summer, we are pondering a St. John's trip to Holden Village in 2021. If pandemic-possible, Holden would be open to cohorts for 5 night stays. An all-inclusive price would include the boat ticket meals, room, and programming. Guests would be responsible for their own travels to and from Chelan Washington (Field's Point). If you are interested in being part of a group that could gather at Holden please contact Pastor Pam Fickenscher. Registration has not been opened, but we want to be ready when it is.

Advent Fair Drive-Thru at St. John's

Wednesday, December 2, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the start of the Advent Season by joining us for St. John's Advent Fair Drive-Thru! From your car, enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights and luminaries placed around the church building, while stopping at different stations along the way. The event starts at the corner of Popular and Third Streets with a Welcome Greeting. Stops along the way:

- BINGO Hunt—On your drive find all the items on your BINGO card.
- Winter Clothing Drive for the CAC—Donate new or clean, gently used winter outerwear for children and adults—winter coats, mittens, scarfs, gloves, snow boots, snow pants. No holes or stains and all items should have working zippers, snaps, and buttons.
- Christmas Music
- Children's Nativity Craft—A wooden nativity craft project including paint and instructions. One per household. Please let Julie Brehmer know if you'd like one by emailing her at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.
- Christmas Card Project—Send a Christmas card to a St. John's member who would enjoy knowing they are in someone's thoughts and prayers. Stop by and receive an addressed envelope, card, and instructions.
- CAC Food Drive Donations—Drop off items for the CAC/St. John's Blessing Box. Check out what items are needed most at: <https://communityactioncenter.org/files/CAC-5-Most-Wanted-Flyer.pdf>
- Take-home Christmas craft
- Treat Bags
- Christmas Eve Service Candles/Glow Stick – Pick up a candle/glow stick for the Christmas Eve Eucharist via Zoom.
- Blessing and Sending / Advent Devotions

Can you help remote learners?

Northfield Healthy Communities Initiative is seeking volunteers who will offer remote support to kids doing distance learning this winter. Once established with a student and teacher, volunteers would offer 15-30 minutes 2-4 days a week to help students stay on track. Contact Laura@northfieldhci.org if you are interested.

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 mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Dick Beckmen

Family of Jon Rondestvedt

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marlene Engstrom, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Gene and Delores Nelson,
Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, John Quam, Gordon Smith, Joanne Sommers,
Jim Thompson, Julie Westerbak, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Lyla Arneson Paulson, Gordon Smith, Janice Helgeson

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 (November 29):

First Sunday of Advent

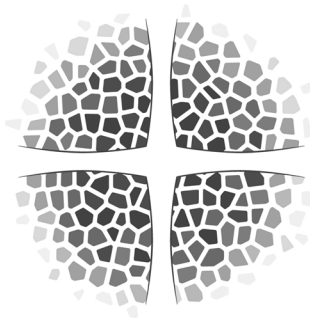
Isaiah 64:1-9 † Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 † 1 Corinthians 13:9 † Mark 13:24-37

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, Nov. 23	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Virtual Manna and Mercy Text Study via Zoom Virtual Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, Nov. 24	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting via Zoom Worship Planning for Staff via Zoom
Wednesday, Nov. 25	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Zoom Coffee Break
Thursday, Nov. 26		Thanksgiving - No Scheduled Activities
Friday, Nov. 27		No Scheduled Activities
Saturday, Nov. 28		No Scheduled Activities
Sunday, Nov. 29	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship via Radio Broadcast and Livestream Coffee Hour via Zoom



St. John's
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Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Tim Byers, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager / 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.