



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 28, 2021 † 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

We especially welcome all who are visiting this morning!

*All are invited to **sign the welcome sheets** in the black folders at the end of the pews.*

*Please pass them to the center and then back
so you can greet those worshipping around you.
Ushers will gather these following worship.*

*In the red hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship), or purple hymnal
(All Creation Sings), hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn section,
and page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section.*

An asterisk () invites you to stand as you are able.*

P Pastor, **L** Leader (Assisting Minister), **C** Congregation

Children are welcome to participate throughout our
worship service, including at Holy Communion.

*Parents, please assist children when they come forward for communion
to extend their hands if they are to receive the bread and wine.*

Children's Bibles and activity bags
*are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary
and scribble cards are available in the pews.*

*Hearing assistance devices are available outside the Sanctuary or from an usher.
For those with hearing aids, the Sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop.*

Large print bulletins are available for worship services.



*St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace
and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as
we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance,
sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or
relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement,
political affiliation, or religious background.*

*While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together,
believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.*

We warmly welcome you here.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “Proclamation on WACHET AUF”

Aaron David Miller

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 436

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L We praise you, Eternal One.
As we light the first candle on this wreath,
wake us up to Christ's coming, that we might
welcome your presence in our world and in our hearts.
Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming
is certain, and whose day draws near.

C Amen.

***Response Hymn** — “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *stanza 1*

VENI, EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Em-man - u-el, and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra-el,
that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un-til the Son of God ap-pear.
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u-el shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, 1710, tr. composite; Music: French processional, 15th cent.

*Greeting

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

C And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, 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 — Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Magnificat — "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" (*All Creation Sings*, setting 12)

Refrain — choir/cantor, **then all singing**

My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O Lord; I sing my Sav-ior's praise!

Great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.

Choir: My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord; I sing my Savior's praise!

You looked upon my lowliness, and I am full of grace.

*Now every land and every age this blessing shall proclaim—
great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.*

Refrain — **all singing**

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation — “Nothing in All Creation”

Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

*Gospel — Luke 21:25-36

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter. **C** Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 901

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

*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

(8:30) “The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem” Early American tune, arr. Ralph Johnson

The hills are bare at Bethlehem, no future for the world they show; yet here new life begins to grow, from earth's old dust a greenwood stem. The stars are cold at Bethlehem, no warmth for those beneath the sky; yet here the radiant angels fly, and joy burns new, a fiery gem. The heart is tired at Bethlehem, no human dream unbroken stands; yet here God comes to mortal hands, and hope renewed cries out: “Amen!”

—Royce J. Scherf

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) “Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

Mark Sedio

***Offering Hymn** — “Of the Father's Love Begotten” *stanza 1* DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**

*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us.
Feed us with your love, that our faith shines ever new
and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

SHARING THE LORDS SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might, heav-en and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho-
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na, ho-san - na in the high-est.

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer**

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

*Communion will be received standing at stations in the front of sanctuary;
ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the center.
After you have been served the bread you will be offered wine or grape juice.
The grape juice is white and is located in the center of the tray.
**If you are unable to come forward, let an usher know,
and communion will be brought to you.***

Music during Communion

“Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

- ✠ God of abundance, we give you thanks in this holy meal.
May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words
and our work in your name invite others into your grace.
Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we
await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

✠ Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

*Blessing

Response:

✠ Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 244

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

***Dismissal**

☐ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☒ Thanks be to God.

Postlude — ON HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG

Margrethe Hokanson



SERVING AT ST. JOHN’S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Dylan Gehring (10:45) Christy and Olaf Hall-Holt
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John’s Chorale
Soloist	(8:30) Maren Hrivnak, Church Music Intern
Cantor	(10:45) David Sims
Counters	Chris and Martha Erickson, Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Johnson, Rob Nutt, Bruce Rickert (10:45) Bob and Sandra Nyvall, Mark Rydberg

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“For Those in Darkness” by Lauren Wright Pittman | *A Sanctified Art LLC* | sanctifiedart.org

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Holy Communion Setting 12 from *All Creation Sings*, composed by Anne Krentz Organ.

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**Celebrate the Start of the Advent Season at St. John's Advent Fair!
This Wednesday, December 1, 5:15–6:15 p.m.**

The event takes place outdoors in the south parking lot at St. John's.

- **Activities to Enjoy:**
 - Walking Tacos (Taco in a Bag)
 - Cocoa Bar, Gingerbread Cookies, and Candy Canes
 - Take-Home Christmas Crafts for Kids
 - Games for Kids and a Scavenger Hunt
 - Camp Fires and Marshmallow Roasting
- **Winter Clothing Drive for the CAC**—Donate new or clean gently used winter outerwear for children and adults: winter coats, mittens, scarves, gloves, snow boots, snow pants. No holes or stains and all items should have working zippers, snaps, and buttons.
- **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.
- **Advent Devotions and Calendars**

Hope to see you there!



Advent Vespers

Wed. Dec. 8

Wed. Dec. 15

6:00 p.m.

Join us for a time of singing, storytime, and prayers for the season of waiting.

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Duane and Marie Benson. 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 507-645-4429. Next available dates: December 12, 19, 24 & 25. 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., Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Today's Altar Flowers are given in honor of Joyce Revne Stofft on her birthday from her family, Melissa & Mike Berthelsen and Melanie & Tom Simpkins.

We Need Your 2022 Intent to Give

Thanks to the 163 families who have returned their 2022 pledge card. We still need to hear from many more of you in the next few weeks in order for leadership to craft a budget. You can scan the QR Code on the right, complete the online pledge form on our website, return a card to the church office or in the offering plate, or email your intent to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. If you give electronically through automatic transfer, please review your giving and let us know your 2022 intent, even if it is to remain the same.



Poinsettia Orders

The Chancel Guild will be taking orders for poinsettias again this year. The flowers will be used to decorate the church for the 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, the order form will be available in the Commons and on the church website. The last day to place your order is Sunday, December 12.

Coffee Fellowship with COVID Protocols Will Take Place in December as Volunteers are Available 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

Enjoy a cup of coffee or hot tea while socializing with friends and fellow members. As we joyfully and carefully resume the much-missed coffee hour tradition while beginning the season of Advent, we need volunteers each Sunday to either donate treats (homemade or store bought), or to assist with making the coffee, set-up, and clean-up. No prior experience is necessary. We invite all to try it out. Being involved in this type of service is a great way to get to know people, and it's fun! To volunteer for Sunday coffee hour needs beginning December 12, scan the QR Code or email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org.



Copper Street Brass Presents "Christmas on Copper Street"

Saturday, December 11, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church www.copperstreetbrass.org

Announcements (continued)

ELCA World Hunger Appeal

“Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread broken for others, shared until all are fed.”—“Christ, Be Our Light” (ELW #715).

You are encouraged to pick up an ELCA World Hunger Advent Calendar at the Welcome Desk or by Door #1 to find more inspiration and ideas for supporting this November’s World Hunger Appeal. Please consider a gift to ELCA World Hunger during the November appeal. Use the St. John’s online donation system or submit a check payable to St. John’s, noting ELCA Hunger Appeal on the memo line.

Message from Laura Baker Services Association, Northfield Hospitals & Clinic’s Long-Term Care Center, Northfield Retirement Community, and Three Links Care Center

Our caregiving community is in crisis. The pandemic has created an employment crisis in our community. The causes of this dramatic shift in employee hiring and recruiting are complex, but its impact is blunt. We have a shortage of employees within our organizations to provide the level of service our community needs. While our current populations who are served within our respective walls are in good hands, many others among you who may need our service can’t be served because of the lack of local workforce. We need your help!

To continue reading this letter, and learn about the employment opportunities available, go to: <https://www.laurabaker.org/news/2021/11/care-cant-wait/>

Children and Youth Ministries

Pay it Forward Intergenerational Service Event at Cub Foods

Saturday, December 4, 1:00–4:00 p.m. (Shifts: 1:00–2:30 p.m. and 2:30–4:00 p.m.)

Bag groceries for customers and then hand them \$5 to “Pay it Forward” and be a blessing to someone in need! (St. John’s provides the \$5 bills for this event). This event is a great opportunity for individuals, families, mentors, and mentees to serve together. Contact Emmanuel Kaghondi to sign-up.

J-Term Confirmation for Grades 6-8

The long awaited J-Term collaborative confirmation is here! January is a chance for youth from three ELCA churches in Northfield to come together and explore a variety of topics through the lens of faith. More information and choices of classes can be found in Emmanuel’s weekly email.

Contact Information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children’s Ministry at childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@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

Duane Benson, Marilyn Boschee, Jo Dahlin, Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings, Cora Scholz, John Bjorlie (brother of Ruthie Neuger), Mark Wegner (son of Roberta Wegner)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Marland Madson

Family of Carolyn Buzza (daughter of Bruce and Audrey Moe)

Those with ongoing health concerns

Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Donna James, Bev Mahacheck Guenther Moesler, Delores Nelson, Carole Nesheim, Becky Ness, John Quam, Scott Quinnell, Lois Rand, Howard Thorsheim, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Lester Gunderson, Elaine Feroe, Tom Fjelde

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 (December 5):

Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4 † Luke 1:68-79 † Philippians 1:3-11 † Luke 3:1-6

This Week At-a-Glance

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

Monday, Nov. 29	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
Tuesday, Nov. 30	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room
	1:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministers Training via Zoom
	7:00 p.m.	Special Council Meeting via Zoom
		Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, Dec. 1	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Advent Fair, Outdoors at St. John's
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec. 2	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Center, Offsite
	1:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's: Christmas Concert at NRC, Offsite
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, St. John's Hall
Friday, Dec. 3	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Dec. 4		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Dec. 5	8:30 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons
	9:45 a.m.	Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall
		Sunday School (Preschool-Grade 5), St. John's
		Youth Gathering (Grades 6-12), Youth Room
		Parent Gathering, St. John's Library
		Hearing Loop Training, St. John's Hall
	10:45 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	12:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #25258, Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop #20065, Lower Level



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Pam Fickenschner, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
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 Rings*
Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

Call the church office or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.