



*Lisle*

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 1, 2024 † 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 and hymns 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

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
alive in the world, reviving creation,  
arriving soon.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**C we confess that we have sinned. We have trusted earthly powers  
and human authority too much. We have grown fearful.  
We have clung to false comforts.**

**P** God of might,

**C we confess that we have sinned. We have trusted false promises.  
We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**P** God in our midst,

**C we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us.  
Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

**P** A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and  
forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**C Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 436

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

### \*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.

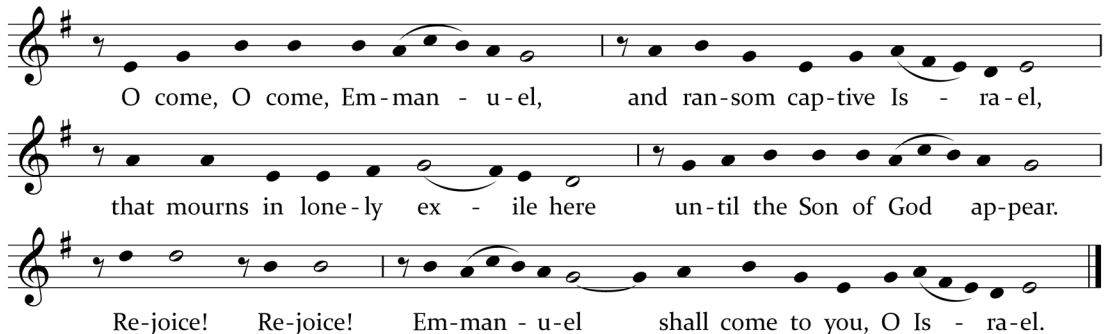
### \*Prayer of the Day

- 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.

### \*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 Canticum Catholicarum*, 1710, tr. composite; Music: French processional, 15th cent.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Children's Message

**First Reading** — Jeremiah 33:14-16

Spark Story Bible, page 178; Pew Bible, page 645

*After the reading:*

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

**Psalmody** — Psalm 25:1-6

Antiphon: Carolyn Jennings

*Antiphon: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*



<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting. *Antiphon*

**Second Reading** — 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Pew Bible, page 960

*After the reading:*

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

**\*Gospel Acclamation** — “Wait for the Lord”

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Text: Taizé Community; Music: Jacques Berthier © 1994 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications

**\*Gospel — Luke 21:25-36**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“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. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.

<sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“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, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be 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.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Pam Fickenschier

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**Hymn of the Day — ACS No. 901**

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

**\*The Apostles’ Creed**

*Front of ACS hymnal, page 19*

**\*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*

(8:30) "Song in the Night"

arr. Zach Busch

*Come to us. O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night, come to us with thy tender love, my soul's delight. Unto thee, O Lord, in affliction I call. My comfort by day and my song in the night. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me, still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee. Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down, darkness be over me, my rest a stone. O Jesus, my song, yet in my dreams I'd be nearer my God, to thee.*

– Joseph Swain, Sarah Flower Adams

*St. John's Chorale*

(10:45) "An Advent Prayer"

Allen Pote

*Come holy Jesus, come to free us from our sin. Come holy Jesus, and make us pure within. Inspire each heart with illumined surprise, enkindle a flame anew. Increase our faith and strengthen our lives, show us the joy of living life in you.*

**\*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.**

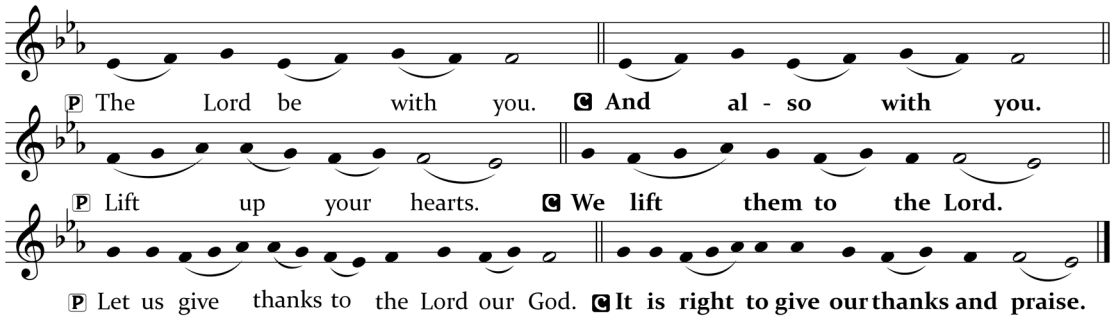
**\*Offering Prayer**

**L** Let us pray.

**C** **Savior of the nations, come, and 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 LORD'S SUPPER

## \*Great Thanksgiving

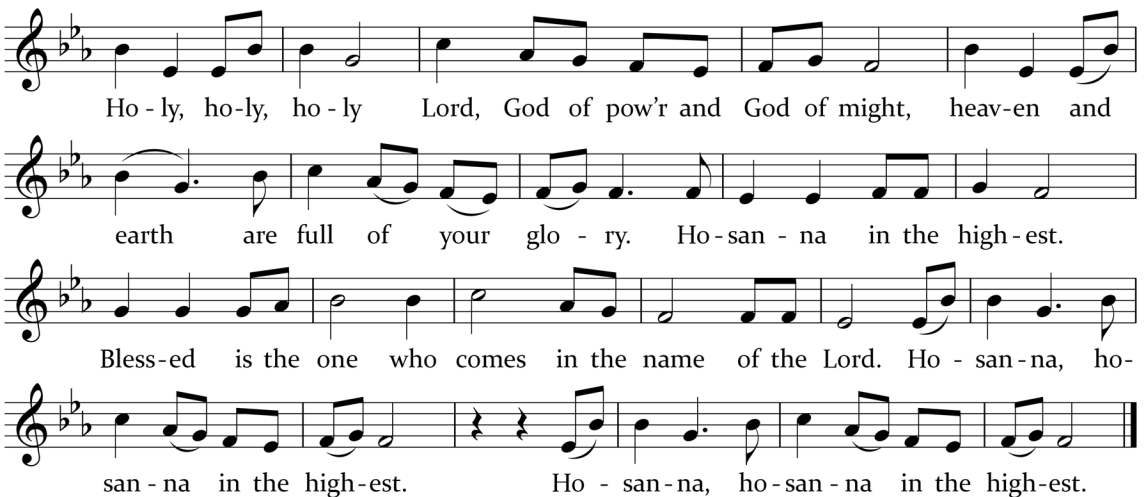


**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**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 the 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.

### (8:30) Hymn — “My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, O Lord”

#### **Refrain** — *all*; **Verses** — *choir*



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.

Text: With One Voice, Music: Anne Krentz Organ © 20202 Augsburg Fortress

*For verse texts, see All Creation Sings, page 32*

### Hymn — ELW No. 243

### “Lost in the Night”

**\*Post-Communion Blessing**

**\*Sending of Communion to the Sick and Homebound**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

☞ Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

☞ Amen.

## **DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD**

**\*Blessing**

*Response:*

☞ Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn** — ELW No. 239

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

**\*Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God!

**Postlude** — “Festival Voluntary”

Flor Peeters



## **SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:**

Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	David Legvold
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Anthem Accompanist	(8:30) David Sims
Cantor	(10:45) Kristin Partlo
Communion Prep	Georgene Johnson, Judy Smith
Communion Cleanup	Vicki Otis
Greeters	(8:30) Mary Ellen North (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Ted & Tricia Peterson, Karen Schuette
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Bill and Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Chuck Cannon, Jon and Alison Kavanaugh, Gordon Moore

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover art: "When You Pass Through the Waters" Lisle Gwynn Garrity  
© A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
Holy Communion Setting 12 from *All Creation Sings* composed by Anne Krentz Organ. Used by permission  
of Augsburg Fortress license #14028-LIT. Other liturgical aids are from *Sundays and Seasons* © 2024  
Augsburg Fortress. Music reprinted and podcasted under One License A-708009.

## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### ***This Week (December 1)***

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall  
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons  
Advent Book Read (9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room)

### ***Next Week (December 8)***

Coffee and Fellowship, St. John's Hall  
Sunday School: Preschool–Grade 5 (9:45–10:30 a.m., Lower Level)  
Sunday Youth Gathering: Grades 6–12 (9:45–10:30 a.m., Youth Room)  
St. John's Forum (9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall)  
Advent Book Read (9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room)

# **Announcements**

*Additional announcements can be found in the weekly E-Voice.*

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in loving memory of Mary Virginia "Ginny" Shaw by Joe Shaw and daughters Nancy, Betsy, Margaret, and Mary. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM at 8:30 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 507-645-4429. Available Dates: December 25 & 29.

## **Advent Book Read: *All Creation Waits***

**Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room**

Please join us as we begin our reading of *All Creation Waits: The Advent Mystery of New Beginnings*. The book is structured as a daily reflection on the wintering habits of animals in the upper Midwest as they prepare for new life in the spring. We'll read and reflect on the selection for Sunday, the first day of Advent. If you have signed up to purchase either the regular edition of the book or the children's edition, please stop by the Welcome Desk between the services to pick up your copy. The regular edition is \$15; the children's edition is \$18.

## **Advent Fair, Wednesday, December 4**

**Wednesday Night Meal at 5:15 p.m. and Advent Fair Activities from 5:45–7:00 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to St. John's Advent Fair on Wednesday, December 4, in St. John's Hall. Come enjoy our Wednesday Night Meal and Advent activities for all ages. We encourage you to bring friends. The more the merrier!

### **Can you help with Advent Fair?**

- Dinner—set-up, serve or clean-up
- Help with crafts/activities
- Food demonstrations—show us how to make your favorite Christmas treat!

Contact Julie Brehmer if you have questions at [children@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:children@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

## **Wellspring Circle**

**Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 p.m., Fireside Room**

Wellspring is a women's circle primarily focused on Generation X (born 1965–1980). We welcome all women who are Gen X or close to Gen X age. We use the ELCA Faith Lens blog to guide our discussion. If you would like to be added to the email list, send an email to: [women.stjohns500@gmail.com](mailto:women.stjohns500@gmail.com)

## **Evening Knitters**

**Wednesdays, December 4 & 18, 6:00 p.m., Fireside Room**

Some of us are making blankets, sweaters, and hats for babies. Feel free to join us, bring your own project/craft, or just hang out.

# **Announcements (continued)**

## **St. John's Children's Christmas Program**

**Sunday, December 15, at the 10:45 a.m. Service**

For the next few Sundays we will be learning the music and the readings for the program during the Sunday School hour. All children are welcome to participate!

## **Christmas Cheer Tripled**

**Saturday, December 14, Fellowship Hall**

Three fun WELCA events in one morning—participate in one or all of them. Christmas music will be in the air & plenty of coffee & hot cider!

- 9:00–10:30: Make Christmas Cards (materials supplied) & Assemble Cookie Boxes
- 11:00–Noon: Add the Cookies to the Boxes
- Noon: Deliver Cookie Boxes to Homebound

Sign up between services today or next week, or log in to St. John's CCB website, on the home page, scroll down the right side; choose "WELCA Event Needs;" choose "Christmas Cheer Tripled"

## **Reminder of Deadlines**

- Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements: Due by Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.
- *The Voice* (January 2025 Edition): Due by December 15

Please send all submissions for the E-Voice, Sunday Bulletin, and *The Voice* to Leah Garlie electronically via email to [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). or the [Announcement Request Form](#) found on our website.

## **Sunday Evening Gatherings**

**Tonight, 6:00–6:30 p.m., First UCC (300 Union St.)**

Evening Gatherings are led by laypeople from First UCC and other local churches. Please join us for a time of singing, candle lighting, contemplation, and communion. On the first Sunday of the month we will follow a traditional Taizé format, which focuses on repetitive singing, minimal spoken word, and does not include communion. Come for a time of connection, community, and quiet grounding to prepare for the coming week.

**Electronic giving is a great way to support the ongoing ministry of St. John's, even when you are out of town or unable to worship in person.** To sign up for electronic giving, contact Leah in the church office at 507-645-4429, or by email at [office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org). "I Give Electronically" cards are now available in the pew racks, so you can show your support during the Sunday morning offering.

## **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*

Fred Huemoeller, Carol Schoen, Kathy Vang

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Jo Chambers, Greta Matzner-Gore, Dolores Nelson, Cynthia Neubecker,  
Scott Quinnell, Alice Rickert, Ruth Smestad Anglin, Craig Schultz, Kathy Vang

*All who are homebound, including*

David Halsor, John Ferguson, Bob Flaten

*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; Katie Larson, ELCA missionary in Colombia

### **Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests**

*Stephen Ministry Requests*

St. John's Stephen Ministers offer care to those in a variety of difficult situations. If you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a Stephen Minister, contact one of the pastors at 645-4429.

*Prayer Chain Requests*

Contact Mary Cisar at 507-663-1097 or [macisar@gmail.com](mailto:macisar@gmail.com), or contact a pastor.

# Wednesday Night



**Served from 5:15–6:15 p.m.  
in St. John's Hall**

Menu for Wednesday, December 4:  
*Pulled Pork Sandwiches*

**All are welcome!**

*Wednesday Meals are made and served completely by people donating their time and talents.  
Dessert contributions are always welcome and needed!*

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

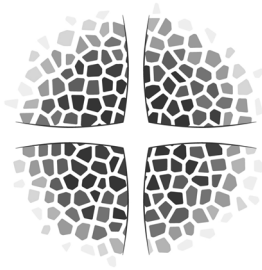
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed  
on our website at [www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org).*

<b>Monday, Dec. 2</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, The Contented Cow
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 3</b>	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	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.	Wellspring Circle, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Youth Room
		Northfield Rotary, St. John's Library
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 4</b>	11:00 a.m.	Personnel Committee, Undercroft
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
		Advent Fair, St. John's Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Knitters, Fireside Room
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Dec. 5</b>	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	Communion at Millstream Commons, Offsite
	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Benedictine Living Community, Offsite
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Sanctuary
<b>Friday, Dec. 6</b>	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
<b>Saturday, Dec. 7</b>	9:00 a.m.	PEO Group, St. John's Hall
<b>Sunday, Dec. 8</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary
		<i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary
	2:00 p.m.	Sons of Norway Afternoon Coffee, St. John's Hall

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 8):**

### ***Second Sunday of Advent***

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



St. John's  
ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

500 Third Street West

Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

Pam Fickenschner, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Green Bouzard, *Jubilate Choir Director*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Steve Harner, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager / Finance Manager*

Angie Gehring, *Shared Ministry Coordinator*

Sally Lindell, *Parish Nurse*

Arielle Loy, *Alleluia Choir Director and Early Childhood Specialist*

Kristin Partlo, *Director of Ministry with Youth & Families*

Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*

David Sims, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

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

*St. John's Lutheran Church stands on the  
ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute band of the Dakota nation.  
We respect and are grateful for the generations of native people who have cared for this land.*