

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 pew hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship),
page numbers are at the bottom of the page in the front section,
and hymn numbers are at the top of the page in the hymn 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.

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.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2018 † 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude — “Reflections on ‘E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come”

Paul Manz

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — No. 436

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

*Greeting

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- ☐ At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,
- ☑ **Wake us up to your coming.**
- ☐ We gather together to expect the unexpected and imagine the unimaginable.
O Emmanuel,
- ☑ **Wake us up to your coming.**
- ☐ We wait for the day when God will recycle tanks into tractors
and transform minefields into soccer fields. O Emmanuel,
- ☑ **Wake us up to your coming.**
- ☐ We stay awake by telling stories that offer a glimmer of a future
and agitate dormant hope within us. O Emmanuel,
- ☑ **Wake us up to your coming.**
- ☐ Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle,
whose flame brings brightness to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.
- ☑ **Amen.**

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

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

***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.
- G** Amen.

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:

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

Psalmody — Psalm 25:1-6

Antiphon: Carolyn Jennings

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



- ¹To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.
- ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.
- ³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
- ⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. *Antiphon*

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.
⁶**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** — No. 552

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

Stanza 1

***Gospel** — Luke 21:25-36

Pew Bible, page 856

Before the reading:

- Ⓔ The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.
- ☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading:

- Ⓔ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — No. 244

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

***The Nicene Creed** — *page 104, front of hymnal*

*Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

- ℒ Lord, in your mercy,
- ☩ hear our prayer.

*Peace

- ℙ 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

Music at the Offering:

(8:30) "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

-Revelation 22, adapted Ruth and Paul Manz

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "He Will Come"

John L. Bell

*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.
- ☩ God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also 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:

*Sanctus

PICARDY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, reign-ing God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, all cre - a - tion seeks your light!
Bless-ed is the one who comes in your name. Bless-ed be the Lord most high!

*Eucharistic Prayer

- P** Holy One, the beginning and the end...Do this for remembrance of me.
- P** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P** With this bread and cup...we look with hope for his coming.
- C** Come, Lord Jesus.
- P** Holy God, we long for your Spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** All praise and glory are yours...one God, now and forever
- 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.

*All God's children are welcome at the table. Communion will be received standing at the front of the sanctuary; ushers will direct you forward. **Gluten-free wafers** are available in the middle. 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"



The musical notation for "Lamb of God" is presented in three staves. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are written below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first two staves end with a double bar line, while the third staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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) **Anthem** — "He Will Come"

John L. Bell

He will come when we're least expecting him, when the world is unprepared as if orphaned from its destiny, as if no creator cared. Though for us, it's out of season, God decides the place and time. He will come when we're least expecting him, when agendas have been set, and the deadlines have been finalized through which needs are seldom met. He will come when we're least expecting him, not to parliament or queen, nor to capitol or capital, blessing what has always seen. He will come when we're least expecting him, as a baby at the breast, with agnostics in the dining room, in the answer no one guessed. Yes, he'll come and he'll be expecting us to accept his call to dine, where the guests are God's assortment and the food is bread and wine. Christ shall come in proper season, take his place and claim his time.

-John L. Bell

Hymn — No. 241

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

Hymn — No. 260

"The King Shall Come"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Prayer after Communion**

P Let us pray.

A Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives that we may be messengers to prepare your way, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

***Blessing**

Response:

C Amen.

***Sending Hymn** — No. 239

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

***Dismissal**

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

Postlude — “Proclamation on WACHET AUF”

Aaron David Miller



In anticipation of our upcoming 150th church anniversary year, our bulletin covers this Advent and Christmas season pay tribute to the many artists and designers whose artistic vision welcomes us into worship week after week over many decades. The cover this morning is by John Maakestad, from the First Sunday of Advent, November 28, 1999.

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Andrea Hoff
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Clarinet	(8:30) Jo Ann Polley
Cantor	(10:45) Kristin Partlo
Advent Wreath Lighters	(8:30) Bash/Goodrich Family (10:45) Price/Fossum Family
Acolytes	(8:30) Hunter Heath-Williams, Braden Van Sickle (10:45) Mason Babbini, Max Williams
Communion Preparer	Jane Rinehart
Communion Servers	(8:30) TBD (10:45) Elsa Hoff, Oden Hoff
Communion Cleanup	Rebecca Gummow
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Jim Enestvedt, Rebecca Gummow (10:45) Rebecca Gummow, Ruthie Neuger
Coffee and Refreshments	Georgene Johnson, Anne Klinefelter, Nancy Moe, Candice Volkert
Nursery	TBD
Counters	Char Carlson, Alyssa Ness, David Norman, Ted Peterson
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Duane Benson, Len Hoffmann, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Andy Nelson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Brian Boyum, Dale Gehring, Reed Hagberg, John Hanson, Peggy Hanson, Marion Williams, Sheri Williams

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art by John Maakestad.

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

Menu for Wednesday, December 5:
Campfire Casserole

All are welcome!

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This Week (December 2):

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Middle School Youth Group: Grades 6-8 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)

St. John's Forum: Back to Confirmation (9:45 a.m., Sanctuary)

Manna and Mercy Video Discussion Group (9:45 a.m., Fireside Room)

Accompany Newcomer Gathering (9:45 a.m., Undercroft)

Next Week (December 9):

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons

Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons

Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45-10:30 a.m., Lower Level)

Middle School Youth Group: Grades 6-8 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)

St. John's Forum (9:45 a.m., Sanctuary)

Manna and Mercy Video Discussion Group (9:45 a.m., Fireside Room)

Toddler Time (9:45-10:30 a.m., Room 20)

Today's Learning Topics

St. John's Forum: *Back to Confirmation - Am I Really Supposed to Believe Mary was a Virgin?*

9:45-10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

During this Advent season, let's go back to Confirmation and ask a question that many of us think about but rarely talk about. *Was Mary really a virgin?* Have you ever asked that question? Using a Confirmation curriculum called Re:Form, we will wrestle with this question of faith together.

Manna & Mercy Video Discussion Group Continues Today

9:45-10:30 a.m., Fireside Room

After the story of Noah and the flood, Genesis 11 ends in barrenness. But Genesis 12 is like a new start with Abraham and Sarah. Alan Storey offers that through this story God is looking for partnership with us - that is the way the world is healed. God not only wants to come *to us but also through us*.

Middle School Youth Group!

Sundays, 9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room

Come to the Youth Room for highs and lows and then make your own wooden Advent wreath candle holder that you can take home! Brian Evenson will be there to assist.

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Gert Brosz by Wil Brosz. Sunday services are broadcast on KYMN Radio 1080AM / 95.1FM from 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (cost is \$160), please contact the church office. Dates available: December 24 & 25. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television – cable channel 180 (please note change of channel number), Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you for your intent cards!

Our planning for 2019 depends on hearing about your financial giving intentions. If you have not yet returned a pledge card, please return them to the church office as soon as possible, or simply email Bernie Renander at finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org with your intent to give for 2019.

Volunteers Needed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

Everyone is invited to consider serving at the special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Please sign up in the Commons or online.

- Greet and Attend the Welcome Desk
- Prepare and Cleanup from Communion

Please Note: The opportunity to serve in these roles is **open to the whole congregation**. The December Hospitality group is responsible for (only!) the FIVE Sundays this year in December!

Community Christmas Day Dinner Sign-Ups Continue

Sign-ups continue in the Commons between services. We need donations of food, help with set-up, and help in both the kitchen and in St. John's Hall on Christmas Day. Come see us and sign-up!

Poinsettia Orders

The Chancel Guild will be taking orders starting November 28 and continue through December 16. If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone or in celebration of Christmas, stop in the Commons on Sundays between services or Wednesday evenings during the meal. The order form is also available online. The flowers will be used to decorate the church for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

High School Club (Grades 9-12)

Today, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Home of Peggy Hanson (205 Elm Street)

Come to Peggy's cozy home for delicious holiday treats, relaxing time with peers, and a chance to help make a quilt for homeless youth in Northfield.

Bus Tour to the American Swedish Institute - Thursday, December 6

Currently, the bus trip is full. If you are interested in being on the waiting list please contact Duane Engstrom or the church office.

Announcements (continued)

Fair Trade Handmade Crafts on Sale Today in the Commons Between Services

Your purchases help support artisans around the world.

Advent Vespers - Contemplative Worship in the Sanctuary

Wednesdays, December 5, 12, and 19, at 6:15 p.m.

Each Advent storytime and vespers will include singing, storytime, and prayers for the season of waiting. We will use beautiful children's books to illuminate the season.

- **December 5:** On the Eve of St. Nicholas day, come hear *The Miracle of St. Nicholas* a true story about a Russian church that celebrated Christmas in spite of great hardship.
- **December 12:** Listen to the story of the Three Wise Men retold by Barbara Brown Taylor in her new children's book *Home by Another Way*.
- **December 19:** We'll hear Frank McCourt's story "Angela and the Baby Jesus," an Irish tale of childhood, family and forgiveness.

Service Project Event for Middle and High School Families

Saturday, December 8, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Family Fare Grocery Store (601 Division Street)

Pay It Forward! Help bag customer groceries AND hand the customer \$5 to "pay it forward." The \$5 bill will be supplied by St. John's. Those receiving the \$5 can do with it whatever they choose (donate it to a charity, keep it, give it to someone else in need, etc.) Sign-up sheets are in the Commons and outside the Youth Room or email Sue Hagen at susanehagen@gmail.com.

Christmas with Copper Street Brass

Copper Street Brass presents their popular holiday concert "Christmas on Copper Street" at **St. John's on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m.** They will play music from traditional carols to funk and rock holiday tunes. This year's concert features music of favorite movies and TV specials *The Nutcracker*, *The Snowman*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and *The Grinch*. Tickets are on sale now- \$20 or \$25 at the door and \$10 for students. For more information go to www.copperstreetbrass.org.

Operation Joy (Sharing Tree), November 14 - December 9

The Christmas Sharing Tree with a new title "Operation Joy" is a program sponsored by the Northfield Community Action Center and will be displayed in the Commons **now - December 9**. The Sharing Tree is decorated with paper stars. Each star has a gift idea, along with the name, age, and gender of a child whose family needs help purchasing Christmas gifts this year. Purchased gifts should be placed, unwrapped, with the paper star attached, and put under the tree by **Sunday, December 9. Bring your child(ren) along to help find a gift for a child.** Thank you for your donations!

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

Jane Koskovich

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Mary Gasho, Fred Gonnerman, Elvin Heiberg, Fred Huemoeller,
Mary Ingbritsen, Sally Lindell, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, Bette Quinnell, Betty Schuette,
Eulalie Smestad, Joanne Sommers, Jim Thompson, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Lois Rand, Sylvia Solberg, Berta Diem

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; Randy Stubbs & Family,
ELCA missionaries in Tanzania; Curtis and Katie Kline, ELCA missionaries in Colombia

Members of St. John's studying at seminary, including

Henry Burt, Hayden Kvamme

Refugees from Ethiopia being sponsored by St. John's

Paul, Ariat, and their family

Prayer Requests / Stephen Ministry Requests

Stephen Ministry Requests

Call Joan Halvorson at 507-645-8445 or 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.

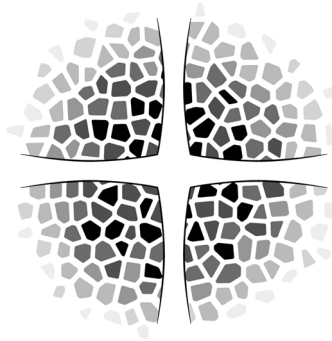
Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 9):

Second Sunday of Advent

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

This Week At-a-Glance

Monday, Dec. 3	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Manna and Mercy Mondays, Fireside Room Pub Theology, SMOQE House Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall Girl Scouts - Troop Leader Meeting, St. John's Hall
Tuesday, Dec. 4	8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Northfielders for Justice and Peace, Fireside Room
Wed., Dec. 5	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:15 p.m. 4:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	3 Links Communion, Offsite Wednesday After School Programming (Grades K-5) Alleluia Choir (Grades K-2), Room 205 Jubilate Choir (Grades 3-5), Room 209 Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Laudate Choir (Grades 6-12), Room 205 Advent Vespers, Sanctuary Confirmation (Grades 6), Sanctuary Confirmation (Grades 7-8), Sanctuary High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Sanctuary St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Dec. 6	9:45 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Bus Tour to American Swedish Institute, Meet on 3 rd Street Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony
Friday, Dec. 7	8:45 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall St. Lucia Fest, St. John's Hall
Saturday, Dec. 8	8:30 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Dec. 9	8:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 3:00 p.m.	Worship / Nursery <i>(For Schedule Between Services, please see page 11)</i> Worship / Nursery Christmas on Copper Street Brass Band Concert, Sanctuary



St. John's

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Pam Fickenscher, Senior Pastor

Jonathan Davis, Associate Pastor

Carol Benson, Director of Jubilate Choir

Melissa Berthelsen, Parish Nurse

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry

Tim Byers, Facility Manager

Leah H. Garlie, Office Manager

Angie Gehring / Emerson Clay, Youth Support Staff

Christy Hall-Holt / Mary Kelvie, Shared Ministry Coordinators

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

Bernie Renander, Financial Manager

Call the Church Office, or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.