



# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2017

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 red books at the end of the pews.*

*Please pass them down 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.*

***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.*

*Hearing assistance devices are available outside the sanctuary.*

*Large print bulletins are now available for Sunday worship services.*

*Please ask an usher if you would like one.*

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Prelude** — “Partita on ‘Savior of the Nations, Come’”

Jacob Weber

I. Fanfare II. Bicinium III. Ornamentation IV. Trio V. Fugue

**Welcome and Announcements**

## \*Advent Credo

Daniel Berrigan, b. 1921

- P** It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—
- A** **This is true: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.”** (John 3:16)
- P** It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—
- A** **This is true: “I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”** (John 10:10b)
- P** It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—
- A** **This is true: “Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders, his name shall be called Wonderful Councilor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”** (Isaiah 9:6)
- P** So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope.  
Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.  
Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage:  
Jesus Christ—the life of the world.
- A** **Amen.**

## \*Opening Hymn — 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.
- A** **And also with you.**

## \*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- L** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.  
You call all nations to walk in your light  
and to seek your ways of justice and peace,  
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.  
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.  
Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to  
greet our Lord when he comes  
and welcome him into our hearts and homes,  
for he is our light and our salvation.

**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, Köln, 1710; tr. composite*

## \*Prayer of the Day

- P** Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.  
By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers  
of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation,  
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Children's Message

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

**First Reading** — Isaiah 64:1-9

Pew Bible, page 606

*After the reading:*

- ☐ The word of the Lord.
- ☒ **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading** — 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Pew Bible, page 926

*After the reading:*

- ☐ The word of the Lord.
- ☒ **Thanks be to God.**

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

Taizé Community

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin GIA Publications, reprinted under OneLicense A-708009

**\*Gospel** — Mark 13:24-37

Spark Story Bible, page 346; Pew Bible, page 826

*Before the reading:*

- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 13<sup>th</sup> 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. 252

“Each Winter As the Year Grows Older”

*Stanza 1 — choir/cantor*

*Stanzas 2-5 — all*

## \*Prayers of Intercession

- ☞ 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

*Music at the Offering:*

(8:30) “The Advent of Our God”

G. Winston Cassler

*St. John’s Chorale*

(10:45) “An Advent Prayer”

Allen Pote

**\*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.

**A** 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 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.**

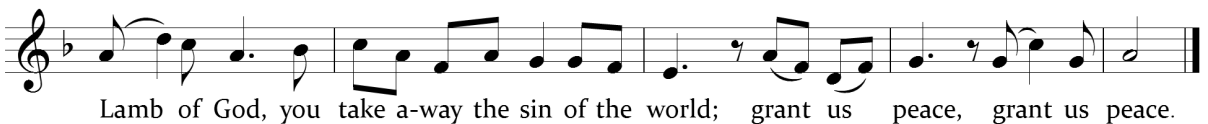
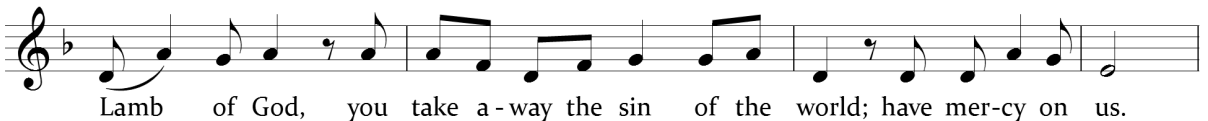
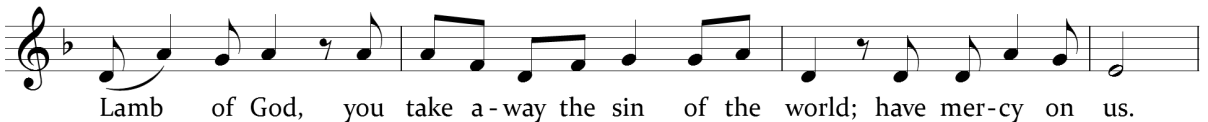
## \*The Lord's Prayer

**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"



**Anthem** — “Come Now, Savior of the Nations”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

**Hymn** — No. 263

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

*Stanzas 1-4*

**Hymn** — No. 260

“The King Shall Come”

## DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD’S WORLD

### \*Post Communion Litany and Benediction

**P** God for whom we wait:

**A** **Make us ready.**

**P** To see you at every hungry table,

**A** **Make us ready.**

**P** To receive you joyfully into our hearts and lives,

**A** **Make us ready.**

**P** May Christ the sun of righteousness shine upon you  
and lighten your path. Now, and forever.

**A** **Amen.**

\***Sending Hymn** — No. 244

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

*Stanzas 1 and 4*

### \*Dismissal

**L** Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**A** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** — “Processional in A-flat”

David N. Johnson



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

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Dan Geslin
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Cantor	(10:45) Martha Lundin
Acolytes	(8:30) Trevor Dell, Jake Tanghe (10:45) Lindsey Canedy, Elsa Nystrom
Communion Preparer	TBD
Communion Server	(8:30) TBD (10:45) Will Schroeer
Communion Clean Up	Georgene Johnson
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Carolyn Jennings, Paul and Anne Klinefelter (10:45) Carolyn Jennings, Paul and Anne Klinefelter
Coffee and Refreshments	Georgene Johnson, Paul and Anne Klinefelter, Rick and Nancy Moe, Candice Volkert
Nursery	TBD
Counters	Wil Brosz, Brenda Bultman, 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 photography by Jim Cederberg. Total eclipse of the sun from Aurora, NE on August 21, 2017.

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14028-LIT. Other liturgical aids are from *Sundays and Seasons* © 2011 Augsburg Fortress. | Reprinted with permission.

## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 10):**

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

**Isaiah 40:1-11    †    Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13    †    2 Peter 3:8-15a    †    Mark 1:1-8**

## **WELCOME STATEMENT**

*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.*

## **Learning and Fellowship Between Services**

### **This Week (December 3):**

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons  
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons  
Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45 a.m., Lower Level)  
Sunday Life Group: Grades 6-12 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)  
St. John's Forum: Will I Survive the Holidays? Hidden Stressors (9:45 a.m., Sanctuary)

### **Next Week (December 10):**

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons  
Fair Trade Sales of Coffee and More, Commons  
Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45 a.m., Lower Level)  
Sunday Life Group: Grades 6-12 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)  
St. John's Forum: Luther on Christmas (9:45 a.m., St. John's Hall)  
Toddler Time (9:45 a.m., Room 20)



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

Menu for Wednesday, December 6:  
*Scalloped Potatoes with Ham*

**All are welcome!**

# **Announcements**

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in memory of Dagny Christensen and Leslie Gustafson who shared a December 1 birthday. 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 & 31. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television – cable channel 187, Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

## **Today's Forum**

**9:45 a.m., Sanctuary**

Topic: *Will I Survive the Holidays?*

In *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, Ellen Griswold famously said, "I don't know what to say except that it's Christmas and we're all in misery." While many of us know, Jesus is the reason for the season, too often all the holiday cheer can get clouded over with 5 different family Christmases across the state, painful family dynamics, crushing credit card bills, and more. Does it have to be this way? Will it every stop? Misery loves company, as they say, so let's get together and chat about it. Together, we will talk about what weighs down the holiday season and how we might help it bring life instead.

## **St. Olaf Christmas Festival Live Stream**

**Today, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

Do you love the St. Olaf Christmas Festival but can't attend this year due to mobility reasons or sensitivities to big crowds? Are you curious about what the concert is like but haven't been before? Do you already have a ticket but want to take it in one more time? We will be showing the live stream of the Christmas Festival today in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome. It's free!

## **Advent Vespers - Contemplative Worship in the Sanctuary**

**Wednesdays, December 6 and 13, at 6:30 p.m.**

## **Community Christmas Dinner Alert!**

We are continuing to solicit helpers for the Community Christmas Dinner today. You will find a sign-up table located in the Commons area between services where we will be asking for donations of food and/or your time to help make this annual event a huge success. Please stop by and sign up!

## **The Christmas Sharing Tree - Extended to December 10!**

Our annual "Christmas Sharing Tree," a program through the Northfield Community Action Center, is displayed in the Commons. 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 10**. Thank you for your donations!

# **Announcements (cont.)**

## **Thank you for your 2018 intent to give!**

We are still 100 pledges short of our goal of 300 households pledging gifts for our ministry next year. Your pledge helps us plan ministry and mission for the year ahead. This year one goal is to alleviate the need for additional children and youth fundraising by supporting our programs and camps through regular giving. You can submit your intent card to the church office at any time, or by emailing our Finance Manager at [finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org). Thanks!

## **Poinsettia Orders**

The Chancel Guild will be taking orders for poinsettias between services today, next Sunday, and on Wednesday, December 6, during the Wednesday Night Meal. If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone or in celebration of Christmas, stop in the Commons on the above dates. The order form will also be available in the church office and on the website. The last day to have your order form in is Wednesday, December 13. The flowers will be used to decorate the church for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

## **Need Cookies?**

**St. John's Women's Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange (and "I'm Migration Show and Tell").**

**Thursday, December 7, 1:00 p.m., St. John's Hall.**

Bring 2 dozen cookies to exchange, and 1/2 dozen to enjoy with coffee. Bring a family artifact or tradition from your family's country of origin to share with everyone.

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

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

St. John's Sunday School classes will be participating in our 10:45 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary. Pre-service music by children in K-Grade 5 begins at 10:35 a.m.

## **Christmas with Copper Street Brass**

Copper Street Brass presents their popular holiday concert "Christmas on Copper Street" at **St. John's on Friday, December 8 at 7:30 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](http://www.copperstreetbrass.org).

## **Christmas & New Year's Hospitality Needs**

These needs are **not** covered by monthly hospitality groups. Can you help with greeting, communion prep, or clean up? We have many opportunities available to serve during the holidays. Signups are available in the Commons or in CCB under "Christmas and New Year's Eve Services Hospitality." If you can help please let Mary Kelvie know at [sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@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 recovering*

Vera Haugen, Ann Ness

*Those with ongoing health concerns*

Gert Brosz, Fred Gonnerman, Elvin Heiberg, Mary Ingbritsen, Elaine Kringen, Ed Lindell, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, Margaret O'Leary, Bette Quinnell, Joanne Sommers, Dick Werdahl, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Earl Hoffbeck, Timothy Johnson, George Schneider, Carol Stubbs, Paul Wolff

*All who are homebound, including*

Donna Kallestad, Wilbur Christensen, Joan Carlson

*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 and Carol 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*

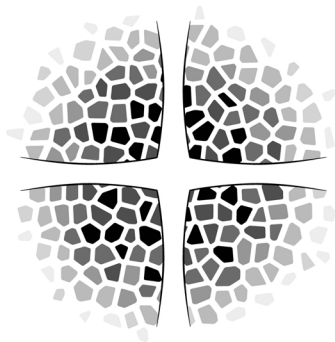
Call Joan Halvorson at 507-645-8445 or one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

*Prayer Chain Requests*

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

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

<b>Monday, Dec. 4</b>	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Manna & Mercy Mondays, Fireside Room Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall Nfld Girl Scouts - Troop Leader Meeting, St. John's Hall
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 5</b>	8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	Bone Builders, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Weekly Lectionary Text Study, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Room 212
<b>Wed., Dec. 6</b>	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:45 p.m. 4:15 p.m.  4:45 p.m. 5:15 p.m.  6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	3 Links Communion, Offsite NFLD Public Schools Instructional Coaches, Fireside Room "ROCK" Wednesday Afterschool Programming (Grades K-5) Alleluia Choir (Grades K-2), Room 205 Homework Hangout (Grades 6-8), Youth Room Jubilate Choir (Grades 3-5), Room 209 Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall Laudate Choir (Grades 6-12), Room 205 Confirmation (Grade 9), Undercroft Advent Vespers, Sanctuary High School Youth Group (Grades 10-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Dec. 7</b>	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Positive Path Coaching, Fireside Room Women of St. John's: Coffee & Christmas Cookie Exchange Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
<b>Friday, Dec. 8</b>	8:45 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Bone Builders, Fellowship Hall St. Lucia Fest, St. John's Hall Christmas with Copper Street Brass, Sanctuary
<b>Saturday, Dec. 9</b>	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Discover Who You Are - Lifekeys Book Study, Hideaway Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
<b>Sunday, Dec. 10</b>	8:30 a.m.  10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery (For Schedule Between Services, please see page 11) Worship / Nursery (Children's Christmas Program)



# 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 Fickenscher and Jonathan Davis, *Pastors*

Carol Benson, *Director of Alleluia and Jubilate Choirs*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office Manager*

Angie Gehring / Rebekah Thomas, *Youth Support Staff*

Christy Hall-Holt / Mary Kelvie, *Shared Ministry Coordinators*

Zachery Pelletier, *Director of Rejoice Ringers*

Marvin Perez, *Security and Custodial Assistant*

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

Bernie Renander, *Financial Manager*

Melissa Berthelsen, *Parish Nurse*

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