



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 5, 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 — “Light Dawns on a Weary World”

Aaron David Miller

“Light dawns on a weary world; the promised day of justice comes.”—ELW 726

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 715

“Christ, Be Our Light”

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- L** We praise you, Redeeming One.
As we light two candles on this wreath,
kindle in us your Spirit's fire, that we might
welcome others as you have welcomed us.
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.

*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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.
By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation;
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 — Malachi 3:1-4

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

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

Refrain — 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***

*To all who live in holy fear your mercy ever flows.
 With mighty arm you dash the proud, their scheming hearts expose.
 The ruthless you have cast aside, the lowly throned instead;
 the hungry filled with all good things, the rich sent off unfed. **Refrain, all***

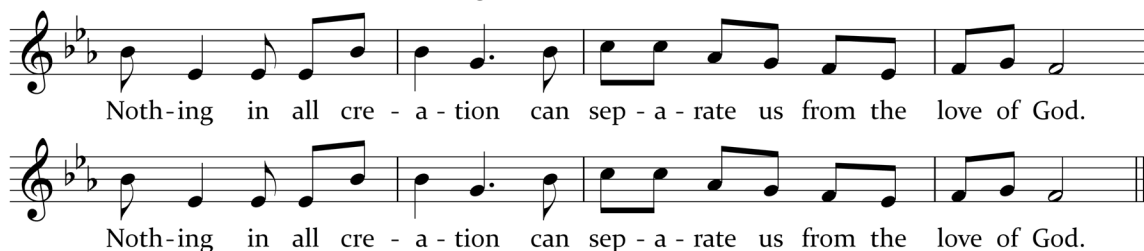
Second Reading — Philippians 1:3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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 3:1-6

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The

voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' ”

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. 949

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

***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:

L Lord, in your mercy,

C 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) "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. O Jesus, my comfort by day and my song in the night. —Joseph Swain, Sarah Flower Adams

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Lost in the Night"

arr. Kyle Haugen

Lost in the night do the people yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish. Will not day come soon? Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let us borrow, giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon? Sorrowing wanderers, in darkness yet dwelling, dawned has the day of a radiance excelling, death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling. Christ is coming soon. Will not day come soon? Come and save us soon! Christ is coming soon!

—Finnish song, tr. Olav Lee

*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.**

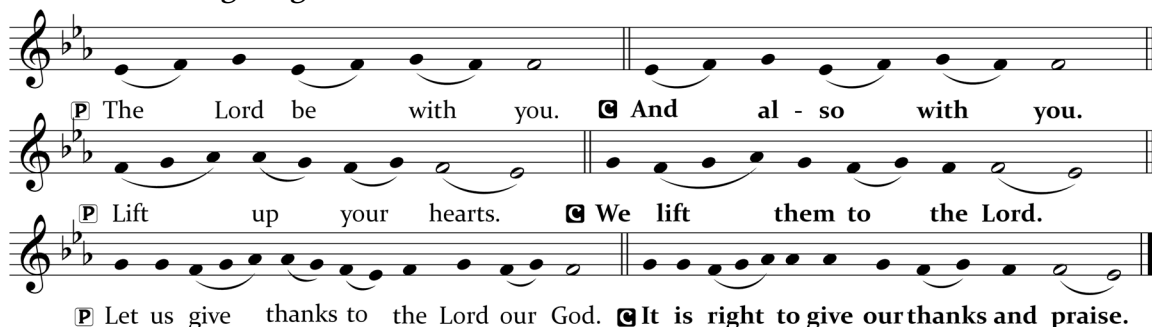
*Offering Prayer

☐ Let us pray.

☑ **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. 264

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

***Dismissal**

- ℣ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — “Processional in D Major”

David N. Johnson



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“New Roots” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	David and Debby Nitz
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Cantors	(10:45) Kristin Partlo, Joanne Smestad Clausen, Philip Clausen, David Sims
Percussion	Emmanuel Kaghondi
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Jerry Kipp, Jim Loe
Ushers	(8:30) Doug Child, Rick Hillard, Doug Johnson, Jim Sharrow (10:45) Dale Gehring, Kent Rommereim



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 in memory of Elaine Kringen by Duane Kringen, Janet and Andrew. 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. 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 celebration of Rose Youngquist's 90th birthday on December 9. Cards would be much enjoyed; please contact the church office for Rose's address.

Coffee and Fellowship with COVID Protocols Starts Today

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, scan the QR Code or email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org.



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates, and Thistle Farms Soaps Sales Today in the Commons

Hearing Loop Training and Hearing Assistance Information

Today, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

Between services, learn about how St. John's is providing ways for hearing-impaired persons to better hear the worship service and special events. Our main presenter will be Mark Rother of the Hearing Aid Doctor, who will demonstrate how different kinds of hearing aids can access the St. John's "Hearing Loop." The event is sponsored by the Faith & Health and the Evangelism & Communication Boards.

Our Stewardship Appeal for 2022

Knowing members' intentions helps us plan next year's ministry. Please submit your giving intention for next year by scanning 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.



Announcements (continued)

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.

Copper Street Brass Presents “Christmas on Copper Street”

Saturday, December 11, 7:30 p.m., St. John’s Lutheran Church

There’s no better time for brass than the holidays! Our popular holiday concert celebrates the stories and sounds of the season performed with passion, humor, and virtuosity. Hear music ranging from classical to carols in a show the whole family will love! Join us in the beautiful St. John’s Sanctuary, or at any of our performances in the metro area.

Tickets: \$30 advance / \$35 door – kids get in free!

Tickets and more at: www.copperstreetbrass.org/christmas

Pub Theology in December

Mondays, December 6 and 13, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Location TBD

Pub Theology is a conversation led by the pastors around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy or theological biblical knowledge is needed to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences! A discussion topic and location for the gatherings will be emailed later. To be included in the Pub Theology email list, please contact Pastor Jonathan at jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Courageous Conversations Book Group Winter Read Begins

Thursday, January 13, 4:00–5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Our first read for 2022 will be *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in White Christianity* by Robert P. Jones. The discussion will take place over Zoom on 2nd and 4th Thursdays: January 13 & 27, February 10 & 24, and March 10 & 24 (if we need a 6th session). To sign up, please email dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com.

Confirmation (Grades 6-8) and High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12) Resume Wednesday

We will be meeting at **6:30 p.m. after the Advent Vespers**. Pizza will be served in Fellowship Hall followed by “Community and Service-Oriented” learning activities.

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.

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

Marilyn Boschee, Jo Dahlin, Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings, Cora Scholz,
Mark Wegner (son of Roberta Wegner)

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of Duane Benson

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

Lois Pearson, Gloria Porter, Lois Rand

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 12):

Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20 + Isaiah 12:2-6 + Philippians 4:4-7 + Luke 3:7-18

This Week At-a-Glance

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

Monday, Dec. 6	9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Women of St. John's Board Meeting, Undercroft Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall Pub Theology, Location TBD
Tuesday, Dec. 7	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Visitation - Duane Benson, Commons Funeral - Duane Benson, Sanctuary Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Girl Scout Troop #27352, Undercroft Stephen Ministers Training via Zoom Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room
Wednesday, Dec. 8	9:30 a.m. 3:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, St. John's Library and St. John's Hall Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's Advent Vespers, Sanctuary Confirmation (Grades 6-8), Fellowship Hall High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12), Fellowship Hall St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec. 9	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Executive Committee, Fireside Room Quilters, Fellowship Hall Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library Rejoice Ringers, St. John's Hall
Friday, Dec. 10	9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Mary Circle, Fireside Room Swedish Club - Lucia Celebration, St. John's Hall
Saturday, Dec. 11	7:30 p.m.	Copper Street Brass Concert, Sanctuary
Sunday, Dec. 12	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Worship, Sanctuary 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 Worship, Sanctuary Cub Scout Den Packs, Lower Level



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Pam Fickenscher, *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.