



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 2019 † 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 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.

☐ Pastor, ☐ Leader (Assisting Minister), ☐ 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 — “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Daniel Burton

Elinor Niemisto, harp

Welcome and Announcements

*Advent Affirmation of Hope

- P** Let us affirm our hope in Christ, who came,
who comes, and who is to come:
When violence reigns,
and war seems never-ending,
Christ is our hope,
C born among us, crucified and risen.
- P** When despair lies in wait
and life loses meaning,
Christ is our hope,
C born among us, crucified and risen.
- P** When people claim to know what God alone knows,
and say the end is near,
Christ is our hope,
C born among us, crucified and risen.
- P** When life on earth is extinguished this year, next year,
or in a hundred million years,
Christ is our hope,
C born among us, crucified and risen.
- P** In sorrow and joy, today and tomorrow,
in life and in death,
Christ is our hope,
C born among us, crucified and risen.
- A** Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gathering Hymn — No. 264

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- Ⓐ We light candles during Advent, praying that our preparation for Christmas may help us to look outward in love, and to look forward in hope.

Let us pray that waiting for Christmas may show us how to be patient when things take time, how to live for Christ day by day, and how to wait for promises not yet fulfilled.

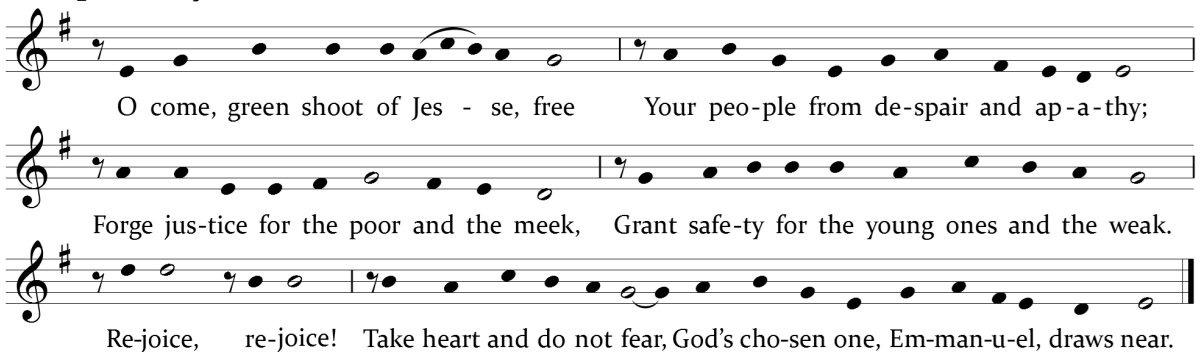
- Ⓒ **Risen Christ, Light of the world,
shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

- Ⓐ In Isaiah, chapter 11, the prophet declares, “They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea.” We light this candle as a sign of hope that truth will prevail, and justice be done, for all people. As we pray and work for truth, compassion, and justice, near and far—

- Ⓒ **Risen Christ, Light of the world,
shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

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

VENI, EMMANUEL



O come, green shoot of Jesse, free Your people from despair and apathy;
Forge justice for the poor and the meek, Grant safety for the young ones and the weak.
Re-joice, re-joice! Take heart and do not fear, God's chosen one, Emmanuel, draws near.

Text: Barbara Lundblad, 2013. Used with permission.

*Prayer of the Day

- Ⓐ Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.
By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- Ⓒ **Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Isaiah 11:1-10

Spark Story Bible, page 172; Pew Bible, page 558

After the reading:

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

Second Reading — Romans 15:4-13

Pew Bible, page 924

After the reading:

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

*Gospel Acclamation

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** — Matthew 3:1-12

Pew Bible, page 784

Before the reading:

- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd 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. 256

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

(10:45) **Affirmation of Faith with New Members**

Presentation

***Profession of Faith** — *Front of the hymnal, page 105*

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly

Welcome

Hymn — “God Welcomes All”

South African traditional

Sung twice by all.

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it ne - ver ends.

Text and Music: © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland; admin. GIA Publications, Inc., reprinted under OneLicense.net A-708009

***Prayers of Intercession**

After each petition:

- ☒ Lord, in your mercy,
- ☒ 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) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" arr. F. Melius Christiansen

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'et bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-
spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we
behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.*

- German carol, 15th century

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "The Winter Moon"

Daniel Burton

***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. Make your home here in us.

Feed us with your love, that our faith shine 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!

Text: Trad. liturgical, arr. Kimberly Bracken Long

*Eucharistic Prayer

- P** Holy One, the beginning and the end...Do this for the remembrance of me.
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 parts on a single staff. The first part is a melody in G major (one sharp) with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us." The second part is a harmony in G major with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us." The third part is a bass line in G major with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace."

(8:30) **Anthem** — "There is No Rose" from *A Ceremony of Carols* Benjamin Britten
There is no rose of such vertu as is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia. For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in litel space, Res miranda! (What a wondrous thing!) By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three, Pares forma. (Equal in form.) The aungels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gaudeamus! (Let us rejoice!) Leave we all this werldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth. Transeamus! (We are transformed!)
- Anon, 14th century

Hymn — No. 250

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

*Post-Communion Blessing

***Prayer after Communion**

ℒ Let us pray.

℣ **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 — No. 244**

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

***Dismissal**

ℒ Go in peace. Christ is with you.

℣ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — on HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG

Margrethe Hokanson



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Carrying Water,” Advent bulletin art series by Ricardo Levins Morales. www.rlmartstudio.com
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SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Minister	Rod Christensen
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Harp	Elinor Niemisto
Advent Wreath Lighters	(8:30) Bash/Goodrich Family (10:45) Rudser Family
Acolytes	(8:30) Michaela Gummow, Devon Root (10:45) Cora McBroom, Dyson McBroom
Communion Preparers	Sharon Bishop, Georgene Johnson
Communion Servers	(8:30) Deb Christensen (10:45) TBD
Communion Cleanup	Sharon Bishop, Georgene Johnson
Greeters / Welcome Desk	(8:30) Carolyn Jennings, Anne Klinefelter (10:45) Anne Klinefelter, Janet Lotegeluaki
Coffee and Refreshments	Bill and Char Carlson, Rebecca Gummow, Anne Klinefelter, Janet Lotegeluaki, Amanda Tracy, Candice Volkert
Nursery	Erica Anderson
Counters	Merilyn Calcutt, Dan Franklin, Jerry Kipp, Brent Mueller
Ushers	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jim Enestvedt, Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Brent Mueller, Don Sahling (10:45) Jonathan Norrie, Alex Dell, Terry Dell, Trevor Dell, Fred Huemoeller, Dick Kleber

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 15):

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10 + Psalm 146:5-10 + James 5:7-10 + Matthew 11:2-11

Wednesday Night



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

Menu for Wednesday, December 11:
Tater Tot Hotdish

All are welcome!

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Mary Gasho by the Gasho Family. 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. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television (NTV) - cable channel 187, Mondays at 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Stewardship Campaign Update

As of December 4, St. John's has received 140 pledge cards. Comparing this to last year, this represents just over half of the number of pledges received for 2019. Thank you to all who have already submitted their 2020 pledge card. If you have not yet indicated your intent, please do so as soon as possible to help facilitate our work on next year's budget. You can return a card to the church office, in the offering plate, or you can email your intent to Bernie Renander at finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org. If you give electronically through automatic transfer, please review your giving and let us know your 2020 intent, even if it is to remain the same.

St. John's Forum

Today, 9:45 a.m., Sanctuary

Topic: *Room at the Inn - Housing in Northfield with Scott Wopata*

The CAC is excited to include St. John's in the early stages of its vision for a community-based affordable housing response at the old Manger Inn site. What was once an idea is becoming a tangible project and St. John's investment through its 150th anniversary gift has been an instrumental catalyst in making this possible. CAC Executive Director Scott Wopata will present on the status of the project, the vision for the future, and the evolving role of the church in taking action as a leader in the community.

Community Christmas Day Dinner Signups

Sign-ups continue today in the Commons between services for contributions of food and for volunteer help in setting up on Monday, December 23, and in the kitchen and dining room on Christmas Day. It takes a village to make this event a success. Please consider being a part of that village and come find us at our table in the Commons to sign up!

St. John's Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15, 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, St. John's Hall

St. John's Children's Christmas Program will be held next Sunday, December 15, at the 10:45 a.m. service. The program, "Christmas Everywhere", is performed by children in preschool-grade 5. If your child is unable to participate please notify his/her teacher or Julie Brehmer at 507-645-4429 or children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Announcements (continued)

Christmas with Copper Street Brass

December 15, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Copper Street Brass presents their popular holiday concert “Christmas on Copper Street”. 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 will be available at the door (\$25 for adults / \$10 for students). This is a perfect event for families!

Poinsettia Orders

The Chancel Guild will be taking orders for poinsettias between services on Sundays and on Wednesdays 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 referenced days. 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 Sunday, December 16. The flowers will be used to decorate the church for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

Mark your calendars for an Intergenerational Event: Christmas Dinner Workshop

Sunday, December 22, 9:45-10:30 a.m.

Elves of all ages are needed to decorate placemats, make table decorations, and roll napkins for our St. John’s Community Christmas Day Dinner. Come join in the Christmas spirit of helping others while enjoying some carols, cookies, and camaraderie.

150 pints for 150 years!

We have 5 pints to go! There opportunities at American Red Cross. Please let Bonnie Peterson know of your donation at 218-686-8769. Thank you to all who donated!

I Cantanti and Le Donne will perform Nine Lessons and Carols today at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Faribault.

Human Rights Day

On December 10, people around the world will mark the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Do you know what these rights (your rights) are? If not, check out the UN's website: <https://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/index.shtml>. More information about Human Rights Day is on display at the Northfield Public Library. Watch for a local event to take place early in 2020!

St. John’s Website

Please check out our website at www.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

Jerry Bothun

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marybeth Bremer, Mary Ingbritsen, Becky Ness, Susan Nissen, Betty Schuette,
Joanne Sommers, Tom Sorenson, Jim Thompson, Julie Westerback, Laila Burns Hedstrom

All who are homebound, including

Sigrid Gronning, Elouise Quinnell, Lester Gunderson

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.

Children and Youth Ministry

Registration for our 2020 High School and Middle School Mission Trips is Now Open

This year we are working with CSM and Serve Boldly mission partners to plan for two mission experiences in Denver. For more information, pick up a brochure in the Commons. The signup sheet is posted in the Commons and on the bulletin board by the Youth Room. For additional information contact Emmanuel Kaghondi.

Sunday Morning Youth Group (Grades 6-12)

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

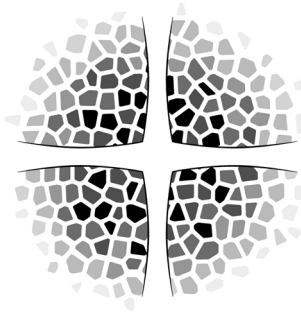
Today's Topic: *"Did Jesus Know He Was God?"*

On Sunday mornings, during the school year, all youth are invited to meet for treats, highs and lows, and interactive faith discussion! Other young adults and church members are encouraged to attend for intra and inter-generational connections.

This Week At-a-Glance

*The calendar below contains only St. John's events.
The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, Dec. 9	12:00 p.m.	Manna and Mercy Mondays, Fireside Room
Tuesday, Dec. 10	8:45 a.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room
		Knitters (World Vision: Knit for Kids), Offsite
	2:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room
	6:45 p.m.	Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wed., Dec. 11	3:45 p.m.	Wednesday After School Programming (Grades K-5)
	4:15 p.m.	Alleluia Choir (Grades K-2), Room 205
	4:45 p.m.	Jubilate Choir (Grades 3-5), Room 209
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
		Laudate Choir (Grades 6-12), Room 205
	6:15 p.m.	Advent Vespers, Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Dec. 12	7:00 a.m.	Executive Committee, Fireside Room
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers Rehearsal, Balcony
Friday, Dec. 13	8:45 a.m.	SAIL (Stay Active & Independent for Life), Fellowship Hall
	1:30 p.m.	Tai Chi Chih, Fireside Room
	6:00 p.m.	St. Lucia Fest, St. John's Hall
Saturday, Dec. 14	8:30 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Dec. 15	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Fellowship, Commons
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5, Lower Level
		Sunday Morning Youth Group (Grades 6-12), Youth Room
		St. John's Forum: Daniel Rift/ELCA Mission Fund, Sanctuary
	10:45 a.m.	Worship with Children's Christmas Program, St. John's Hall
	3:00 p.m.	Copper Street Brass Band, Sanctuary



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*

Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*

Carol Benson, *Director of Jubilate Choir*

Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*

Leah H. Garlie, *Office 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 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.