



Lisle

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 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 — *Three About John:*

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

Wayne Wold

John Ferguson

Robert Hobby

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. 264

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

*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.

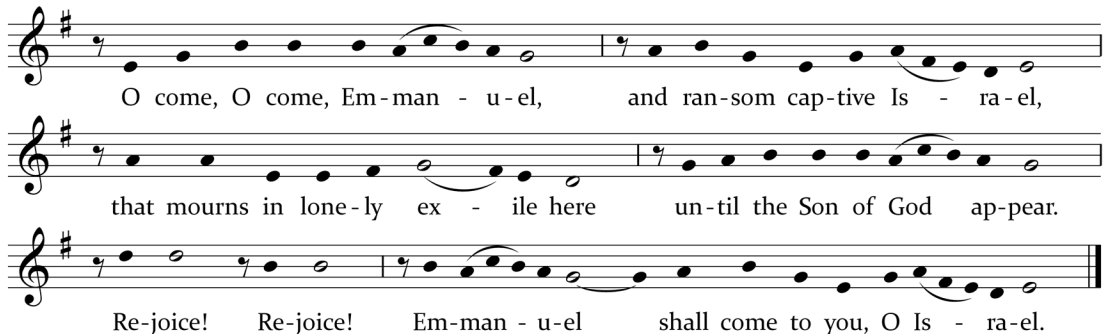
*Prayer of the Day

- 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.

*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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

After the reading:

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalmody — Luke 1:68-69, 76-79

Antiphon: Carolyn Jennings

*Antiphon: In the tender compassion of our God the dawn
from on high will break upon us.*



⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the ¹ God of Israel,
you have come to your people and ¹ set them free.

⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a ¹ mighty Savior,
born of the house of your ¹ servant David.**

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of ¹ the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- ¹ pare the way,

⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge ¹ of salvation
by the forgiveness ¹ of their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion ¹ of our God
the dawn from on high shall ¹ break upon us,

⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- ¹ ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the ¹ way of peace. Antiphon**

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 really matters, 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.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

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

WAIT FOR THE LORD

A musical score for a two-part setting of 'Wait for the Lord'. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the staves. The music consists of chords and single notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'

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

***Gospel — Luke 3:1-6**

Spark Story Bible, page 234

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 Jonathan Davis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 249

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

***The Apostles' Creed**

Front of ELW hymnal, page 127

***Prayers of Intercession**

After each petition:

- ☒ 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) "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"

Evelyn Larter

My soul now magnifies the Lord, my spirit leaps, by joy possessed. You keep me in your kind regard; all generations call me blessed. For you alone, O God of might, have done amazing things for me. Your mercy flows; your name like light remains in time perpetually. Your arm is strong; your strength is great. You scatter those of proud intent and cast them down from high estate; then give the low your nourishment. You feed the hungry as your own; the wealthy leave with empty hands. You give your help to Israel; your gracious promise always stands. Sing glory to the Holy One, give honor to the incarnate Word, and praise the Power of God most high, from age to age by all adored.

– Stephanie K. Frey

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"

Mark Sedio

***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.**

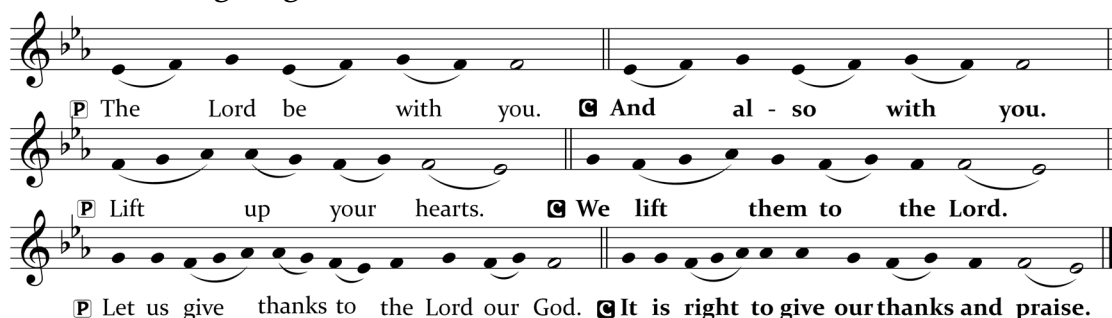
*Offering Prayer

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.

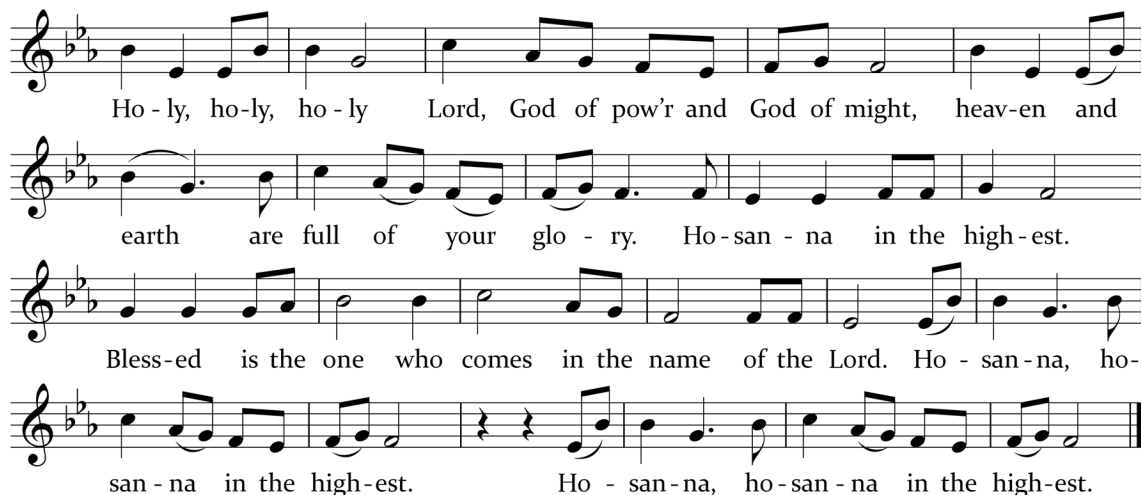
SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*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) **Anthem** — "Comfort, Comfort"

arr. John Ferguson

For anthem text, see ELW No. 256.

Hymn — ELW No. 726

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"

***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. 244

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

***Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God!

Postlude — on HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG

Margrethe Hokanson



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Becker-Nelson Family (10:45) Pippa Younger and Nancy Simpson-Younger
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Anthem Accompanist	(8:30) Jane Turpin Moore
Violin	(8:30) Green Bouzard
Cantor	(10:45) David Sims
Communion Prep	David and Debby Nitz
Communion Cleanup	Beth Cox
Greeters	(8:30) Mary Ellen North, Craig Schultz (10:45) TBD
Coffee Service	Bob and Pat Tabery, Herb and Pat Fick
Refreshments	Gerri Licke, Patrice Nordstrand, Rhonda Reece
Counters	David Becker, Janell Martin, Mark Ulmer
Ushers	(8:30) Jon and Cindy McBroom, Dan Franklin, Don Sahling, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Cindy Clauson, Leif Knecht, Bob Nyvall, Eric Sponheim

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Announcements

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

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by the Brosz family in memory of Gert Brosz who passed away seven years ago. 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 or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: December 29 and January 12, & 19.

St. John's Forum: *Advance Care Planning—What ACP Is & Why It Matters to All Adults*

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., St. John's Hall

In this forum, Advance Care Planning—a process of reflection, conversation and communication, and one that many adults recognize as important, but have not completed—will be described and demystified. Whether you would like information for yourself or for someone in your life, please join us to learn about how Advance Care Planning can provide peace of mind, knowing that your family and your care team are aware of your values and wishes, and will be able to honor your choices.

Advent Book Read: *All Creation Waits*

Today, 9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room

Please join us as we read *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.

Advent Vespers

Wednesdays, December 11 & 18

6:15–6:45 p.m., Sanctuary

We gather for a quiet service of Holden Evening Prayer and scripture. Join us for 30 minutes in the Sanctuary to let the waiting and hope of the season sink in.

St. John's Community Christmas Day Dinner

December 25, 11:15 a.m.–1:30 p.m., St. John's Hall

We are excited to be hosting this wonderful holiday meal to all, but need volunteers and food donations to make it a success! Paper sign-ups are available in the Commons during Sunday coffee hours and Wednesday Night Meals. Sign-up is also available on the [church website in CCB listed in the Group "Christmas Dinner 2024."](#) You can also sign up by emailing Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org or by calling the church office.

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!

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 is available online and in the Commons. The last day to place your order is Wednesday, December 18. Plants are \$20 a piece.

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"

Annual Meeting Reports

For all those who are submitting information for the Annual Report, please turn in your report by Friday, December 20, and mark your calendar for the annual meeting on Sunday, February 2. (Watch future publications for more details regarding the annual meeting.)

Learning and Fellowship Between Services

This 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)

Next Week (December 15)

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)

Advent Book Read (9:45–10:30 a.m., Fireside Room)

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

Bill Carlson, Darlene Hand, Fred Huemoeller, Bruce Ohland, Carol Schoen, Olive Tennyson

Those mourning the loss of a loved one

Family of VaLois Mandsager (wife of Orlin Mandsager and step-mother of Michael Mandsager)

Those with ongoing health concerns

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

All who are homebound, including

Carolyn Jennings, Laila Burns Hedstrom, Billi Faillettaz

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, or contact a pastor.

Wednesday Night



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

Menu for Wednesday, December 11:
Enchilada Bake

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

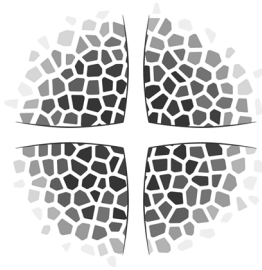
*The full calendar of events and building usage can be accessed
on our website at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.*

Monday, Dec. 9	12:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, The Contented Cow
Tuesday, Dec. 10	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	WELCA Executive Board Meeting, St. John's Hall
		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
	7:00 p.m.	Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Dec. 11	9:30 a.m.	Lydia and Paul Circles, Library and St. John's Hall
	3:45 p.m.	Afterschool Programming (Kindergarten-Grade 5), St. John's
	5:15 p.m.	Wednesday Night Meal, St. John's Hall
	6:15 p.m.	Advent Vespers, Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	St. John's Chorale, Room 209
Thursday, Dec. 12	7:45 a.m.	Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Quilting & Bandage Rolling, Fellowship Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, St. John's Library
	1:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Circle, St. John's Library
Friday, Dec. 13	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Mary Circle, Fireside Room
	6:00 p.m.	Swedish Club Lucia Fest, St. John's Hall
	7:00 p.m.	NAMI Support Group, Fireside Room
Saturday, Dec. 14	8:30 a.m.	St. John's Women of the ELCA, Fellowship Hall
	9:00 a.m.	Women's Breakfast Group, Fireside Room
Sunday, Dec. 15	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery, Sanctuary <i>(For the schedule between services, please see page 11)</i>
	10:45 a.m.	Worship-Children's Christmas Program / Nursery, Sanctuary

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 15):

Third Sunday of Advent

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



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD MN

500 Third Street West

Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

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.*