



# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

8:30 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.*

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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

**Prelude** — “Prepare the Royal Highway”

Robert Hobby

**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** It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—
- A** **This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and, lo, I am with you, even until the end of the world.** (Matthew 18,20)
- 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. 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.
- A** **And also with you.**

## \*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- L** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.  
John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way  
for the kingdom of heaven is near.  
Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.  
Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit,  
that we may be a light shining in the darkness  
welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,  
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: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

## \*Prayer of the Day

- P** Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.  
By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives;  
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

**First Reading** — Isaiah 40:1-11

Pew Bible, page 581

*After the reading:*

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

**Second Reading** — 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Pew Bible, page 988

*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 1:1-8

Pew Bible, page 812

*Before the reading:*

- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.
- ☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

- ☐ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☒ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Jonathan Davis

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — No. 250

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

## \*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:*

“The Hills are Bare at Bethlehem”

arr. Ralph Johnson

*The hills are bare at Bethlehem, no future for the world they show;  
yet here new life begins to grow, from earth's old dust a greenwood stem.*

*The stars are cold at Bethlehem, no warmth for those beneath the sky;  
yet here the radiant angels fly, and joy burns new, a fi'ry gem.*

*The heart is tired at Bethlehem, no human dream unbroken stands;  
yet here God comes to mortal hands, and hope renewed cries out: “Amen!”*

*St. John's Chorale*

\*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"



The musical notation is written on three staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes.

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.



**Anthem** — “Comfort, Comfort”

arr. John Ferguson

**Hymn** — No. 249

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

**Hymn** — No. 241

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

## 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. 239

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

### \*Dismissal

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

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

**Postlude** — “Toccata in F Major”

Johann Pachelbel



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

Presiding	Pastor Pam Fickenschner
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Minister	Scott Swanson
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	St. John's Chorale
Anthem Soloist	Kayleigh Shaffer, Church Music Intern
Acolytes	Alexander Organ, Katherine Organ
Communion Preparer	Georgene Johnson
Communion Server	TBD
Communion Clean Up	Sharon Bishop, Georgene Johnson
Greeters / Welcome Desk	Paul and Anne Klinefelter, Leah Sand
Coffee and Refreshments	Mary Hoff, Dennis and Jane Rinehart, Leah Sand, Kristi Wermager
Nursery	TBD
Counters	Gene and Lois Bakko, Bill and Char Carlson
Ushers	Dan Franklin, Jim Enestvedt, Bob Johnson, Jon McBroom, Cindy McBroom, Brent Mueller, Don Sahling, Dick Werdahl



Cover photography by Mark Ulmer | Image captured on October 4, 2016  
along the boundary of Tettegouche State Park.

## ***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 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)

### **Next Week (December 17):**

Coffee and Fellowship, Commons  
Intergenerational Event: Christmas Day Dinner Workshop (9:45 a.m., St. John's Hall)  
Sunday School: Preschool-Grade 5 (9:45 a.m., Lower Level)  
Sunday Life Group: Grades 6-12 (9:45 a.m., Youth Room)

## **Intergenerational Event: Christmas Dinner Workshop Sunday, December 17**

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 a Christmas carol sing, cookies, and camaraderie.  
(Sunday School and Sunday Life Group will meet in St. John's Hall)

# **Announcements**

**Today's Radio Broadcast** is given in loving memory of sisters Lorraine Levy and Dorothy Lindholm by Bob and Marilyn Matta. 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., St. John's Hall**

Topic: *Luther On Christmas* (with Guest Presenter Dr. Anthony Bateza)

As we remember the 500<sup>th</sup> year of the Reformation, what were Martin Luther's thoughts on Christmas and celebrating the birth of Christ? What contributions did he make to this holiday in the Church? Join us as we welcome Luther Scholar and St. Olaf Professor of Religion, Dr. Anthony Bateza as he teaches about Martin Luther and Christmas.

## **Your 2018 Intent Cards are Needed!**

Please help us plan our budget and ministry in the year ahead. No matter what amount you are able to give, we value your prayerful response! You can return your card to the church office in person, in the offering plate, by mail or by emailing your intent to [finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:finance@StJohnsNorthfield.org). THANK YOU!

## **Poinsettia Orders**

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

## **Community Christmas Dinner Alert!**

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

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

These needs are not covered by monthly hospitality groups. Can you help with greeting, communion prep, or communion 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).

## **Announcements (cont.)**

### **Pub Theology**

**Tomorrow, Monday, December 11**

**6:00-7:30 p.m., Froggy Bottoms**

Pub Theology is a bi-monthly conversation around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences. All are welcome.

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

**Wednesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m.**

### **Women of St. John's Annual Christmas & Carols Luncheon**

**Thursday, January 4, 11:30 a.m., King's Room at St. Olaf**

Delightful music and delicious food are always the fare at our annual Christmas luncheon. Reserve your place by signing up on the bulletin board in the Commons. Cost is \$15.

### **High School Club (Grades 9-12)**


**Sunday, December 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Peggy Hanson's, 205 Elm Street (by Carleton)**

We will start preparing for the high school Christmas party: making desserts and party favors! Tea, cocoa, cider, and treats will be provided. Please come and bring friends. Any questions please call Peggy Hanson at 952-210-2358.

### **High School Christmas Dinner Party (Grades 9-12)**

**Friday, December 22, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Peggy Hanson's, 205 Elm Street (by Carleton)**

A big welcome to all high school students to join us for a Christmas Dinner Party. If there is snow we will go sledding for a bit at the Carleton hill before dinner (bring sleds). If there is no snow, we will hang out, play games, maybe do a craft or go caroling before dinner. Either way, come join in the fun. Any questions, feel free to call Peggy Hanson at 952-210-2358.

	<p><b>Served from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. in St. John's Hall</b></p> <p>Menu for Wednesday, December 13: <i>Tater Tot Pot Pie</i></p> <p><b>All are welcome!</b></p>
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## 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 celebrating the ordination of*

Daniel Rinehart, son of Dennis and Jane Rinehart

*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*

Margaret Nokleberg, Arlene Sivanich, Richard Olson

*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.

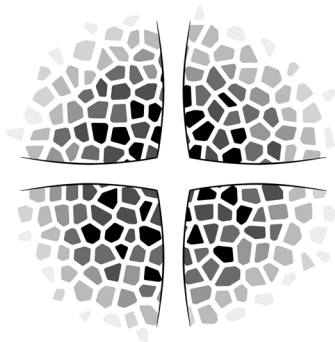
## **Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 17):**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 † Psalm 126 † 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 † John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

<b>Monday, Dec. 11</b>	9:30 a.m.	Women of St. John's Executive Board, Undercroft
	12:00 p.m.	Manna & Mercy Mondays, Fireside Room
	5:00 p.m.	Laura Baker Services Association Holiday Party, St. John's Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Pub Theology, Froggy Bottoms
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall Anniversary Fundraising Committee, Fireside Room
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 12</b>	8:45 a.m.	Bone Builders, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 a.m.	1000 Cannon Valley Drive Communion, Offsite
	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Knitters (World Vision: Knit for Kids), Offsite
	12:30 p.m.	Weekly Lectionary Text Study, Fireside Room
	2:00 p.m.	Worship Planning for Staff, Room 212
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scouts, Undercroft
	6:45 p.m.	Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall
	8:30 p.m.	Guy's Night Out, Contented Cow
<b>Wed., Dec. 13</b>	12:00 p.m.	NFLD Public Schools Instructional Coaches, Fireside Room
	3:45 p.m.	"ROCK" Wednesday Afterschool Programming (Grades K-5)
	4:15 p.m.	Alleluia Choir (Grades K-2), Room 205 Homework Hangout (Grades 6-8), Youth Room
	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
	6:30 p.m.	Advent Vespers, Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Group (Grades 10-12), Youth Room St. John's Chorale, Room 209
<b>Thursday, Dec. 14</b>	7:00 a.m.	Executive Committee, Fireside Room
	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Knitters, Fireside Room
	6:00 p.m.	Rejoice Ringers, Balcony
<b>Friday, Dec. 15</b>	8:45 a.m.	Bone Builders, Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday, Dec. 16</b>		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
<b>Sunday, Dec. 17</b>	8:30 a.m.	Worship / Nursery (with Lessons & Carols) (For Schedule Between Services, please see page 11)
	10:45 a.m.	Worship / Nursery (with Lessons & Carols)



# St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD · MN

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**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.