



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 12, 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 — “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Aaron David Miller

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 242

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L We praise you, Saving One.
As we light three candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts as we wait,
that we might serve our neighbors in need.
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

☐ Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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 — Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

☐ The word of the Lord. ☑ Thanks be to God.

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

Refrain — *all singing*; **Verses** — *choir/cantor*



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.

For Magnificat verse text, see page 32 in All Creation Sings.

Second Reading — Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

📖 The word of the Lord. 🙏 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

(8:30) “Lift Up Your Heads”

arr. Olaf C. Christiansen

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates. Behold the King of glory waits! The King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here. O blest the land, the city blest. Where Christ the ruler is confessed! O happy hearts and happy homes to whom the King in triumph comes! Fling wide the portals of your heart, make it a temple set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy. Redeemer, come! With us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide. Let us thy inner presence feel, thy grace and love in us reveal. O King of glory, come! —Georg Weissel

(10:45) “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

The musical score is written on three staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The third staff contains the melody for the third line. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C).

Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
Re - deem - er, come! With us a - bid; our hearts to
King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
thee we o - pen wide. Let us thy in - ner
draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
pre - sence feel, thy grace and love in us re - veal.

Text: Georg Weissel, trans. Catherine Winkworth; Music: *Musica Sacra*

*Gospel — Luke 3:7-18

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter. 🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root

of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?”¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.”¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?”¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.”¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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. 241

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

***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,
- ☩ **hear our prayer.**

***Peace**

- ℙ 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) "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, almighty God, who was and is and is to come, sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

—Revelation 22, adapted Ruth Manz

St. John's Chorale

(10:45) "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Charles Peery

Elinor Niemisto, harp

***Offering Hymn** — "Of the Father's Love Begotten" *stanza 1* DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

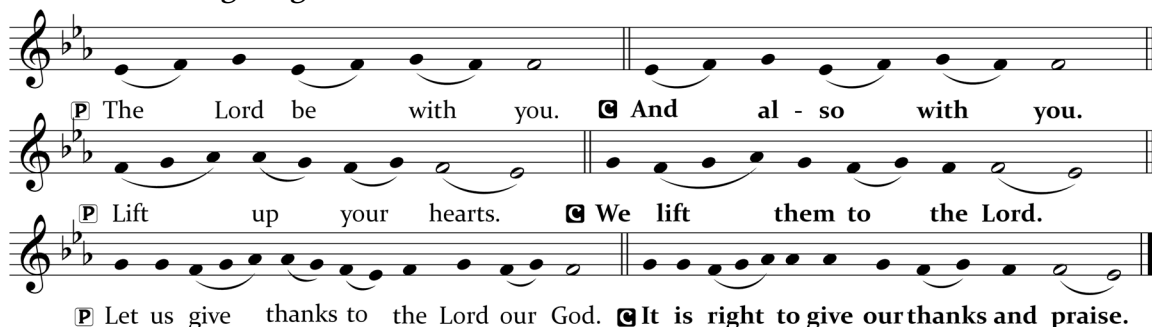
**Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**

***Offering Prayer**

- ℒ Let us pray.
- ☩ **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.

Solo — "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Charles Peery

*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. 266

“All Earth Is Hopeful”

***Dismissal**

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

Postlude — on TRURO

Jonathan Reuss



Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 19):

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a † Luke 1:46b-55 † Hebrews 10:5-10 † Luke 1:39-45

SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Kristin Partlo
Preaching	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) Judy Cederberg (10:45) Siri Lindell
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) St. John's Chorale
Harp	Elinor Niemisto
Cantor	(10:45) David Sims
Counters	Brenda Bultman, Dan Franklin, Jane Rizzo
Ushers	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jon and Cindy McBroom, Dean Schoeb (10:45) Monica Holicky, Jonathan Norrie

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"Raise Your Heads" by Lauren Wright Pittman | *A Sanctified Art LLC* | sanctifiedart.org

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Holy Communion Setting 12 from *All Creation Sings*, composed by Anne Krentz Organ.

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Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by David and Martha Brown. 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. Dates available: January 2, 16 & 30. 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., and Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Coffee and Fellowship with COVID Protocols

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.



Meet & Greet Welcome Gathering for Newcomers to St. John's Between Services in St. John's Hall

All newcomers are invited to join St. John's staff for an informal meet and greet gathering with coffee, tea, and treats in St. John's Hall. We will remain masked until seated. We hope you can attend.

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.



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 in the Commons and on the church website. Today is the last day to place your order.

Announcements (continued)

Pub Theology in December

Monday, December 20, 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) for December 15

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.

Sunday Hospitality Tasks in Need of Volunteers Each Week

We invite anyone and everyone to sign up to assist with these Sunday items listed below. It’s a great way to serve and be involved, and we need you. No prior experience necessary. You can sign up 3 ways:

- Sign up in CCB with these Links (located in Groups, labeled as Monthly Hospitality—month) under the “Needs” tab: [Monthly Hospitality - December](#) or [Monthly Hospitality - January](#)
- Email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org
- Call the Church Office

Please read the options and consider signing up to help on a Sunday that works for you. (When you sign up, you will be given directions and guidance.)

- Can You Help with Sunday Coffee Hour? (There will be no coffee hour on Christmas week-end or New Year’s weekend.)
- Can You Help with Communion Preparations or Clean-up?
- Can You Be a Greeter at the Door?

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

Jo Dahlin, Bob Flaten, Carolyn Jennings, Cora Scholz

Those with ongoing health concerns

Marilyn Boschee, 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

Lyla Arneson Paulson, Janice Helgeson, Arlene Sivanich

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;

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.



JOIN US FOR
**ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS
WORSHIP SERVICES**

Christmas Eve Vespers:	3:00/5:00 p.m.
Christmas Day:	10:00 a.m.
December 26:	10:00 a.m.
January 2:	10:00 a.m.

Livestream at
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org
or on KYMN 1080AM/95.1FM

 St. John's

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. 13	12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Congregations in a Secular Age, Fireside Room Northfield Girl Scouts Leader Meeting, St. John's Hall
Tuesday, Dec. 14	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Stephen Ministers Training via Zoom Church Board Meetings, St. John's Hall Benevolence & Social Concerns Board, Fireside Room Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, Dec. 15	3:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	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. 16	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Executive Committee, Fireside Room Quilters, Fellowship Hall Personnel Committee, Fireside Room Faith, Fact & Fiction Book Group, St. John's Library Rejoice Ringers, St. John's Hall Girl Scout Brownie Troop #27455, Fellowship Hall
Friday, Dec. 17	9:00 a.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Dec. 18		No Scheduled Activities - Building Closed
Sunday, Dec. 19	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:30 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 Asuka Kakitani Piano Recital, Sanctuary Girl Scout Troop #20065, Lower Level



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

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Pam Fickenschner, *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.