



SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 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 —	<i>Love, the Guest:</i> “He Comes to Us as One Unknown”	Jacob Weber
	<i>Love, the Rose:</i> “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”	John Ferguson
	<i>Love, the Star:</i> “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”	Paul Manz
	<i>Love, the Lord:</i> “People, Look East”	David Sims

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 248 “People, Look East”

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

☐ We praise you, God of promise.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones,
and open our mouths to sing joyfully of your incarnation.
Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming
is certain, and whose day draws near.

☑ 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-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u-el shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and
might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and
serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

First Reading — Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
^{5a}and he shall be the one of peace.

- 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*; **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.

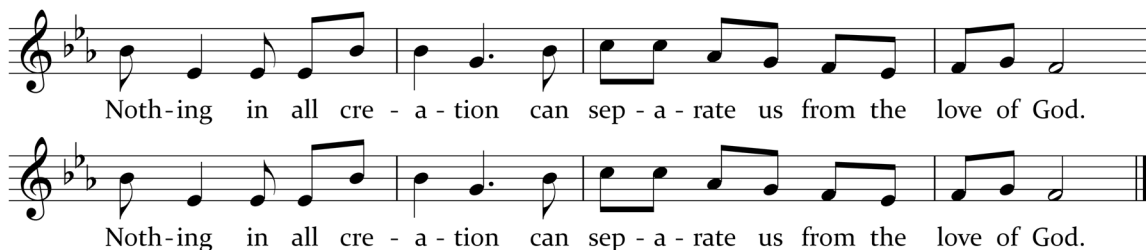
Second Reading — Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☒ 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 1:39-55**

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of the Day — ELW No. 251

"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"

***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:

- Ⓐ 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

(8:30) "Larghetto in D minor"

Michael Mazzatenta

Rejoice Ringers

(10:45) "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Aaron David Miller

Kalli Sobania, violin

***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.**

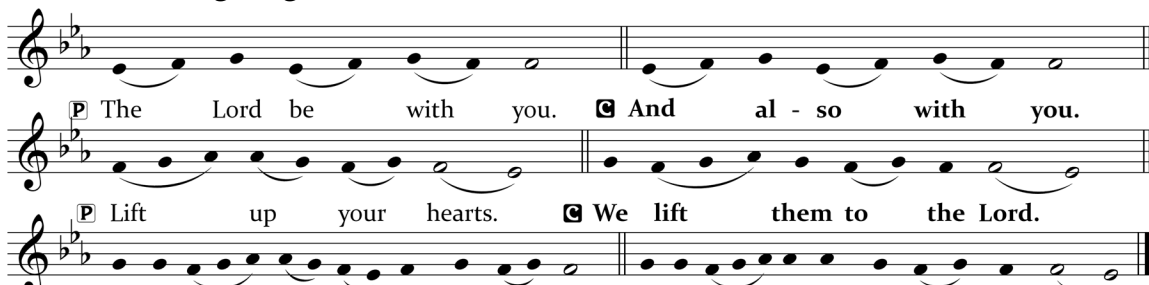
*Offering Prayer

L Let us pray.

C Savior of the nations, come. 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

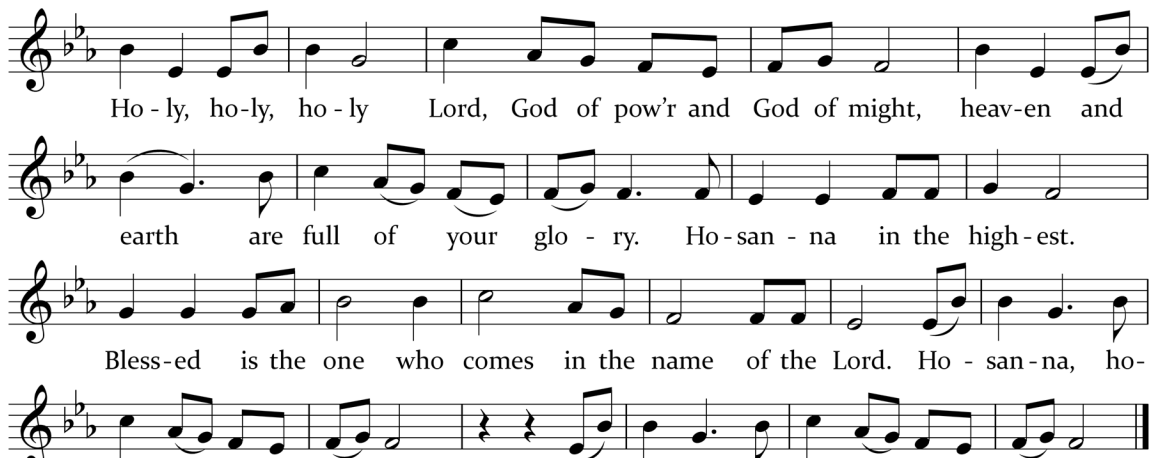


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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**

ℒ 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. 257

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Stanzas 1–4

***Dismissal**

ℒ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude — “People, Look East”

Kristina Langlois



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY:

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Davis
Preaching	Pastor Pam Fickenscher
Assisting Ministers	(8:30) McLaughlin Family (10:45) Simpson-Younger Family
Organist	Nathan Proctor
Choir	(8:30) Rejoice Ringers, Zachery Pelletier, director
Violin	(10:45) Kalli Sobania
Counters	Sue Brockman, David Norman, Bob Tabery
Ushers	(8:30) Cindy Clauson, Dave and Ruthie Neuger, John Ophaug (10:45) Ruth Dahl, Susan Immel, Doug O'Leary

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"Mary and Elizabeth" by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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

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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**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Announcements

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by Barbara Dettle in gratitude to St. John's for its ongoing worship broadcasts made available on radio, television, and livestream. 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 Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429. Dates available: January 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

Note: There will be no Coffee Fellowship Hour on Christmas weekend or New Year's weekend.

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 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.



Sunday Hospitality Tasks in Need of Volunteers

We invite anyone and everyone to sign up to assist with Communion prep or clean-up or greeting at the doors. It's a great way to serve and be involved, and we always need volunteers. No prior experience necessary. When you sign up, you will be given directions, and guidance as needed. Thank you!

You can sign up 3 ways:

- Sign up in CCB: [Monthly Hospitality - January](#) or [Monthly Hospitality - February](#)
- Email Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org
- Call the church office at 507-654-4429

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)

Pub Theology via Zoom

Monday, December 20, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

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.

From the Benevolence & Social Concerns Board

At the December meeting, the Benevolence Board decided on disbursements to these organizations: ELCA Global Missions, Northfield Retirement Community, Northfield Union of Youth, Clean River Partners, Ruth's House of Hope, HealthFinders Collaborative, Greater Minneapolis Community Connections, and Lutheran Campus Ministry of Winona State University. The Benevolence Board thanks the St. John's congregation for its continued generosity that makes these donations possible.

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.

Children and Youth Ministries

Contact Information for Children and Youth

Julie Brehmer, Director of Children's Ministry at childrens@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Emmanuel Kaghondi, Director of Ministry with Youth & Families at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org

Christmas and New Year's Break

No Wednesday Programming on December 22 and December 29, or Sunday School and Sunday Morning Youth Group on December 26 and January 2.

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, Howard Thorsheim

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

Joan Carlson, Richard Olson, Virley Brown

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.

Lectionary Readings for Next Week (December 26):

First Sunday of Christmas

Samuel 2:18-20, 26 + Psalm 148 + Colossians 3:12-17 + Luke 2:41-52

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. 20	12:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Lunchtime Text Study via Zoom Girl Scout Troop #27517, Fellowship Hall Pub Theology via Zoom
Tuesday, Dec. 21	9:00 a.m. 10:00 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 Staff Meeting, Fireside Room Worship Planning for Staff, Fireside Room Girl Scout Troop #23752, Undercroft Stephen Ministers via Zoom Church Council, Undercroft Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health), Youth Room Northfield Youth in Government, St. John's Hall
Wednesday, Dec. 22	10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Communion at 1000 Cannon Valley Drive, Offsite Communion at Kildahl Apartments, Offsite St. John's Chorale, Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec. 23	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall Communion at Three Links, Offsite
Friday, Dec. 24	9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	S.A.I.L. Exercise Class, Fellowship Hall Worship ~ Christmas Eve Vespers, Sanctuary Worship ~ Christmas Eve Vespers, Sanctuary
Saturday, Dec. 25	10:00 a.m.	Worship ~ Festive Christmas Eucharist, Sanctuary
Sunday, Dec. 26	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
Monday, Dec. 27		<i>Church Office and Building Closed</i>



St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

500 Third Street West
Northfield, MN 55057
507-645-4429

office@StJohnsNorthfield.org
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

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.