



# *Welcome to worship at St. John's!*

**We especially welcome all who are visiting this evening.**

*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'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.*

# CHRISTMAS EVE VESPERS

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

DECEMBER 24, 2021 † 3:00 P.M. & 5:00 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH † NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

## GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

**Prelude** — *Music for a Holy Night:*

"All My Heart this Night Rejoices"

Roberta Rowland-Raybold

"Silent Night"

David Schelat

"Lullaby on Christmas Eve"

F. Melius Christiansen, arr. G. Winston Cassler

"Midnight Stars Make Bright the Skies"

Marilyn Biery

"On Christmas Night"

Noel Rawsthorne

### Welcome and Announcements

**\*Gathering Hymn** — ELW No. 283

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*Stanzas 1, 2, and 3*

### **\*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,  
the Word made flesh.

☑ **Amen.**

**\*Response Hymn — “I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”**

JEG ER SÅ GLAD

I am so glad each Christ - mas Eve, the night of Je - sus' birth!  
The lit - tle child in Beth - le - hem, he was a king in - deed!  
And so I love each Christ - mas Eve, and I love Je - sus too;  
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and an - gels sang on earth.  
For he came down from heav'n a - bove to help a world in need.  
and that he loves me ev - 'ry day I know so well is true.

Text: Marie Wexelsen, tr. Peter Sveeggen © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House; Music: Peder Knudsen

**\*Prayer of the Day**

☐ Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Reading — Isaiah 9:2-7**

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

ℒ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

(5:00) **Anthem** — “Away in a Manger”

CRADLE SONG arr. John Ferguson

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on  
the hay. The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying  
he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle  
till morning is nigh. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to say close by me forever  
and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us  
for heaven, to live with you there.* —North American, 19th cent.

*St. John's Chorale*

**\*Gospel Reading** — Luke 2:1-20

Spark Story Bible, page 212

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

📖 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

<sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Homily**

(3:00) Pastor Jonathan Davis

(5:00) Pastor Pam Fickenscher

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

(3:00) **Hymn** — ELW No. 277

“Away in a Manger”

(5:00) **Hymn** — ELW No. 289

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

### **\*Prayers of the People**

*After each petition:*

**L** On this holy night,

**C** hear our prayer.

### **\*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.**

## Anthem at the Offering

(3:00) “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day”

English carol, arr. James Biery

(5:00) “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day”


arr. David Sims

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance. Sing, O my love; this have I done for my true love. Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance. Sing, O my love; this have I done for my true love. In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor, this was my chance, betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance. Sing, O my love; this have I done for my true love.*

—Traditional English carol

### \*Offering Hymn — “What Child Is This” stanza 3

GREENSLEEVES



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.

The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.


Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la-by; joy, joy, for

Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix; Music: English ballad, 16th cent.

### \*Offering Prayer

 Let us pray together.

 Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessings for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## \*Sharing the Light of Christ

(3:00) *To light your glow stick, gently bend it until you hear it crack.*

(5:00) *As the light comes to you, please dip your unlit candle towards the flame.*

### \*(5:00) "When Christmas Morn Is Dawning"

German tune, arr. Carolyn Jennings

*When Christmas morning is dawning I wish that I could be there by the manger-cradle God's son, newborn, to see. How kind of you, our Savior, for us to come to earth. Oh, may we not by sinning despise your lowly birth. We need you, O Lord Jesus, to be our dearest friend. Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end. —Elisabeth Ehrenborg-Posse; tr. Joel Lundeen*

### \*Hymn — "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT

Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight;  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n-ly hosts... sing, al - le - lu -  
ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing

mild, sleep in heav-en - ly peace, sleep in heav-en - ly peace.  
ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, tr. John Young; Music: Franz Gruber



## \*Prayer for Peace

**P** Let us pray.

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace.

Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows,  
and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and  
peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## \*Blessing

*Response:*

**C** Amen.

(5:00) *As the lights come up, you are invited to use the small glass cups at the ends  
of the pews to extinguish your candle without removing your masks.  
Please leave your candle in baskets outside the sanctuary.*

## \*Hymn — “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!  
While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;  
be - hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text and Music: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr.

**\*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.*

**\*Postlude** — “Joy to the World”

Kristina Langlois



**JOIN US TOMORROW, DECEMBER 25**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP**

10:00 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion

We worship on this festive morning with friends from  
Bethel Lutheran and St. Peter's Lutheran. All are welcome!

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

## **Presiding and Preaching**

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

Pastor Jonathan Davis

## **Assisting Ministers**

(3:00) Jonah Brownlee

(5:00) David Norman

## **Organist**

Nathan Proctor,

Director of Worship, Music & Arts

## **Choir**

(5:00) St. John's Chorale;

Nathan Proctor, director

## **Anthem Conductors**

(5:00) John Ferguson, David Sims

## **Greeters**

(5:00) Gehring Family, Judy Karlson

## **Ushers**

(3:00) Rick Hillard, Dave and Ruthie Neuger

(5:00) Dale Gehring, Pam Groves-Gaggioli, Doug Johnson

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Cover art by Judy Swanson.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**This afternoon's Radio Broadcast** is given in loving memory of Paul Raadt by Marilyn McRae Raadt. 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](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org) or 507-645-4429. Available Dates: January 16 & 30 and February 6, 13, 20 & 27. 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.

**The Church Office and Building will be closed Monday, December 27.**

**There will be one worship service on Sundays, December 26, and January 2, at 10:00 a.m.**

**The Church Office and Building will be closing** at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 31, and will be closed on Saturday, January 1, 2022.

**Our financial contributions** are one of the ways that we together support the ministry of St. John's. Contributions for 2021 can be received in the following ways

- given online by December 28 (processing takes time to clear)
- delivered in person by noon, December 31, to the church office
- mailed and postmarked by midnight, December 31

Thank you!

**We welcome the St. Olaf Choir** and its director, Dr. Anton Armstrong, to worship services on Sunday, January 16. This is a long-standing and deeply beloved tradition at St. John's as we welcome the choir back to the place of its birth and are blessed by their wonderful leadership and music. A reception in honor of the choir will be held between services in St. John's Hall.

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26** **SUNDAY, JANUARY 2**

10:00 a.m.

**Worship with Holy Communion**

*(Please note there is only one worship service both days.)*



The blessings of God, who has come  
to be with us, be with you all at this season  
and throughout the new year.

Thank you for the joy and privilege of  
sharing the ministry of Christ with you,  
and for all your support and kindness!

—The Pastors and Staff of St. John's

# Christmas Poinsettias 2021

## Given in Memory of:

*Mary Beth Bremer* by her Family

*James R. & Frances Anderson and John Carlson* by John W. & Sue Anderson Family

*Margaret Hayford O'Leary* by Doug O'Leary

*Jim Johnson* by Beverly Johnson

*Marlene Engstrom* by Chris Engstrom and Irv Fosaaen

*Day McLaughlin* by the Bash Family

*Our Parents* by Dave & Debby Becker

*My Parents, Donovan & Beverly Lundeen* by Patricia Lundeen

*Len Anderson* by Phil & Barb Eaves

*My mother, Rosanne Fratzke* by Angie Gehring

*Our Parents* by Bill & Charlotte Carlson

*Duane Benson* by Marie Benson

*Margo Otte (mother of Doneen Viall and grandmother of Nick Viall)* by Doneen and Nick Viall

*Lori Calcutt* by Marilyn Calcutt

*Ed Lindell* by Herb & Pat Fick

*My Parents* by Cindy Clauson

*My Parents and Stepmother* by Geraldine Licke

*Our Parents* by David & Ruth Legvold

*Ruth Ferguson* by Nathan Proctor

*Kenneth & Patricia Conrad* by Kristy Harms

*Rudolph & Gladys Vorel and Aldo & Margaret Conrad* by Kristy Harms

*Lorraine & Ed Neuger and Lois & Leo Bjorlie* by Ruthie & Dave Neuger

*Jim Thompson* by Dave & Cheryl Buck

*Carolyn Moe Buzza* by Dave & Cheryl Buck

*Sawyer Grant Garlie* by Matt, Leah, Clayton & Rhett Garlie

*Loved ones lost this year: Lyle Frerichs, Marvin Gulbrandson, and Dora Brockman*

by Susan Brockman & Brian Evenson

# Christmas Poinsettias 2021

## Given in Honor of:

*The Berthelsens* by Joyce Stofft

*Nathan Proctor and David Sims* by Nathan, Anneliese & Charlotte Goettsch

*Our Family* by David & Ruth Legvold

*St. John's Chorale* by Nathan Proctor

*Matthew, Rebecca, Maisie, Rebecca, Karl, Adam, and Marla* by Ruthie & David Neuger

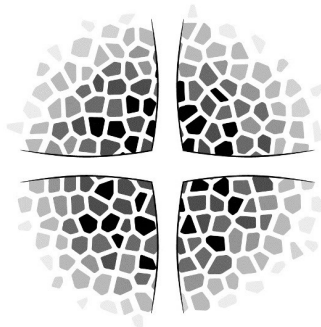
## Given in Celebration of Christmas:

*Dan and Carrie Dauner*

*Doug Johnson*

*Dennis & Jane Rinehart*

Thank you to all who have given these plants  
which bring God's beauty into our worship  
space. Plants may be taken home after worship  
on Sunday, December 26.



# St. John's

ELCA NORTHFIELD • MN

500 Third Street West

Northfield, MN 55057

507-645-4429

[office@StJohnsNorthfield.org](mailto:office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)

[www.StJohnsNorthfield.org](http://www.StJohnsNorthfield.org)

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.