

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD — CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2019 † 10:00 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 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.*

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.

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 Carols for Clarinet and Organ*

Michael Burkhardt

- I. "Oh, Come, Little Children"
- II. "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
- III. "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

Jo Ann Polley, clarinet

Welcome and Announcements

***Gathering Hymn** — No. 270

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*Litany and Greeting

- P** In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
- C** **and the Word was God.**
- P** The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
- C** **the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.**
- P** The grace, truth, and light of Christ be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

***Hymn of Praise** — No. 267

"Joy to the World"

*Prayer of the Day

- P** Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer 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 52:7-10

Pew Bible, page 596

After the reading:

℣ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn — No. 272

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Second Reading — Hebrews 1:1-12

Pew Bible, page 970

After the reading:

℣ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** — “O Come, All Ye Faithful” *stanza 4*

ADESTE FIDELES

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

***Gospel** — John 1:1-14

Spark Story Bible, page 212; Pew Bible, page 862

Before the reading:

℣ The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st 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. 273

“All My Heart Again Rejoices”

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism — *Front of hymnal, pages 227-231*

Presentation

- ☐ People of God, do you promise to support Rosie and pray for her in her new life in Christ?
- ☑ We do.

***Profession of Faith** — *Front of hymnal, page 229*

***Baptismal Hymn** — No. 286

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

Stanza 1

(During the hymn, all children are invited to join the baptismal group at the font.)

***Thanksgiving at the Font** — *Front of hymnal, page 230*

Baptism

Welcome

Baptismal Hymn — No. 286

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

Stanza 4

*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 Christ's peace with those around you.

Offering our Gifts

Music at the Offering:

“Patapan”

French Traditional Carol, arr. Evelyn Larter

*Offering Hymn — “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” *stanza 2* DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

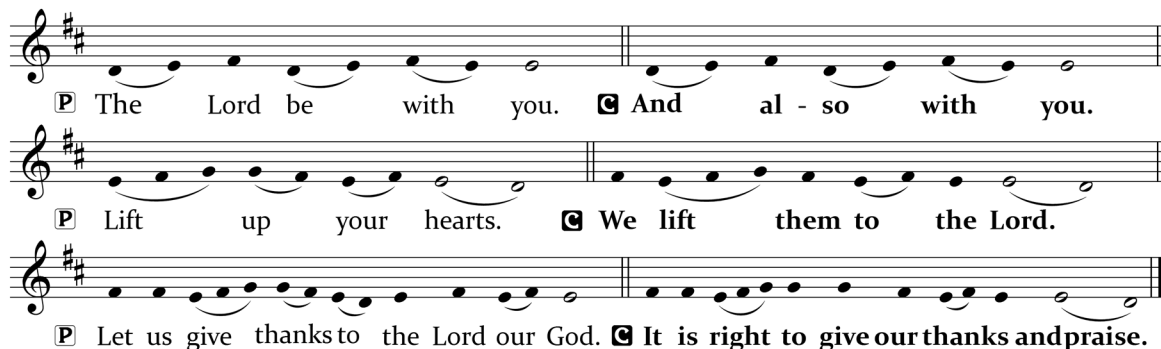
**Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world’s redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.**

*Offering Prayer

- ℣ Let us pray.
- ☩ **God with us: you came as a baby to a manger.
You slept on straw and greeted shepherds.
You come again in bread and wine.
Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things.
And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others
in the strength of your holy name.
Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Great Thanksgiving

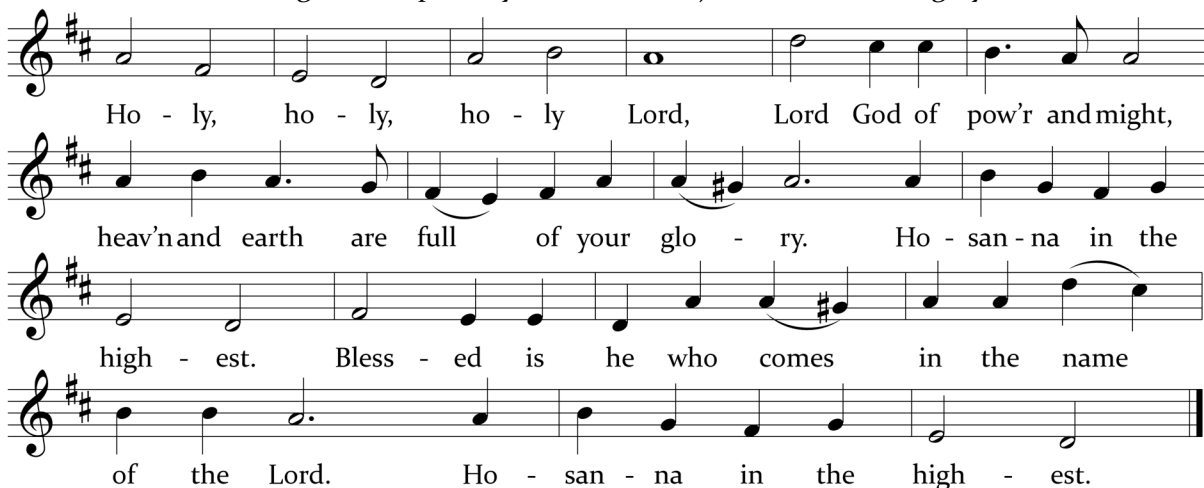


P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Eucharistic Prayer

- ☐ Holy One, the beginning and the end...Do this for the remembrance of me.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- ☑ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- ☐ With this bread and cup...we look with hope for his coming.
- ☑ **Come, Lord Jesus.**
- ☐ Holy God, we long for your Spirit...Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- ☑ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- ☐ All praise and glory are yours...one God, now and forever.
- ☑ **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.

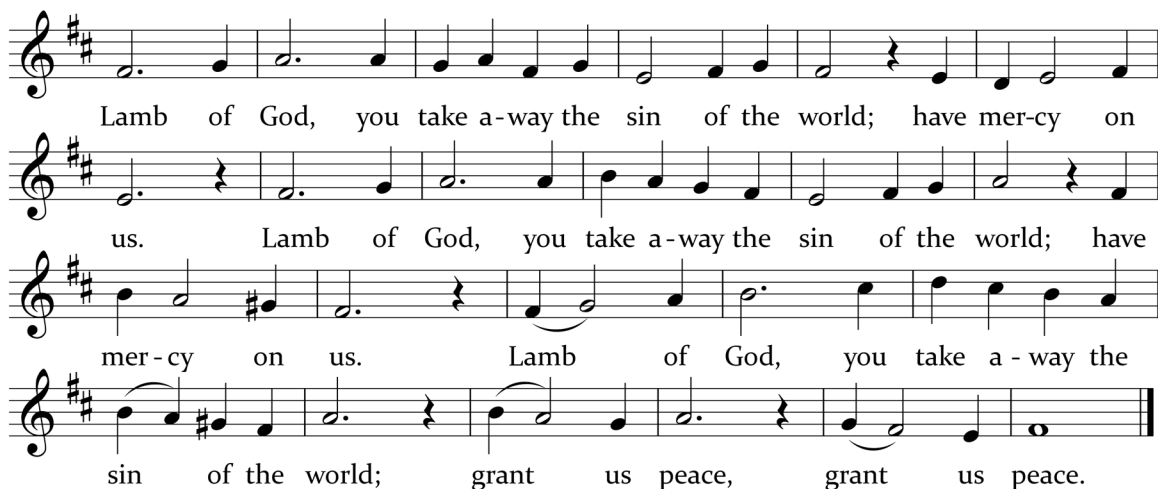
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**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”



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 — “The Sussex Carol”

Traditional English Carol, arr. Evelyn Larter

Hymn — No. 292

“Love Has Come”

Hymn — No. 296

“What Child Is This”

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

L Let us pray.

A Great and saving God,
you have gathered your scattered people
around gifts of bread and wine,
the body and blood of our Savior Christ.
As we, like the shepherds, return on our way,
may we proclaim all we have heard and seen,
praising you in word and loving deed
for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

*Blessing

The Work of Christmas

Howard Thurman

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among all people,
To make music in the heart.*

*Sending Hymn — No. 288

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

*Dismissal

☞ Go in peace. Christ is with you.

☛ Thanks be to God!

*Postlude — “Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow”

African American Spiritual
arr. David Sims



SERVING AT ST. JOHN'S TODAY

Preaching
Pastor Jonathan Davis

Presiding
Pastor Pam Fickenscher

Assisting Ministers
Neuger Family

Organists
Nathan Proctor
David Sims

Clarinet
Jo Ann Polley

Communion Preparer
Suzanne Pfau

Communion Cleanup
Jill Enestvedt

Greeters
Judy Karlson, Jerry Ugland, Doneen Viall, Nick Viall

Ushers
Dallas Berg, Barry Becker, Erik Hong,
Rob Nutt, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cover art: **Light** by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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Christmas Poinsettias 2019

Given in Memory of:

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

Ruth Ferguson by Nathan Proctor

James R. & Frances Anderson by John W. & Sue Anderson

Joann Isabelle Johnson Smith by the Becker Nelson Family

Sgt. Larry Carlson by Bill & Charlotte Carlson

Merle & Idella Clausen by Michael & Cindy Clausen

Our parents by Tim & Carol Cowles and Paul & Anne Klinefelter

Leonard Anderson by Phil & Barb Eaves

Steve Edwins by Jennifer Edwins

Our parents, Leonard & Marie DeWolfe and Orv & Doris Marks by Alan & Lynette Marks

Don Kasa by wife Janice and sons Jeff & Doug

Walter Lee by the Nitz Family

Margaret Hayford O'Leary by Doug O'Leary

Family members by Suzanne Pfau

Agnes Hammer, Mother of Louise, whose birthday was Christmas Eve by John & Louise Quam

Sylvia Solberg and Jackson Rinehart by Dennis & Jane Rinehart

Russell & Rita Becker by Dave & Debby Becker

Paul & Iris Becker by Dave & Debby Becker

Bob Matta by Dave & Cheryl Buck

Ed Lindell by Herb & Pat Fick

Phyllis & Nicolai Ordahl and Norman Knoch by Brad, Nancy, Emma, Willa & Merri Knoch

Gustav & Genevieve Odegard by David & Ruth Legvold

Ole & Birdie Legvold and Mayvis Harkness by David & Ruth Legvold

Andy Westerback by Emily and Julie Westerback

Richard & Carol Schaefer by Emily and Julie Westerback

Christmas Poinsettias 2019

Given in Honor of:

Cindy Clausen

Our children, Zachary and Elizabeth Evenson, by Brian Evenson & Susan Brockman

Margery Evenson, by Brian Evenson & Susan Brockman

Duane & Marlene Engstrom by Chris Engstrom

Ana, Amy and Ara by the Pelletier Family

Our grandparents by Dave & Cheryl Buck

Our grandchildren by Herb & Pat Fick

Emma, Willa, Merri and Sophie by Brad Kmoch & Nancy Ordahl Kmoch

Zack Pelletier by the Rejoice Ringers

Given in Celebration of Christmas:

Duane & Marlene Engstrom

Doug Johnson

Otto & LaVerne Reitz

Gary & Liz Wicks

**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 today.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This morning's Radio Broadcast is given by David and Patricia Halsor. 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. Video broadcasts can be seen on Northfield Community Television – 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.

Christmas Dinner for All

Dinner will be served today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thank you to all who have volunteered their time in helping with this important community event. Merry Christmas!

The Church Office and Building will be closed tomorrow, Thursday, December 26, and Friday, December 27.

There will be one worship service on Sunday, December 29, at 10:00 a.m.

The Church Building will be closing at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, and will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

We welcome the St. Olaf Choir and its director, Dr. Anton Armstrong, to worship services on Sunday, January 12. 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.

Our financial contributions are one of the ways that we together support the ministry of St. John's. Contributions for 2019 can be received in the following ways

- given online by December 27 (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!

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

10:00 a.m.

Worship with Holy Communion

(Please note there is only one worship service this day.)



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



St. John's

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www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Pam Fickenscher, *Senior Pastor*
Jonathan Davis, *Associate Pastor*
Carol Benson, *Director of Jubilate Choir*
Julie Brehmer, *Director of Children's Ministry*
Tim Byers, *Facility Manager*
Leah H. Garlie, *Office 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 Ringers*
Jaida Gehring / Marvin Perez, *Security and Custodial Assistants*
Nathan Proctor, *Organist and Director of Worship, Music & Arts*
Bernie Renander, *Financial Manager*

Call the church office or check the website for a complete listing of staff emails.