



# The Messenger

Volume 61, Issue 12

DECEMBER 2023

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## Come and Worship!

**Each Sunday at 10 AM**

*Nursery available 9:30-12:30*

**Fellowship time following worship**

*Services are in person and online (YouTube/Facebook & website)*

[www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls.org](http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls.org)

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

**December 3 - Advent 1**

**Grace Place at 11:15**

**Worship Committee at 11:15**

**December 10 - Advent 2**

*Following worship:*

**Cross+Generational Christmas Pageant**

**Packing of Backpacks**

**Lutheranism 101**

**December 17 - Advent 3**

**Grace Place at 11:15**

**Church Council at 11:15**

**"Messiah" Concert & Reception 4 PM**

**December 24**

**Advent 4—Worship w/Communion 10 AM**

**Special 'Grace Place' during worship**

**Fellowship—Christmas treats shared**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4 PM**

*Welcoming, Worshipping, Healing, Serving*

*Thoughts from Our Pastor*

For me, December is indeed the most wonderful time of the year, but (sorry Andy Williams) it is not because “there’ll be parties for hosting, marshmallows for toasting or caroling out in the snow.” And not because “there’ll be much mistletoeing” (wait, is that even a word?) nor because “hearts will be glowing when loved ones are near.” No, it is the most wonderful time of the year because during the season of Advent we – all of us together -- are preparing, anticipating, and a sense of joyful expectation is building within us for The Gift that will be shared at the end of this month.

The season of Advent is especially wonderful when it is juxtaposed over against our culture’s assumption that we all have families who resemble the Hallmark Channel’s Christmas specials of what they project as “holiday perfection” where everything works out to syrupy, nostalgic, perfection in the end. For many people the counterfeit, saccharin emotional pull of the cultural holiday season serves to deny or silence their own sorrows over family brokenness, or mourning, or loneliness. But our Christian festival of Advent intentionally provides exactly the opposite. Long ago, the Church placed Christmas near the winter solstice because it was (in the northern hemisphere anyway) the season of the longest nights and winter solstice is the dawn of the first day when days lengthen — and the birth of Christ was the birthing of a whole new reality. Advent occurs during the time of year when night lengthens but we also know that a new day is dawning soon, and the birth of Christ – the birth of our salvation occurs during the season of lengthening days – like our hope peace, joy and faith. Moreover, Advent serves us by naming the brokenness, loneliness, mourning, or general sense of loss; and into that emotional truth Advent proclaims each week a message of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, reminding us that not only are we not alone in our current emotional state, but also that although our sadness might last through the symbolic night our hope, peace, joy and love will come in the morning. Which, by the way, is the reason the symbolic color of the Season was changed to dark blue – to symbolize the winter sky just before the dawn of a new day.

Advent prepares us individually and communally for Christ’s birth. Each day we can reflect on the devotion provided by a church member and each week we can gather together to hear God’s word read, proclaimed, and sung – all the while we are being preparing, anticipating, and filling with joyful expectation for the birth of the One who is coming and whose Day draws near: Christ Jesus, the Lord. It is because of all of that, Advent is indeed the most wonderful time of the year.

A Blessed Advent to you all!

*Pastor Mark*

## CROSS+GENERATIONAL MINISTRY

At this time of the year most of us are busy preparing for the holidays. Asking people what they are wanting for Christmas, and after Christmas some of us start thinking about New Year's Resolutions. For me, I stopped making New Year's resolutions years ago, and started selecting a word for the year. For 2023 my word is Joy, for 2024 my word is hopeful. Hopeful for what is ahead for us as a community of faith.



One of the things I am hopeful for is a growth in our Handbell Choir. Participating in the handbell choir is one of the ways I volunteer my time here at St John's. It is a great group of people, and we are all from different musical backgrounds, yet we all work well together. Playing in the handbell choir is like joining a team. Each person has their bells, but we all work as if we are the same set of hands. We are all connected, it is a musical experience unlike any other.

Now I know you might have some concerns about joining us:

"I have never played handbells before." Start now! Come early to your first rehearsal and get some private coaching.

"I can't read music." We can teach you. We can also color code your music to your bells (In a former church, I once led a group of adults in a handbell choir who couldn't read music. We color coded the notes with the bells. It worked great!)

"It looks like it is complicated." It isn't complicated at all! It looks complicated because there are a lot of moving parts, but we all work together as one set of hands.

"I don't have a lot of time." You don't need much. To participate in handbell choir, we have one rehearsal per month September through May, and we play on one Sunday a month (the Sunday that follows our practice day). I work 62 hours a week and still have time for Handbell Choir, so I know you can have time for it too.

Currently, we have bells that remain in their cases, because we have no one to play them. This limits us in the music that we can play. If we could get more people to join us, think of how much more we could do. We would be able to extend our range and more music would be available to us to play.

In closing, no one asked me to write this. I wrote this because I enjoy playing in the Handbell Choir, and I would like you share in and experience the joy that I do. Please consider joining us. Email Peder if you are interested in doing so. Looking forward to ringing with you in 2024!

*Edith*



## Cross+Generational Events

### Children's Christmas Pageant : "Starry Night, Noisy Night"

**Rehearsal: Saturday, Dec. 9 at 11am!** All are welcome! Parts will be given out, learn the songs & dialogue, this is very informal! This is a cross-generational program; there are opportunities for kids AND parents!

**Performance: Sunday, Dec. 10 at 11:15am** following worship, in fellowship hall.



### December 24:

#### Grace Place

During the 10am Worship service on Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>, we will hold a special Grace Place AFTER the Choir sings during offering. We will be decorating treats to share at fellowship time.

#### Fellowship

Please bring your treats for fellowship on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> after the 10am worship service. Instead of our traditional fare, the Cross+Generational Ministry Team thought it would be keeping with the season to share our favorite holiday treats with one another for fellowship. If you are able to do so, please bring some of your favorite Christmas treats to share.



**Christmas Eve** will be celebrated at 4pm with traditional candlelight worship of lessons and carols.

### Nursery needs.....

The nursery is seeking gently used curtains for our south facing window. It gets bright, or hot or cool seasonally.

The nursery lady sews so alterations aren't an issue.

The window measures 115" wide and depending on rod placement the height is 60-77."

So any color, non-sheer curtains 120 " wide and 65 - 180 " long would be greatly appreciated.

Diane H.

St. John's Nursery Care

### And more.....

#### American Red Cross Blood Drive *Give Something That Means Something*

- ◆ **Thursday, Dec. 12, 12:00-6:00pm**  
in Fellowship Hall  
Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit  
[RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter  
'St. John's Lutheran' to schedule appointment.

#### Handel's Messiah

- ◆ **Saturday, Dec. 16 at 7pm**
- ◆ **Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4pm** – *nursery care by request*  
**The congregations' help is needed** for ushering and other building-monitoring/traffic directing duties, with providing cookies for the receptions following each performance. Please let Vicky Ercolani, Jennifer Burdick or the office know if you can help in providing hospitality for this event.

St. John's Lutheran Church presents

# Handel's *Messiah*

2023

with St. John's Oratorio Chorus and Orchestra

Brian A. Schmidt, conductor

Jennifer Olson, soprano

Jill Morgan, mezzo-soprano

Scott Brunsheen, tenor

Gerard Sundberg, bass

Saturday, December 16

• 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 17

• 4:00 pm

**FREE ADMISSION**

Childcare available at the Sunday performance for children aged 2 months to 2 years. Please contact the church office by December 13th to reserve a spot.



For more info or to donate, please visit our website at: [www.stjohnsmpls.org/music](http://www.stjohnsmpls.org/music)

Since 1990, the St. John's Music Series has generously offered opportunities for all people to hear great music, performed well, free of charge.

4842 Nicollet Avenue • Minneapolis, MN 55419  
(612) 827-4406

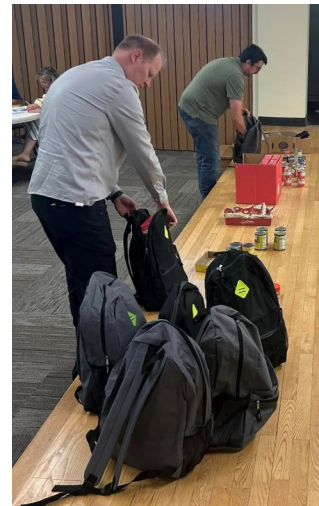
## COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD

**St. John's Justice Page Middle School Food Backpack Ministry** provides food-filled backpacks for 20 food-insecure families once a month during the school year. This year there are 3 sets of backpacks – 10 with food that is culturally-appropriate for Latina families, 5 with food that is culturally-appropriate for Somali families, and 5 that are the mix of foods we have provided in past years.

We are looking for volunteers. Please let us know if you are interested in 1 of the 5 following roles:

1. Be part of a team of 2-3 people that inventory our food stock and purchase needed culturally-appropriate food items for 10 Latina families every month: 10 one-pound bags of dry black beans, 10 one-pound bags of dry pinto beans, 10 cans enchilada sauce, and 10 cans diced chiles/peppers.
2. Be part of a team of 2-3 people that inventory our food stock and purchase the culturally appropriate food items for 5 Somali families every month: 5 cans Halal tuna and 5 bags black-eyed peas.
3. Purchase 1 or more of the following items every month for several months or the full year. Depending on the item, this will range from 5-40 items/month. Foods can be ordered online and delivered to church.

- 20 - 15 oz. cans diced tomatoes
- 20 packs of spaghetti
- 20 - 24 oz. non-glass (plastic) marinara pasta sauce
- 20 - 1-pound bags brown rice
- 40 boxes macaroni and cheese
- 20 cans fruit
- 20 cans vegetables
- 40 packs of Ramen (chicken)
- 5 cans stew/heartly soup
- 5 cans beef ravioli
- 20 jars (16-oz) peanut butter
- 20 boxes of granola bars
- 200 fruit snack pouches (10 per backpack)



4. Lead packing 2 or more times per year. We will train you before you are in charge. Packing happens on these Sundays after worship, during fellowship hour:

**Dec. 10**, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 17, April 14, May 12, and June 9.

5. Transport backpacks to Justice Page School 2 or more times/year. Deliveries are one Thursday per month between 8:30-9:00AM:

**Dec. 14**, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 21, April 18, May 16, and June 13.

Please contact Tamara and Mark Gebhardt ([gebhardtfamily@msn.com](mailto:gebhardtfamily@msn.com) or text to 612-275-2317) or Elizabeth Roe ([willetteroe@yahoo.com](mailto:willetteroe@yahoo.com) or text to 612-817-9919) if you want to sign up for a role above or if you have questions.

Thank YOU in advance for your support of our neighbors across the street!

*Tamara, Mark and Elizabeth, Your Community and Neighborhood Ministry Team Leaders*

## GIVING TREE 2023

Dear St. John's Families,

**This is our 25<sup>th</sup> year of the GIVING TREE!** St. John's Child Care Center teams with St. John's church members on this project to multiply our impact on the community. We hope to help our children and all who participate realize the importance of helping others in need.



Justice Page Middle School is the local school that we support. Families have been identified by school social workers as "highly mobile/at risk" and New-comers. Our primary goal is to provide 20 families with \$50 in gift cards. Gift cards meet broader needs to include items such food, hygiene items, diapers, formula, etc.

Clothing needs identified include: SOCKS (men's S, M, and L/women's S, M, and L); FUZZY SOCKS (men's S, M, and L/women's S, M, and L); WINTER BOOTS (men's size 6-10/women's size 6-10); SLIPPERS (men's S, M, and L /women's S, M, and L); COZY PAJAMAS (kid's XL/ men's S, M, and L/women's S, M, and L). There is a decorated box placed inside our office entrance to receive these clothing items. If the box happens to be full, please indicate for Giving Tree.

Gift cards to Walmart, CUB and Target in \$25 dollar amount can be dropped off at the church office. Donations will be accepted **through December 10.**

Thank YOU for your generous gifts and kindness!!

*(The GIVING TREE project is in ADDITION to our Food Backpack Ministry. Please see separate listing for foods needed to pack 20 backpacks in November and in December.)*

## MISSIONARY CIRCLE

### December: Warm Blankets (plus hat, gloves/mittens and warm socks)

Missionary Circle invites the congregation to help collect hats, gloves/mittens and warm socks during the month of November for donation to homeless shelters for use by residents. Donations (marked clearly for this homeless collection) may be left on the office lobby pew. If you order items to be delivered to the church, please let the office know so that we can watch for the delivery.

Missionary Circle provides support for various local and global efforts, including St. John's Food Backpack Program, Salvation Army Harbor Light Center and Mary's Place shelters for the homeless in Minneapolis, and Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry's sponsorship of students in India.

The Circle next meets on Wednesday, December 6 at 12 noon at St. John's.



## WORSHIP & MUSIC

**Sunday, December 24**

**10:00am - Fourth Sunday in Advent,  
worship with communion;  
fellowship following**  
**4:00pm - Christmas Eve  
Traditional Candlelight  
Service of Worship**

### St. John's Devotional for Advent....

Thank you very much to everyone for your contributions and to Deborah Dunham for her work in compiling this devotional gift for our congregation. Watch for each day's devotion on St. John's Facebook pages and for an email with link to the full booklet. The full devotional will also be posted on our website and a few print copies are available at church.



### Worship Assistants in November

#### *Assisting Ministers, Communion Preparers, Ushers, Acolytes*

Andrew Berg, Annika Dossdall, Deborah Dunham,  
Vicky Ercolani, Larry Fraser, Tamara Gebhardt,  
Lori Johnson, Sharon Koschak, Eleanor  
Nervig, Sam Nervig, Ann Paulson,  
Elizabeth Roe

#### *Media Volunteers*

Eleanor Nervig, Sam Nervig, Dylan Noaman

#### *Fellowship Hosts*

Edith Bohardt; Matt, Jennifer and Elsa Burdick; Steve  
& Ellen Dossdall; Deborah Dunham; Mark & Tamara  
Gebhardt

#### *Counters*

Bonnie Conrad, Larry Fraser, Elizabeth Roe, Diane  
Rooney, Jeanne Tuvey

*Thank  
you*

### Holy Conversations: Text in Context

Thursdays at 10:00 AM

in St. John's Lounge

**Dec 7, 14, 21**



Holy Conversations are based on the lectionary readings for each Sunday, looking at those texts in the context of our world and daily life. Come and join your fellow explorers in these conversations led by Pastor Mark.

### DECEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS

#### Dec. 3 - Advent 1

**Jeremiah 33:[10-11], 14-18**  
*Promise of the Messiah*  
(Mark 8:27-29)

#### Dec. 10 - Advent 2

**Isaiah 40:1-11** (Mark 1:1-4)  
*Comfort, comfort my people, a voice cries  
out in the wilderness, make straight the  
way of the Lord.*

#### Dec. 17 - Advent 3

**Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13** (Luke 2:25-32)  
*Return from exile and rebuilding the  
Temple*

#### Dec. 24 - Advent 4 (10 am)

**Luke 1:5-13 [14-25] 57-80** (Psalm 113)  
*John the Baptist's birth; Blessed be the God of  
Israel who has looked favorably on his people.*

#### **Christmas Eve (4 pm)**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**  
*Light shines: a child is born for us*  
**Titus 2:11-14**  
*The grace of God has appeared*  
**Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**  
*God with us*

### Sing in the Choir!

**Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:45—7:30**  
**Dec. 6 & 20 in Fellowship Hall**

### Ring the Bells!

**Rehearsal: Wednesday, December 13**  
**6-6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

*Peder Flaten, director, [pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org)*





**ADMINISTRATION****St. John's Congregation Council Minutes Summary  
November 19, 2023**Pastor's Report:

- Our goal this year for the Church should be New Life, New Vitality, New Things. We need to be evangelists and reach out to the community.
- Reach out to childcare parents through welcoming events
- Faith Practices and Neighboring Practices is meeting at St. John's Tuesday.
- Chi Rho finished and field seeded. Wayzata Church happy and will be there through July 22.
- Pledge cards total of \$62,310 to date is high for November in recent years.
- Pastor proposed a staff appreciation be planned.

Treasurer's Report:

- Church having a deficit of \$139,734 is expected since we passed a deficit budget for 2023.
- Chi Rho summer programs have ended and would like to fill the camp with winter retreats
- Pastor moved we have two task forces. One to help grow the congregation and one to figure out how to pay for the roof. Motion passed.

Ministry Team Reports were received from CAN, Cross+Generational and Worship committees. No council action needed.

Old Business:

- Organ claim money received and money raised will be put towards roof replacement with donors' approval.
- Look into putting Holden bequest money towards new signage.

New Business:

- Council voted that the state required Sick and Safe Time policy be added to part-time personnel policy beginning January 1, 2024.
- Annual Congregational Budget meeting will take place January 28, 2024.
- Council voted to welcome an Engen organ to be housed at St. John's.
- Lois Mae Andersen left an undesignated bequest of \$30,000 to the Church.
- Pastor talking to Church Mutual about new property insurance for January 1, 2024
- Pastor moved to have a soft external audit in 2024. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Conrad, Secretary

**ADMINISTRATION cont.**

**Stewardship Pledges**

Stewardship Pledges are still being accepted for St. John's 2024 ministry year. Cards are available at church if you need one. You may present your pledge card during worship, mail it to the church office, or submit your pledge online. A link is posted on St. John's website at 'Give/Make your 2024 Pledge' and on our church's Facebook page. Thank you for all of the pledges received so far!

Your pledges are helpful in planning St. John's ministry budget for 2024, and are an expression of our commitment as individuals and as a congregation to the sharing of the gospel, love and service within and beyond our community of faith.

*Pledge update as of publication:  
30 pledges at \$88,341*

**Dec 10 - The holidays begin with a 1940's Radio Play and Sunday Supper**



**SUNDAY SUPPERS**

There's holiday cheer when friends are here!



**DECEMBER 10**  
4:00 p.m. 1940's Christmas Radio Play  
5:00 p.m. Free Holiday Dinner \$7/suggested donation

**RESERVATIONS PLEASE**

5760 Portland Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55417

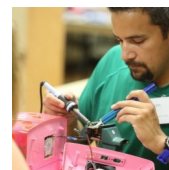
**Call today!  
612-827-6159**

A Trust Inc. Initiative  
Hosted at Diamond Lake Lutheran

**ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS**

St. John's will be hosting a Hennepin County Fix-it Clinic on Saturday, January 13, 2024 from noon to 4:00 PM

Bring your small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more to an upcoming Fix-It Clinic and receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix your items! No pre-registration required.



Don't throw it in the trash - fix it!

**Moments of Generosity**

This month's Moment of Generosity highlights Ann Paulson's remarkable dedication to the people and ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church. Ann is tirelessly producing weekly bulletins and Ministry Minute emails, monthly Messengers, the programs and envelopes for the Messiah in December, the congregational Advent devotional, tending to our new website and Facebook pages, handling all the mailings we do for everything, and making everything beautiful. All the while she keeps the church office organized and communication clear! On top of that, Ann's beautiful music during church services and choir rehearsal is a blessing. We thank you, Ann, for all your hard work and your love of this church.

**TRUST Inc Invites You To Lunch & Learn It Thursdays**

**CREATING COMMUNITY THAT IS BETTER TOGETHER** **07 DECEMBER 11:30 AM - 2:00 P.M.**

Hosted at Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
4100 Lyndale Avenue S Minneapolis

**LEARN IT OPTIONS**  
MINDFUL FOCUS  
LUNCH DISCUSSIONS  
TECHNOLOGY  
HEALTH & WELLNESS  
CREATIVE HANDS-ON  
LEARNING "MUSIC FOR THE SOUL"

**THE SCHEDULE**  
11:30 GATHERING FOCUS  
12:00 FREE LUNCH  
12:30 - 2:00 LEARN IT OPTIONS

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:**  
CALL TRUST INC 612-827-6159 OR  
EMAIL TO: TRUST@TRUSTINC.ORG

*A Free Monthly Event Designed for Older Adults In Our Community!*

A COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE OF:



**Blood Drive**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall  
 4842 Nicollet Avenue  
 Minneapolis, MN 55419

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023**  
**12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: St Johns Lutheran to schedule an appointment.



**Our gift to you: Come give Dec. 1 to 17 for a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. [rcblood.org/Amazon](http://rcblood.org/Amazon)**



**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

**In Our Prayers....**

**Those in need of healing, comfort, encouragement or sustaining care:**

† Jeannie C., Kathy Cashin, Brian Conrad, James Curtis, Debra Jacobs, Marge Korzenowski, JoAnn Metzger, Jane McNaughton, Karen O., Sandy Rader, Jan Sammelson, Kris Schepers, Susan Tasa, Lana Tiede, Debbie Tuvey, George Tuvey, Nels Tuvey, Bruce Walker, and all whom we hold in our hearts and are known by God.

**Those who are grieving loss:**

† The family and friends of Colleen Pietenpol, who died on November 9, 2023 in Phelps, Wisconsin. Colleen was the sister of Debra Jacobs.

**Those celebrating new life**

† Pastors Mark and Connie Tiede at the birth of their first grandchild, Arthur Andrew Tiede, born to Lucas and Paige Tiede on November 15, 2023.



*ST. JOHN'S WELCOME STATEMENT*

*St John's is a Reconciling in Christ congregation that celebrates and cares for all people. As followers of Christ, who calls us to reconciliation and wholeness through baptism, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church welcome all who are seeking God. We affirm that this reconciliation extends to people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. We welcome members of the LGBTQ+ community as well as those who may have been excluded because of other human distinctions. We strive to live as a welcoming people in our life together and our outreach to the community. Our doors are open. Come as you are. You belong.*



***Please let the church office know if you would like to share information with the congregation.***

You can reach the church office at 612-827-4406 or [communications@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:communications@stjohnsmpls.org)  
Email Pastor Mark at [pastortiede@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:pastortiede@stjohnsmpls.org)

*Callers to St. John's have the option to talk with or leave messages for individual staff by choosing one of the following prompts:*

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Church Office/Ann Paulson                              | 4. David Roinas, Bookkeeper         |
| 2. Pastor Mark  | 5. Joseph Sahai                     |
| 3. Edith Bohardt, Director of Cross+Generational Ministry | 6. Tina Shear and Child Care Center |

**December Celebrations**

**Happy Birthday!**

- 1 Sharon Koschak
- 2 Kevin Hurbanis
- 12 Mary Ites  
Henry Landin
- 15 Susan Koliha  
Richard Newstrom
- 19 Blake Anderson  
Brandon Megal  
Susan Zabel
- 20 Edith Bohardt  
Zuri Johnson
- 23 Sara Marsh  
Nora Tellijohn
- 28 Diane Rooney  
Brian Landin

**Happy Anniversary!**

- 18 Brandon & Stephanie Megal
- 27 Micah & Nikki Niermann

**Christmas Eve**

**Sunday, December 24**

**Christmas Day**

**Monday, December 25**

If your birthdate or anniversary has been inadvertently omitted or is incorrect, please forgive us, then call the church office at 612-827-4406.

*Thank you!*

## December 2023

### December 1-9

Saturday, December 2

**9 am Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)**

Sunday, December 3 – Advent 1

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and online; nursery open*

**11 am Fellowship (FH)**

**11:15 am Grace Place learning (top floor)**

**11:15 am Worship Committee (Lounge)**

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Monday, December 4

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Tuesday, December 5

**9 am SJ Staff (Lounge)**

Wednesday, December 6

**12 noon Missionary Circle (at St John's)**

**6:30 pm Confirmation at Bethlehem**

**6:45 pm St John's Choir (FH)**

Thursday, December 7

**10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)**

**5:30 pm ECFE (Child Care) FH**

**6 pm Chi Rho Committee (Zoom)**

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Saturday, December 9

**11 am Pageant Rehearsal (FH)**

### December 10-16

Sunday, December 10 – Advent 2

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and online; nursery open*

**11:15 am Cross+Generational Christmas Pageant (FH)** followed by  
**Fellowship, Packing of Backpacks, and Lutheranism 101**

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Monday, December 11

**2 pm 'Messiah' orchestra/soloists (Sanct)**

**5:30 pm Admin Team (Zoom)**

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Tuesday, December 12

**12 noon—6 pm Red Cross Blood Drive (FH)**

**6:30 pm Cross+Gen Team (Zoom)**

**7 pm Tangletown Envir Comm (Zoom)**

Wednesday, December 13

**6 pm St John's Bells (Sanctuary)**

**6:30 pm Confirmation at Bethlehem**

Thursday, December 14—**Backpack Delivery**

**10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)**

**3:30 pm Family Holiday Party (CCC-FH)**

**6:30 pm 'Messiah' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)**

Saturday, December 16

**9 am Minneapolis Brass (Sanctuary)**

**7 pm 'Messiah' Concert & Reception-SJ**

### December 17-23

Sunday, December 17-Advent 3

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and online; nursery open*

**11 am Fellowship (FH)**

**11:15 am Grace Place learning (top floor)**

**11:15 am St John's Council (Lounge)**

**4 pm 'Messiah' Concert & Reception (SJ)**

Tuesday, December 19

**10 am SJ Staff (Lounge)**

Wednesday, December 20

**6:45 pm St John's Choir (FH)**

Thursday, December 21

**10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)**

### December 24-31

Sunday, December 24

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
**Advent 4 celebrated**

*in person and online; nursery open*

**11 am Fellowship** following worship (FH)

**4 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Worship**

Monday, December 25—**Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 31—**New Year's Eve**

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and online; nursery open*

**11 am Fellowship (FH)**

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**4842 Nicollet Avenue**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55419**



**THE MESSENGER**

**Information**

Church Office .....612-827-4406  
Church Office Fax .....612-827-0574  
Child Care Center .....612-827-1237  
Chi Rho Center .....320-274-8307  
Church Office email:  
communications@stjohnsmpls.org  
Website: www.stjohnsmpls.org  
Facebook: .www.facebook.com/  
StJohnsMpls

**Parish Staff**

**PASTOR**

*Mark Tiede*

**ORGANIST & MINISTER OF MUSIC**

*Peder Flaten*

**DIRECTOR OF CROSS+GENERATIONAL  
MINISTRY**

*Edith Bohardt*

**ASSISTANT FOR MINISTRY**

*Ann Paulson*

**BOOKKEEPER**

*David Roinas*

**VIDEO/MARKETING SPECIALIST**

*Matthew Tiede*

**NURSERY ATTENDANT**

*Diane Harayda*

**CUSTODIANS**

*Joseph Sahai (weekdays)*

*Manuela Solorzano (Sundays)*

*Mill City Cleaning (Child Care)*

**CHILD CARE DIRECTOR**

*Tina Shear*

**CHI RHO CENTER MANAGER**

*David Helm*

**Church Council**

*Jennifer Burdick, President*

*JoAnn Christoferson, Treasurer*

*Bonnie Conrad, Secretary*

*Deborah Dunham*

*Rick Falcon, Vice President*

*Sharon Koschak*

*Anne Nervig*

*Mark Tiede, Pastor*

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).**

**Our Mission:**

Fueled by Christ's redeeming love, St. John's is called into a joyful life of welcoming hospitality, grace-filled worship, transformational relationships, and Gospel-driven service in the world.

**Our Core Values:**

*Welcoming*

Celebrating and caring for all people. Our doors are open.  
You belong. Come as you are.

*Worshiping*

Gathering together to joyfully thank God in prayer and  
praise for Jesus, who calls us, centers us, and sends us  
into the world.

*Healing*

Reflecting God's unconditional grace and love by walking  
together through the joys and pains of life.

*Serving*

Gratefully responding to the needs of the world with the  
abilities God has gifted us.

**Our Vision for the Future:**

A vibrant community living faith boldly

**In-Person Worship Hour—Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

**Traditional worship that is joyful and welcoming to all.**

St. John's worship  
on Youtube



St. John's podcasts  
on Spotify



ELCA Presiding Bishop:

Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop:

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (on leave)

Bishop Ann Svennungsen