

# **St John's Lutheran Church**

4842 Nicollet Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419  
[www.stjohnsmpls.org](http://www.stjohnsmpls.org)

*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.  
**St. John's is an RIC congregation.***

*A vibrant community living faith boldly through Welcoming, Worshiping, Healing, and Serving*

## **SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT**

*First Sunday after Epiphany*

**January 7, 2024**

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*Welcome! Whether in the pews or online, whether for the first time or you've come more times than you can count, we are glad you are here. You are welcome to participate in every part of the worship service, including Holy Communion. Those of you joining online are invited to prepare a cracker or piece of bread and some juice or wine for partaking at that point in the service. Those in person are encouraged to sit in the forward half of the sanctuary both for audio and visual benefit. You're invited to create and wear a name tag, and to fill out a white Fellowship Card from your pew rack if you wish and hand it to an usher.*

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### **PRELUDE**

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Anne Krentz Organ

### **WELCOME**

### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
creator of darkness and light, word of truth,  
wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge,  
**we pour out our hearts before you.**

**We have known you but have not always loved you.**

**We have wounded one another and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit  
dwelling in each of us.**

**Remember your covenant.**

**Renew your creation.**

**Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.**

**Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

**Amen.**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE** (*ELW Setting 3*)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. I Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*(continued)*

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of forgiveness, you healed a paralytic by forgiving his sins. Forgive us, heal us, and teach us to walk in your ways. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE CANTICLE

### *This Little Light of Mine*

ELW 677

(vv. 1 & 2 before, v. 2 after)

*During the singing of verses 1 & 2 of the canticle, children of every age are invited to come forward to the front pews to join Edith for the Faith Formation Moment. Visitors are welcome!*



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## WORD OF THE WEEK

Edith Bohardt

*After the Word of the Week, children may return to be with their families in the pews or go to 'Grace Space' at the back of the sanctuary while the people sing verse 2 of "This Little Light."*

Please join in the responsive reading from Psalm 103.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.

<sup>7</sup>**He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

<sup>10</sup>He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup>**For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

<sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup>**As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.**

<sup>14</sup>For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 2:1-22

The holy gospel according to Mark, the second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. <sup>2</sup>So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. <sup>3</sup>Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. <sup>4</sup>And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." <sup>6</sup>Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup>Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone? <sup>8</sup>At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? <sup>9</sup>Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? <sup>10</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — <sup>11</sup>I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home. <sup>12</sup>And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

<sup>13</sup>Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. <sup>14</sup>As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. *(continued)*

<sup>15</sup>And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples — for there were many who followed him. <sup>16</sup>When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>17</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

<sup>18</sup>Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. <sup>20</sup>The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

<sup>21</sup>No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. <sup>22</sup>And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Dan Ruth

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

**ELW 815**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 THE CHURCH

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Inspire wisdom and a spirit of proclamation in your church, O God of forgiveness. Uplift your people to share your inclusive love in your word throughout their community. Encourage us all to live into the promises of our baptism, working for justice and peace in all the world.

God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God of thunder and mighty waters. Restore the waters into which your children are baptized. May fields flourish and grow to feed your people. Summon and then empower the stewards and caretakers of the land to cherish your good works and to provide yield for generations to come. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Give strength to your public leaders, O God who is present in every country and community. Raise up leaders committed to equity and healing. Grant them wise discernment and empathic compassion as they lead in love. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Protect and cherish the most vulnerable among us, O God of providence. Accompany those separated from family or hurting from broken relationships. Shelter our unhoused neighbors and any who experience poverty. Protect those incarcerated in prisons and detention centers. Care for the sick and suffering, especially Kathy Cashin, Brian Conrad, Bruce Walker, Jan Sammelson, Lana Tiede, Debbie Tuvey, George Tuvey, Nels Tuvey, Debra Jacobs, Sandy Rader, Kris Schepers, Karen O., Jeannie C, Kris Roe, and others we name in our hearts . . . . . *An intentional moment of*

*silence* . . . . . God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Encourage this congregation, O God who calls and sends disciples. Guide us in accompanying, learning from, and serving our neighbors on the margins, following the example of Jesus.

God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Trusting the assurance of the Holy Spirit, we remember all who have died and rest in your care. Provide comfort for the family and friends of Gloria Conrad, Jane McNaughton, and Connie Scheevel. Give hope to all those who grieve, even as we rest in your eternal promise of resurrection. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also with you.

## OFFERING

Musical Offering

Invocation  
St. John's Choir

Gerhard Tersteegen

*A word about 'The Offering'* The offering is an important part of Christian worship. In all other parts of the liturgy we receive from God forgiveness, love, peace and hope. In the offering we actively participate in God's grace by giving. The Offering Cards available in the pew racks are for you to place in the offering plate as a representation of your financial contributions given electronically and of your non-financial generosity. Your offerings, offering cards, and pledge cards may be placed in the offering plates set near the sanctuary entrances. These are then presented to God as your weekly offering.

## OFFERTORY

*He Came Down*

ELW 253 (vv. 1 & 2)



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional  
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THE 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

ELW 737 (vv. 1-2, 4-5)



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

### *Communion Note:*

***All are welcome at the Lord's Table.***

*Communion will be served in continuous fashion as directed by the Ushers. Wafers, wine (red) and grape juice (white) are offered. Anyone choosing to not commune is welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. If you would like communion brought to you in the pew, please let an Usher know.*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ nourish you, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

*Brightest and Best of the Stars*

**ELW 303**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Brightest and Best of the Stars*

John Carter

## Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
 2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
 3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
 4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
 beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
 won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
 di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
 all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
 and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
 with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
 star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.  
 new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
 lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found  
 him whose praise the ages sound.  
 We too have a star to guide us,  
 which forever will provide us  
 with the light to find our Lord,  
 with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,  
 that will never lead astray  
 with its message so appealing,  
 is the word of God, revealing  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
 Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt.

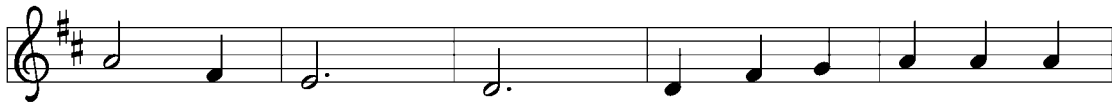
Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent.

Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

### *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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## Brightest and Best of the Stars



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'ings di - vine,  
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

## WORSHIP NOTES

- **Worship is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings in person and online**
  - ◊ Live on YouTube (link posted on St. John's Facebook page and website).
- Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday.
- Nursery care is available upstairs in Grace Place, 9:30-12:30 on Sunday mornings.
- Activities for children are available at the back of the sanctuary in Grace Space.
- "The Story at Home" devotional sheets are available at the entrances.
- Fellowship time is offered each Sunday following worship.

### ***Our Guest Pastor:***

*We are grateful to the Rev. Dan Ruth for his presence and ministry with us today.*

*Pastor Dan Ruth is the executive director of Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry (LPGM), a Minneapolis-based organization that provides access to quality education for people at the margins—especially women and girls. To learn more about how you can sponsor a student in India, or support girls' education around the world, talk with Pastor Ruth or visit [www.lutheranpartners.org](http://www.lutheranpartners.org).*

**The Offering** is an important part of Christian worship. In addition to placing your offering in the plate, you may also contribute offerings to the ministries of St. John's by:

- **TEXT** the word 'Give' to 612-800-0444 and follow the prompts,
- **GIVE** through our website or your Breeze member app, or
- **MAIL** your check to: St. John's Lutheran Church  
4842 Nicollet Ave,  
Minneapolis, MN 55419

**St. John's 'Guest' WiFi pw: #MartinLuther**

### **Reading for January 14 - Epiphany 2**

Mark 4:1-34 (Psalm 126)

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## Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister:  
*Rev. Dan Ruth*

Organist/  
Minister of Music:  
*Peder Flaten*

Assisting Minister:  
*Anne Nervig*

Communion Preparer:  
*Sharon Koschak*

Usher:  
*Larry Fraser*

Videographer:  
*Eleanor Nervig*

Media Specialist:  
*Matthew Tiede*

Media Volunteers:  
*Dylan Noaman*  
*Eleanor Nervig*  
*Sam Nervig*

Offering Counters:  
*Larry Fraser*  
*Deborah Dunham*

Fellowship Hosts:  
*Matt & Jennifer Burdick*

## Church Council

President:  
*Jennifer Burdick*

Vice President:  
*Rick Falcon*

Secretary:  
*Bonnie Conrad*

Treasurer:  
*JoAnn Christoferson*

At Large:  
*Deborah Dunham*  
*Sharon Koschak*

*Anne Nervig*

## St. John's Staff

Pastor:

*Mark Tiede*

Organist/

Minister of Music:

*Peder Flaten*

Cross+Generational

Ministry Director

*Edith Bobardt*

Nursery Attendant

*Diane Harayda*

Assistant for Ministry

*Ann Paulson*

Office Volunteer:

*Deborah Dunham*

Bookkeeper:

*David Roinas*

Media/Marketing

Specialist:

*Matthew Tiede*

Custodians:

*Joseph Sabai* (Day)

*Manuela Solorzano* (Sunday)

Dir. of Child Care Center

*Tina Shear*

Chi Rho Center Manager

*Dave Helm*

## Ministry Teams

Administration

Chi Rho

Child Care Center

Community &

Neighborhood

Cross+Generational

Facilities

Foundation

Music Series

Worship

**Website:**

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

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls>

[www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls)

StJohnsMpls

**Contact:**

[communications@](mailto:communications@stjohnsmpls.org)

[stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:stjohnsmpls.org);

612-827-4406

## Our Life Together

### *Today*

**Nursery for age 3 and younger, 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**

**Grace Place learning for children, 11:15 a.m.** (top floor)

**Fellowship** following worship (FH)

### *Monday, January 8*

**St. John's Council, 6:30 p.m.** (Lounge)

### *Tuesday, January 9*

**Cross+Generational Team, 6:30 p.m.** (Zoom)

**Tangletown Environmental Committee, 7 p.m.** (Zoom)

### *Wednesday, January 10*

**Confirmation at Bethlehem, 6:30 p.m.**

**SJ Choir, 6:45 p.m.** (FH)

### *Thursday, January 11*

**Holy Conversations, 10 a.m.** (Lounge)

**ECFE—Child Care, 5:30 p.m.** (FH)

### *Saturday, January 13*

**Minneapolis Brass, 9 a.m.** (Sanctuary)

**Tangletown/Hennepin County 'Fix-it' Event, 12-4 p.m.** (SJ FH)

### *Sunday, January 14 — Epiphany 2*

**Worship with Holy Communion, 10 a.m.** in person & online

**Fellowship & Packing of Backpacks** following worship (FH)

**Lutheranism 101** following worship (Chapel)

**Worship Committee, 11:15 a.m.** (Lounge)

St. John's will be hosting a **HENNEPIN COUNTY FIX-IT CLINIC** on **Saturday, January 13** from **noon to 4:00 p.m.** Bring your small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more, 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!

**JOIN IN PACKING 20 FOOD BACKPACKS** for Justice Page families after worship next **Sunday, January 14**. See the insert for additional opportunities and foods needed.

**MEET UP FOR GAMES, Thursday, January 18**, 6-8 p.m. at St. John's! Come to fellowship hall with your favorite game and a snack to share if willing and able. Fun for all ages and stages. If you don't have a game, the church has several to choose from.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JOHN'S CONGREGATION** for the purpose of approving a ministry budget for 2024 will be held on **Sunday, January 28** following worship. Members are urged to attend. The 2024 budget proposal will be available for review ahead of time.

*Coming in February:*

**St. John's Chili AND Cornbread Contest —February 4** following worship  
**Shrove (Fat) Tuesday Party—February 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall

**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