



The ARTs at  
ST. JOHN'S



*The Arts in Worship*  
*Performing Arts*  
*Midweek Music Series*  
*Visual Arts*

St. John's Lutheran Church

600 Sixth Avenue | Des Moines, IA 50309 | 515.243.7691 | stjohndsm.org



# Performing Arts & The Arts in Worship 2017-18

## Sunday, Sept. 24 | 10 am worship

Heartland Youth Choir in worship

## Sunday, Oct. 22 | 4 pm

Joint Catholic-Lutheran Reformation Service of Evening Prayer, Bishop Denis Madden from the Archdiocese of Baltimore presiding  
St. John's Adult Handbell Choir and musicians from area Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches

## Sunday, Oct. 29 | 10 am worship

Reformation Sunday Festival Worship

## Sunday, Nov. 5 | 10 am worship

All Saints Sunday Festival Worship

## Saturday, Dec. 2 | 7:30 pm

Julefest, Grand View University Christmas Concert  
Grand View Choir and Wind Ensemble

## Friday, Dec. 22 | 7:00 pm

Des Moines Concert Handbells concert  
Patrick Gagnon, Beth Ann Edwards, & Julie Murphy, Directors  
Premiere ensemble concert featuring local advanced-level handbell ringers

## Sunday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 pm Family Service with children's choirs  
8:30 pm Candlelight Service with Holy Communion  
Handbell Choirs and Brass Ensemble  
11:00 pm Candlelight Service with Scripture and Carols  
Handbell choirs, Cathedral Choir, Chamber Orchestra

## Saturday, Jan. 6 | 5 pm

Epiphany Celebration  
5 pm Worship with combined St. John's vocal, handbell, and instrumental ensembles  
Dinner to follow in Weertz Hall

## Sunday, Feb. 4 | 3 pm

Michael Elsbernd Organ Recital  
with featured guests St. John's Adult Handbell Choir

## Tuesday, Feb. 13 | evening

Shrove Tuesday dinner, live music, and celebration  
with John Benoit and the Foxtrot Hotshots



## Reformation Roots: Fruitful Seeds, Singing Heritage, Sustaining Faith

Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation through study, worship, and music! A three-day festival will take place October 27-29.

### Friday, October 27, 5:30 pm | St. John's

Keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Mark Bangert from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago will help us explore a variety of topics related to Martin Luther and the Reformation. Services of Evening Prayer and Compline, led by Pastor Rachel Thorson Mithelman, will be held at 6:15 pm and 8 pm, between plenary sessions.

### Saturday, October 28 8:30 am | Grand View University

Workshops, a service of Morning Prayer (Matins), and small-group discussions, including a "myth-busters" luncheon will take place at the Speed Lyceum in Grand View's Student Center.

### Sunday, October 29, 3:00 pm | St. John's

The festival concludes with a presentation of two great masterworks: J. S. Bach's *Cantata 80: A Mighty Fortress* and Felix Mendelssohn's *Reformation Symphony*. Festival Choir and Orchestra members will represent Lutheran churches throughout the Des Moines metro area.

### Saturday, Feb. 24

*Bach in a Day* choral and orchestral workshop/concert in collaboration with the Minnesota Bach Society  
1:00 pm rehearsal, open to all who pre-register  
7:00 pm concert, free and open to the public  
Dr. Randal Buikema, Guest Conductor

### Sunday, Mar. 18 | 4 pm

American Guild of Organists recital  
Marcel Dupré's *Stations of the Cross*  
Collaborative Art Exhibit: *Stations of the Cross*  
3:00 pm Artists' Reception in Weertz Hall

### Saturday, Mar. 25 | 9 am to 3 pm

Sacred Harp Iowa All-Day Singing

### Friday, Mar. 30 | 7:30 pm

Good Friday Worship

### Sunday, Apr. 1 | 10 am worship

Easter Sunday Festival Worship

### Sunday, Apr. 8 | 9:00 am

*The Three Marys* dramatic presentation  
Written and directed by Mark Gruber  
Featuring Rachel Almlie, Megan Hartwig, and DeAnna MacDonald

### Tuesday, Apr. 10 | All day

Luther College Dorian Vocal Festival  
Invitational High School Choir Workshop and Clinic  
7:00 pm concert with Luther College's Nordic Choir

### Sunday, May 20 | 10 am worship

Pentecost Sunday Festival Worship



## Artist of the Month 2017-18

Visual artists are invited to exhibit two-dimensional works in Weertz Hall. The exhibits are available for viewing when the building is open.

### September 13 through October 15

St. John's Photography Group *Photographer's Choice*

### October 16 through November 30

*Images of the Reformation: Celebrating 500 Years*

### December 2016

Charlotte Hamity, Painter

### January 1 through February 13

To be Announced

### February 14 through March 29

*Stations of the Cross* Invitational art exhibit, complementing a March 18 organ concert featuring Marcel Dupré's *Stations of the Cross*. Artist's reception 3 pm on March 18.

### April 2017

Siblings Margaret Townsend and Reta Caldwell *Paired Photos and Paintings*

### May 2017

After School Arts Program Tenth Anniversary Retrospective and Celebration

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## Music & Arts Opportunities at St. John's

### Vocal Choirs

#### Cathedral Choir

High school through adult, Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Michael Elsbernd, Director

#### Joyful Noise

Grades K-2, Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:00 pm  
Karen Andeweg, Director

#### Kisasa Musicians

Grades 3-6, Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
Beth Ann Edwards, Director

### Handbell Choirs

Beth Ann Edwards, Director

#### Adult Handbell Choir

Rehearse Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

#### Youth Handbell Choir (grades 7-12)

Rehearse Sundays, 8:45 - 9:45 am

#### Kisasa Musicians (grades 3-6)

Rehearse Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

### Blower Room Brass

Joel Gettys, Director; Rehearse Sundays, 9:00 - 10:00 am  
Blower Room Brass (named for the ensemble's rehearsal location behind the organ loft) is the St. John's resident brass ensemble. Blower Room Brass plays at worship services throughout the year including Festival services. Membership is open to all trumpet, cornet, French Horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba players. No audition required!

### Chamber Orchestra

Chamber orchestra, comprised of St. John's members with Des Moines metro-area professional musicians, graces our festival worship services throughout the year. Rehearsals are scheduled prior to specific worship events.

### String Scholars

String Scholars, currently comprised of students from the Drake University music department, provide musical and artistic support to the St. John's worshipping community September through May. This resident string quartet rehearses each Sunday morning from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm and participates in worship once a month and for special services and concerts. Repertoire for this ensemble is drawn from classical sacred music and newly published compositions, both hymn-based and freely composed works.



# Midweek Music Series 2017-18

Please join us for performances by world-class vocal and instrumental musicians for an exciting mix of classical, folk, pop, and jazz concerts. Each 25-minute concert begins at 12:05 pm in the Sanctuary. A light lunch, priced at \$6 each, is available in Weertz Hall, following the concert.



- Oct 4 The Des Moines Tango Ensemble
- 11 The Big Joe Kinser Band, alt. country & western swing
- 18 Pablo Valladares, piano
- 25 Quartet 515 string quartet
- Nov 1 Sarah Plum, violin
- 8 Scott Stilwell, singer/songwriter
- 15 Sarah Plum/Drake String Studio
- 22 Bruch Trio (Susan Odem, oboe and English horn; Dan Stevenson, clarinet; Bruce Martin, piano)
- 29 Grand View College Choir
- Dec 6 The Principal Guys Who Harmonize
- 13 Scott Davis Brass Quintet
- 20 Christmas at St. John's
- 27 Sue Hudson and family (reception to follow)
- Jan 3 Rob Lumbard, guitarist/singer/songwriter
- 10 Lyric Winds (Kimberly Helton, flute; Sue Odem, oboe; Kariann Voigts, clarinet)
- 17 Hurley and Dancers
- 24 Michael Elsbernd, organ
- 31 North High School Gospel Choir
- Feb 7 Iowa Music Teachers Association Piano Audition Winners
- 14 Ash Wednesday – Lent begins (no MWM Series during Lent)
- Apr 4 Two Davids Piano Duo (David Liljedahl and David Piersel)
- 11 Amadeus Trio (Joyce Wheeler, clarinet; Janean Schaefer Denhart, bassoon; Sue Odem, oboe)
- 18 Sarah Plum/Drake String Studio
- 25 Cristina Deeds, French horn; Michael Elsbernd, piano
- May 2 Foxtrot Hotshots with John Benoit

The Friends of the Arts at St. John's supports the Arts in worship and as an outreach to artists and the greater community. This valuable ministry is funded not by the general budget, but by donations from supporters and friends. Donations can be made online at [stjohnsdsm.org](http://stjohnsdsm.org) or mailed to St. John's at 600 Sixth Avenue, Des Moines 50309 (please indicate "Friends of the Arts" on the memo line). All donors who contribute \$50 or more will be recognized in future programs and receive special invitations to Fine Arts events.

All Fine Arts events are free and open to the public. If you have questions about the Friends of the Arts or would like to be active in Arts programming at St. John's, please contact Beth Ann Edwards, Director of Arts, Handbells, and Youth Choirs ([bethann@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:bethann@stjohnsdsm.org)) or Larry Hanson, chair of the Arts Visioning Team ([lhanson@ft.NewYorkLife.com](mailto:lhanson@ft.NewYorkLife.com)). For more information about the Arts at St. John's, please visit our website: [stjohnsdsm.org/finearts](http://stjohnsdsm.org/finearts).

**Arts Visioning Team:** Larry Hanson (Chair), Mary Ann Bender, Julie Betts, Maria Brownell, Deb Donald, Beth Ann Edwards, Michael Elsbernd, Mike Hanna, Jill Hansen, Kent Hartwig, Megan Hartwig, Julie Lowe, Pastor Rachel Thorson Mithelman, Linda Rieck, Darla Stiles, and Jacque Warming