



And the Word
became flesh and
dwelt among us ...

John 1:14, ESV

First Sunday of Christmas
Service of Lessons and Carols
December 26, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship | Grow | Go

5000 East Alameda Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80246

PHONE: 303-388-4678

FAX: 303-388-1338

WEB: www.augustanadenver.org

E-MAIL: info@augustanadenver.org

Welcome to worship on this Sunday after Christmas. This morning we hear again the good news of Jesus' birth through scripture and beloved hymns. Services of Lessons and Carols began after World War I in England, the most famous being the Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College. This service offers a quiet space to be embraced by Christ's love and reflect on the joy of Christmas.

In compliance with the latest public health mandate from the City of Denver, face masks are required for everyone over two years old as we continue to promote safe worship at Augustana. We will not seek to verify vaccination status prior to worship services.

Please note regarding increased seating for worship: Every other pew has one cushion in the middle of the pew. This is open for seating when all the aisle seats are filled. Safe self spacing is encouraged as we continue to seek reduced risk of exposure to any viruses during our worship services. Thank you for observing the DO NOT SIT HERE signage at the ends of these middle-seating-only pews.

Sign the worship slip and place it in the offering plate so that hospitality, prayer, and pastoral care may be kept up to date.

WiFi use: All the bandwidth possible is needed to livestream the worship service. Please turn your cell phone off, turn off the WiFi, or put it in airplane mode while the service is going on. Thank you!

Prelude

"A Christmas Wreath" –Charles Cronham
Carrie Beeder, violin; Andrew Peters, organ

Welcome

Opening Carol ♦ ELW 288: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

Prayer of the Day

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Lesson | • Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Carol • ELW 282: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Lesson II ♦ Micah 5:2–5a

A reading from Micah.

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Music Response ♦ “Once In Royal David’s City” –Cecil Frances Alexander

Lesson III ♦ Luke 1:26–38

A reading from Luke.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn • ELW 419: For All the Faithful Women



1 For all the faith-ful wom - en who served in days of old,
The next stanza (stanza 6) is listed below this hymn

Last All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.

All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.

With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.

we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

- 6 We honor faithful Mary,
fair maiden, full of grace.
She bore the Christ, our brother,
who saved our human race.
May we, with her, surrender
ourselves to your command
and lay upon your altar
our gifts of heart and hand.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-705796.

Lesson IV • Matthew 2:1–12

A reading from Matthew.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Music Response • “The Snow Lay on the Ground” –Leo Sowerby

Lesson V • John 1:1–5, 14–18

A reading from John.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Music Response • “Air” –Jean-Baptiste de Bousset

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You may share a sign of peace with the peace sign or a wave or a hand over your heart.

Offering

As we come to the end of 2021, we give thanks for everyone who gives regularly to help support Augustana's mission statement: Celebrating God's grace, we welcome everyone to worship Jesus, grow in faith, and go serve in the world.

"Alleluia" from *Christmas Oratorio* –Camille Saint-Saëns

The assembly stands.

Offering Carol ♦ ELW 296: What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
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 remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy Trinity, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Holy Communion

We are connected by the Holy Spirit to God and to each other across time and place through our baptisms. In this same Spirit, we share bread and wine with confidence in Christ's real presence with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are worshiping with us on livestream, you may use bread or crackers and wine or juice from your home. We invite you to share this bread of life and cup of blessing as we all are one in Christ.

If you have difficulty coming forward, please tell an usher, and Communion will be brought to you.

"Fum, Fum, Fum" –Catalonian Carol

"The Holly and the Ivy" –English Carol

"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" –Michael Praetorius

Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

Closing Carol ♦ ELW 270: **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Stanzas 1-2: optional harmony; stanza 3: unison

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

Postlude ♦ Improvisation on Christmas Carols –Andrew Peters



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome!

- How good to have you here! Thanks for signing the worship registration slip and placing it in the offering plate.
- Large-print copies of the service bulletin are available from Augustana's ushers.
- Children are welcome in worship! Children's bulletins and crayons are available on Augustana's entrance tables. Just outside of Christ Chapel and on either side of the sanctuary there are activity bags for children. Please return the bags when worship is finished. Childcare is available in the nursery for newborns through children age 5.
- For a copy of this morning's sermon, inquire in Augustana's office.
- Secure online gifts may be made through the [Giving page at Augustana's website, www.augustanadenver.org](http://www.augustanadenver.org). You can also text message your offering to 303-653-9592.
- Faith Formation for all children and youth is available Sundays, 9-10 a.m., in the education building. Adult Forum is offered 9:15-10:15 a.m.
- Welcome to coffee and cookies, 9-10:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall.
- Restrooms are located downstairs beneath the west entrance; handicapped accessible restrooms are on the east side of the sanctuary in the hallway behind the chancel.
- An elevator is available at the Fairfax Street entrance.
- Handicapped parking and entrances are available at the Fairfax Street and Elm Street entrances. Additional parking is available on the south side of the building.
- The Ammerman Library is open and staffed every Sunday.
- Please make sure your cell phones are silenced during worship.
- Parents, for the safety and well-being of all our children, we ask that you attend your children at all times.
- If you would like to leave your bulletin for recycling, please place it at the end of the pew.

Worship Ministries

Altar Guild:

December Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Bus Driver: Henok Yohannes

Communion:

10:30 a.m. AJ & Morgan Levy

Communion Linens:

December Margaret Aarestad

Library: Linda Crow

Livestream Assistant:

Paul Blanchard

Prayers: Marcia Olson

Reader: Ryan VanderWel

Ushers:

10:30 a.m. Herman Ezpeleta
Greg, Joshua, & Kristin
Hempelman
Kay Lunsford

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26527.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Mission Statement

Celebrating God's grace, we welcome everyone to worship Jesus, grow in faith, and go serve in the world.

Worship

- Worship in person at 8 a.m. in Christ Chapel or at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.
- Join Augustana on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/augustanadenver/) or YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8QQ4ybjC4GuBH_mdvVRCdA) for worship livestreamed every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Visit Augustana's website (www.augustanadenver.org) for downloadable worship resources and past worship videos.

Staff

Senior Pastor: Ann Hultquist

Pastor: Caitlin Trussell

Director of Youth and Family Ministry:

Shanna VanderWel

Nursery Director: Amy Hamik

Faith Community Nurse:

Sue Ann Glusenkamp

Minister of Music and Organist:

Andrew Peters

Chancel Choir Director: Kevin Padworski

AVE: Emily Murdock, Leslie Remmert Soich,

Blake Nawa`a, Keith Williamson

Choristers and Cantabile Director:

Angela Howard

Finance Administrator: Lisa Mikolajczak

Publications Administrator: Lyn Goodrum

Administrator of Volunteer Ministry and

Building Use: Julie MacDougall

Livestream Technician: Emily Friesen

Building and Grounds Manager:

Asmir Hodzic

Custodian: Andrija Malbasa

Wedding Coordinators: Ellen Kastens, Amy

Tammaing, Erin Saboe Willoughby

Augustana Early Learning Center Director:

Wendie Edwards

President of the Congregation:

Michael Zumwalt

Office Hours:

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Augustana Early Learning Center:

303-388-7012

Prayer Network for Critical Illness and

Emergencies: 303-388-4678