



Third Sunday of Advent | Faith Formation Christmas Pageant
December 12, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

5000 East Alameda Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80246

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Worship | Grow | Go

Welcome to worship during the Sundays of Advent! Advent is about the “coming days” and is loaded with expectation in the Bible readings—akin to Mary’s pregnant expectation before Jesus’ birth. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thesalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With our ancient siblings in the faith, we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in Word and Holy Communion in worship today.

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 make room in the pew for people who arrive after you by sitting in the middle of the pew. This opens up the aisle seating for others so that everyone has a place to worship.

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 10:30 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 ♦ Fantasia on “O Come, Emmanuel” –Heathcote Statham

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who inspires with wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills us with peace. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait, **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail to believe that your good news is for us. We falter in our care of creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Holy One, and assure us again of your transforming grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, enfolds you in grace, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, ✠ your sins are forgiven. You are strengthened anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

Gathering Song • ELW 266: All Earth is Hopeful

Please turn toward the back of the sanctuary as the processional cross enters, and turn toward the front of the sanctuary as the cross passes you.



1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through 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.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath • ELW 257: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law

Refrain
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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First Reading • Zephaniah 3:14-20

A reading from Zephaniah.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
 shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
 O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
 he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
 you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
 Do not fear, O Zion;
 do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
 a warrior who gives victory;
 he will rejoice over you with gladness,
 he will renew you in his love;
 he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
 at that time.
 And I will save the lame
 and gather the outcast,
 and I will change their shame into praise
 and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
 at the time when I gather you;
 for I will make you renowned and praised
 among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes
 before your eyes, says the LORD.
 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm ♦ Isaiah 12:2-6

The refrain will be sung first by the cantor, then by the assembly, and again by the assembly after the verses as indicated.

Refrain:



In your midst is the Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Isaiah 12:6
 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid,
 for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.
³With joy you | will draw water
 from the wells | of salvation. *Refrain*
⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call | on God's name;
 make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;
 proclaim that this name | is exalted.
⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done | gloriously;
 let this be known in | all the earth.
⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,
 for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel. *Refrain*

Second Reading ♦ Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from Philippians.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 239: **Hark, the Glad Sound!**

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

Gospel • Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

The assembly is seated.

Faith Formation Christmas Pageant ♦ A Super Christmas –Vanessa Unti

Director: Nancy Nyhus
Music Director: Marcia Olson
Accompanist: Tim Garrington
GIFT Coordinator: Valerie Taron

Cast

Mary: Elise Earhart
Joseph: Bryan Phillips
Shepherds: Caroline Stratton, Virginia Kusek
Angels: Tilly Ourada, Millie Motes, Iris Epperson
Supermen: Will Reinert, Dallas Phillips, Robbie Reinert
Wonder Women: Alice Taron, Fifi Yohannes, Claire Taron
Spidermen: Carter Cox, Andrew Cox
Hulks: Aaron Beazer, Arlo VanderWel
Bat Women: Amelia Mattosin, Cora VanderWel, Scarlett Lomax
Cat Women: Grace Crook, Lilly Crook
Elsa: Lillian Epperson

In this imaginative retelling of the Christmas Story, familiar characters from the comic world hear rumors of a new superhero coming to save the world. In their search to find this new competitor, they learn about God's power and love for his people. Our actors are pre-K–4th grade theologians from our Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) program. Please join us in cheering them on (with grace), and in singing the final song, "Joy to the World."

Joy to the World

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Faith Formation hour happens every Sunday at Augustana between worship services. Your offering makes this time of learning and fun available to all ages, from babies to adults.

“The Work of Christmas” –Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir

The assembly stands.

Offering Song ♦ ELW 242: **Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn**



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

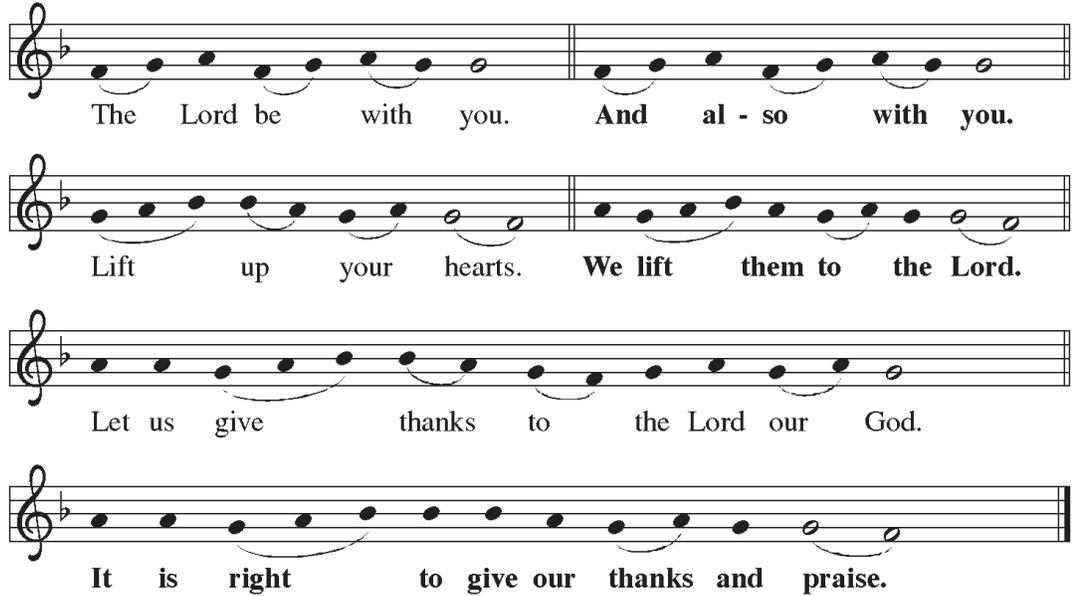
Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
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Offering Prayer

God of our waiting and watching, **we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



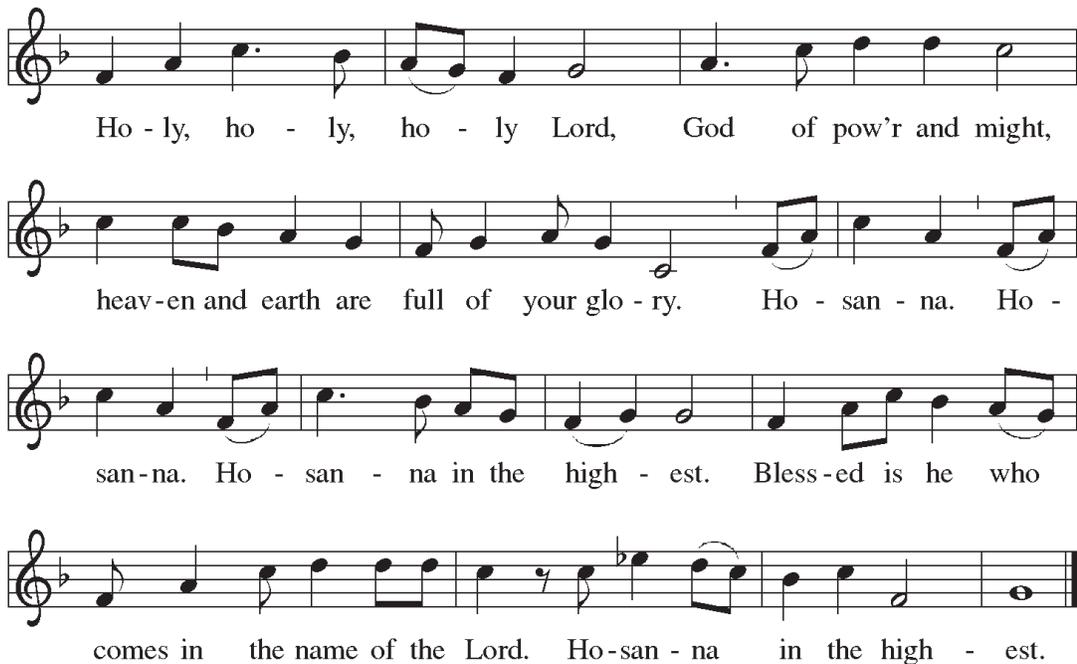
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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, 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.**

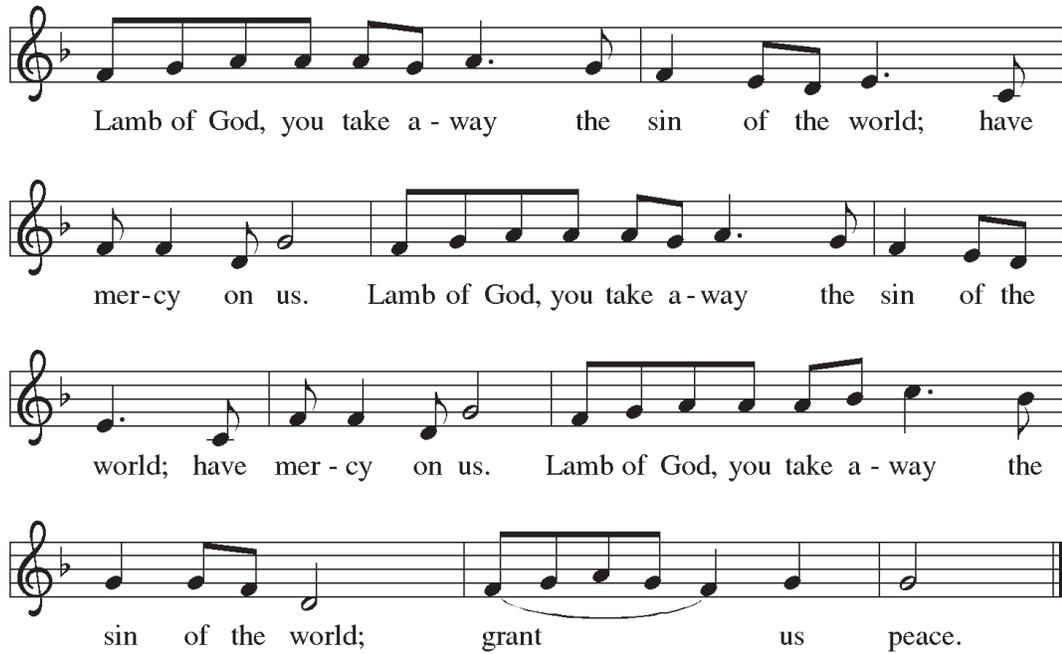
Lord's Prayer

**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

The assembly is seated.

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. We will receive Communion together after the singing of the 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.

“Rejoice in the Lord Always” –anonymous
AVE

Meditation on “Creator of the Stars of Night” –Alec Rowley
Andrew Peters, organ

The assembly stands.

Blessing after Communion

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

Prayer after Communion

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, make us bearers of your word, sharing your gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus our Lord. **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 for whom we wait. **Amen.**

Sending Song ♦ ELW 551: **The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve**

Please turn and face the processional cross as it leaves the sanctuary, facing the back of the sanctuary for the dismissal.



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude ♦ Recessional on "O Come, Emmanuel" -Pamela Decker



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

Advent Wreath:

8 a.m. AJ & Morgan Levy
10:30 a.m. David Aarestad Family

Altar Guild:

December Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Bus Driver: Michael Graham

Cantors: AVE

Coffee Hour: Win & Judy Nyquist

Communion:

8 a.m. Pat Vaillancourt
10:30 a.m. Lynn Marlowe
Heather Nelson

Communion Linens:

December Margaret Aarestad

Library: Katherine Howell

Livestream Assistant:

Tanner Levy

Prayers: Lisa Mikolajczak

Readers:

8 a.m. Kathy Edstrom
10:30 a.m. Izzy Howard

Ushers:

8 a.m. AJ & Morgan Levy
10:30 a.m. Wil Crook
Bill Crossen
James Kastens
Craig Tamminga
Miles Tamminga

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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 or YouTube channel for worship livestreamed every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Visit Augustana's website (www.augustanadenver.org) for downloadable worship resources, links, 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

Tamminga, 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