

Augustana

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Worship | Grow | Go

Nativity of Our Lord A Service of Lessons and Carols December 24, 2021 | 5 p.m.

Welcome to worship on this Christmas Eve! We are thankful that you are here at Augustana, and so thankful that we are able to gather together in person for worship.

This day is a powerful reminder to us that in the long days and nights of the past two years, we have been embraced by Emmanuel "God With Us." Today we sing that good news together, we hear it announced by angels, and we taste it in Holy Communion. Filled with the light and love of Christ, we go to share those gifts with the world around us.

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

"Lo How A Rose" -Michael Praetorius Lydia King, violin and Isabelle Howard, cello

"I Wonder As I Wander" –Appalachian folk tune Elise Earhart, soloist

"Away in a Manger" – James Murray Caroline Stratton, piano

"Angels We Have Heard On High" –traditional Carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Deck The Halls" –traditional

"Bring A Torch, Jeannette Isabella" -French Carol

"The First Noel" -traditional Carol

Adelyn Flesch, trumpet; Lyn Goodrum, trombone; Claire Koenig, trumpet;

Tim Libby, trumpet; Stuart Motes, trumpet; Henry Motes, horn; Will Smith, trumpet

"Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" –Spiritual Andrew Peters, organ

Welcome

The assembly stands.

Processional

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

-Plainsong/arr. Elwood Coggin

Candlelighters

Stanzas 1-3: Candlelighters

At the beginning of stanza 4, the assembly stands and sings with the candlelighters:

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the path that leads on high, And guide the way to victory!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Dialogue

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Lesson I

Isaiah 9:2-7

Margaret Aarestad

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.

Caro

"Room in My Heart" –Mark Burrows Cherubs and Choristers Marcia Olson, director; Tim Garrington, piano

Lesson |

Luke 1:26–35, 38

Amy King

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."
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.**



Text: Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561; tr. hymnal version Music: Lobt Gott, ihr Christen, Nikolaus Herman Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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Lesson III Luke 2:1–7

Tim Garrington

A reading from Luke.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the

city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Carol

"Duérmete, Mi Corazón" (Bolivian Lullaby) –arr. Judith Herrington

Choristers

Angela Howard, director; Sharon Schillereff, piano

Lesson IV

Luke 2:8-20

Bryan Phillips and Dallas Phillips

A reading from Luke.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about

this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.





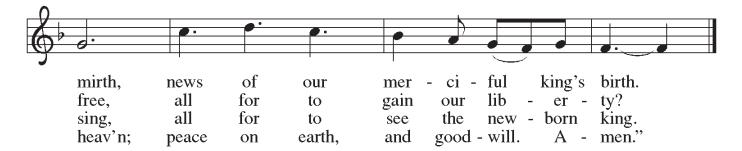
- 1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
- 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem er
- 3 When sin de parts be fore his face, then life and health come
- 4 All out of dark ness we have light, which made the an gels



Christ - mas night Chris - tians gels bring. On all sing an to glad? should we made us Then why earth be sad, since on place. When de - parts fore his then its sin be face. in sing this night. All out of dark - ness we have light, which



an - gels bring: of hear the news the news great joy, news of great made us glad, re - deem - er when from our sin he our set us and health come in its place. An - gels re - joice with us and made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry God in high - est to

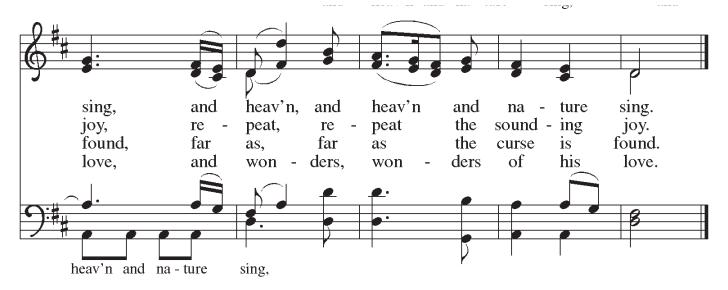


Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.

Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

Sermon Pastor Ann Hultquist





Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

The assembly is seated.

Lesson V Matthew 2:1–11

Christopher Garrington

A reading from Matthew.

In 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:

6'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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Offering

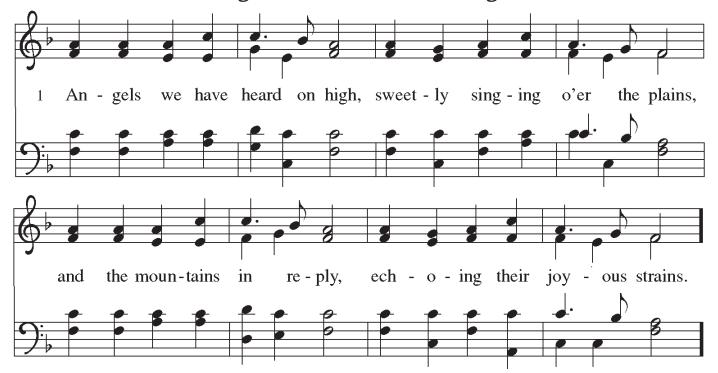
"In the Bleak Midwinter" –Craig Courtney Cantabile

Angela Howard, director; Tim Garrington, accompanist

The assembly stands.

Offering Carol

ELW 289: Angels We Have Heard on High





Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

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.

Words of Institution

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.

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.

The assembly is seated until invited by the ushers to come forward for Holy Communion.

Holy Communion

Today we will receive Holy Communion by intinction. You'll be given a wafer, which you are invited to dip in either the wine (dark liquid) or the grape juice. You may receive the wafer only if that is your preference. 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.

Communion Carols

ELW 279: O Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 - the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
 O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
 So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
 No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.

 We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

ELW 277: Away in a Manger

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.

- I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

ELW 288: Good Christian Friends Rejoice

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
- 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
- 3 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

Blessing after Communion

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

Carol

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" –13th century Plainsong Candlelighters Angela Howard, director

Anthem and Carol

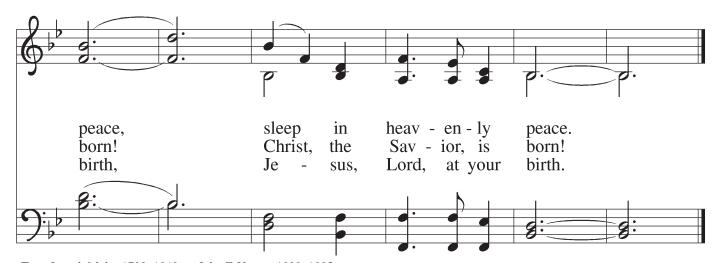
"Peace, Peace" – Rick and Sylvia Powell/arr. Fred Bock Candlelighters

Angela Howard, director; Tim Garrington, accompanist At the invitation of the director, the assembly is invited to join in singing "Silent Night."

ELW 281: Silent Night, Holy Night!

Stanza 1: Unison | Stanzas 2 and 3: Optional Harmony





Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

The assembly stands.

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.**

Postlude

"Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts" from *Christmas Oratorio* – Camille Saint-Saëns Tim Libby, trumpet; Andrew Peters, organ



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.
- For a copy of today's sermon, inquire in Augustana's office.
- Secure online gifts may be made through the <u>Giving page at Augustana's</u> website, www.augustanadenver.org. You can also text message your offering to 303-653-9592.
- 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.

- 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.

Christmas Eve Ministries

Altar Guild:

Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Communion Assistants:

Heidi Johnson Jamie & Ellen Kastens Mitch & Kari Kusek Nick Massie

Communion Linens:

Margaret Aarestad

Communion Preparation:

Julie MacDougall

Readers:

Margaret Aarestad Christopher Garrington Tim Garrington Amy King Bryan Phillips Dallas Phillips

Ushers:

Wil Crook
Bill Crossen
Andrew Kastens
Jamie Kastens
Ross Kastens
Tate Kastens
Craig Tamminga
Miles Tamminga

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 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

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