



The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve | December 24, 2023 | 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.


Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship | Grow | Go

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Welcome to worship on this Christmas Eve. We are thankful that you are here at Augustana!

This day is a powerful reminder to us that in every time and place, and in everything we experience in life, we are 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.

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

Merry Christmas and a Warm Welcome to Visitors!

Knowing that there are many reasons we end up at church on Christmas Eve, we hope you experience moments of peace and grace as Jesus’ birth is celebrated during worship. As visitors, feel free to text 251-276-5085 with Welcome in the text message to subscribe. We’ll make every attempt to be thoughtful about how and when we text by way of follow up. Texts will include links to information and events you may find easy to attend. Friends under 18 years old may be added to the list with your parents’ permission.

Prelude

“Once in Royal David’s City” –arr. Henry J. Gauntlett
Tim Libby, Trumpet

“Advent Motets” –Joseph Rheinberger
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

Ex Sion species decoris ejus, Deus manifeste veniet.

*Out of Sion the loveliness of his beauty,
God shall come manifestly.*

Congregate illi sanctos ejus,
qui ordinaverunt testamentum ejus super sacrificia.

*Gather ye together his saints to him,
who set his covenant before sacrifices.*

Laetatus sum in his, quae dicta sunt mihi, alleluja.

I was glad when they said unto me, Alleluia.

Prope est Dominus omnibus invocantibus eum,
qui invocant eum in veritate.

The Lord is close to all who call Him,

Who call on Him in sincerity.

Laudem Domini loquetur os meum,

My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord,

et benedicat omnis caro nomen sanctum ejus. Alleluja.

let all flesh bless His holy name. Hallelujah.

Veni Domine et noli tardare relaxa facinora plebis tui Israel.

Come, O Lord, and do not delay,

forgive the crimes of Your people Israel.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui.

Blessed art thou amongst women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

Sancta Maria, mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

“O Holy Night” –Adolphe Adam

Tim Libby, trumpet

“Joseph and Mary” –Kevin McChesney

Augustana Ringers

“The Angel Gabriel” –Basque carol

Welcome

The assembly stands.

Processional Hymn ♦ ELW 283: **O Come, All Ye Faithful** ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine
with the brightness of the true Light. Grant
that here on earth we may walk in the light of
Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the
brightness of his glory; 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.

First Reading ♦ 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.**

Anthem ♦ “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Gustav Holst and Harold Darke; arr. Blake Nawa`a
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain,
heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
in the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man I would do my part,
yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

–Christina Rossetti

The assembly remains seated.

Gospel ♦ Luke 2:1–7

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

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.

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem-ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand-ing by,

where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel-ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

Gospel ♦ Luke 2:8–14

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!”



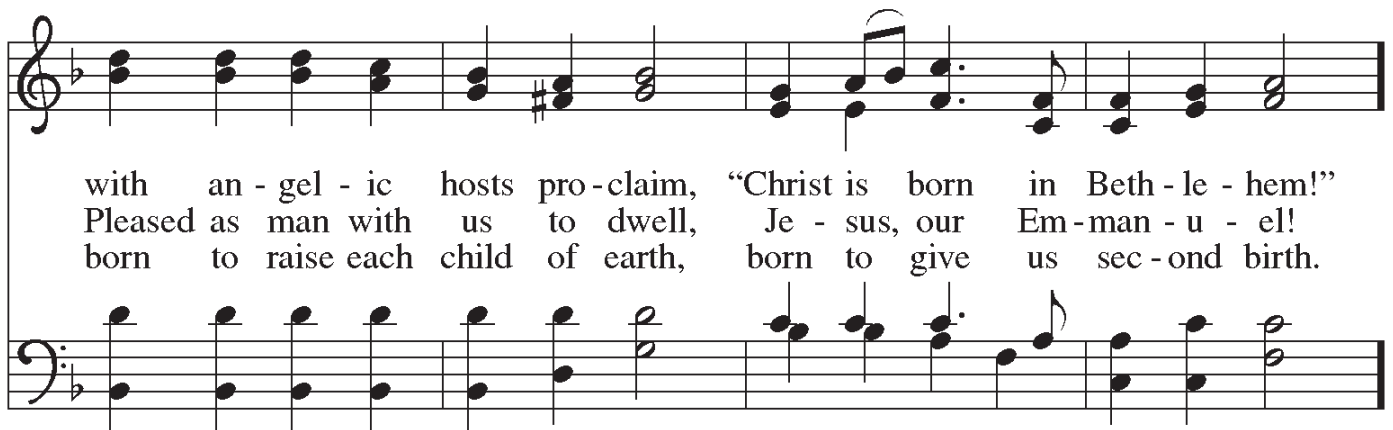
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of high-teous-ness!



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.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

The assembly stands.

Gospel ♦ Luke 2:15–20

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

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon ♦ 3 p.m.

Sermon

3 p.m. Pastor Gail Mundt

7 p.m. Pastor Caitlin Trussell

The assembly stands.

Carol ♦ ELW 296: What Child Is This

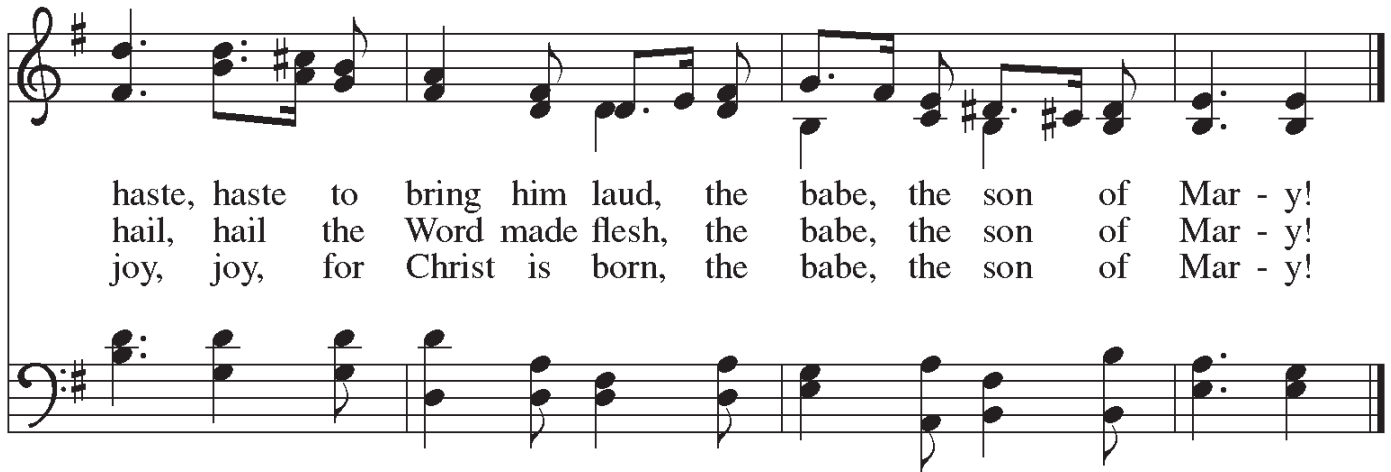
GREENSLEEVES



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - 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?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - 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;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



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

Peace

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

The assembly is seated.

Offering

Thank you for supporting Augustana's mission to worship, grow and go in our community and across the world!

Scan the code to donate securely through Augustana's website.



3 p.m. "I Wonder as I Wander" –arr. Noel Rawsthorne
Tim Libby, trumpet

7 p.m. "Noe! Noe!" –Mack Wilberg
Chancel Choir

Shepherds, rise look up and see new light yonder breaking,
brighter than the noonday sun, all your sheep awaking.
Wonder, whisper, "Ah, Noe!" Christ is born this holy day!
He is come to you, lowly shepherds, true!
He is come unto you, morning Star and New Day!
Wonder, whisper, "Ah Noe!"

Shepherds, turn your eyes and see in the manger, sleeping,
 Prince of Peace and Heavenly King, in his mother's keeping.
 Worship him who brings Noe, He who turns the night to day!
 He is come to you, lowly shepherds, true!
 He is come unto you, morning Star and New Day!
 Worship him who brings Noe!

Shepherds, look about and see in the darkness pining
 all God's children long to hear of the new Light shining.
 Witness of the true Noe! Share glad tidings of this day!
 He is come to you, lowly shepherds, true!
 He is come unto you, morning Star and New Day!
 Witness of the true Noe!

Shepherds run to us and see here we are awaiting thee.
 Let your voices ring for 'aye Christ is born! Noe!

—David Warner

The assembly stands.

Offering Response ♦ ELW 282: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CAROL



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,



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.



"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,



Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

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.

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.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
All praise and glory are yours,
Holy Light in the darkness,
Word of God incarnate,
Peace that passes all understanding,
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.**

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 only the wafer 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.

“Before the Marvel” –Carl Schalk

3 p.m. Augustana Vocal Ensemble ♦ 7 p.m. Chancel Choir

Before the marvel of this night,
adoring, fold your wings and bow,
then tear the sky apart with light,
and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace
that fear and death and sorrow cease:
sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song,
this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng,
in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss,
a teasing taste of what they miss:
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known,
our constant joy and endless light,
now to the loveless world be shown,
now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love
that rules our universe above:
Sing love, sing God is love!

–Jaroslav J. Vajda

Communion Carol

ELW 284: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that
2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a
3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as
4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -
rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but
was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The
ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:
as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:
chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.
kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

Text: Jean de Brébeuf, 1593–1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872–1960, alt.
Music: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk tune, c. 16th cent.
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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

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Candlelighting and Carol ♦ ELW 281: **Silent Night, Holy Night!**

STILLE NACHT

When passing the flame, keep your lit candle upright while the next person tilts their unlit candle to yours. Following the Blessing, candles may be blown out and returned to the sanctuary entrances. Merry Christmas!



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

peace,
born!
birth,

sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

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

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 ♦ “In dulci jubilo” –Johann S. Bach



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

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.
- Hearing assistance headphones are available for worship in the sanctuary. Ask an usher for an easy-to-use device for enhanced listening during worship.
- You are welcome to have your water bottles with you during worship.
- Children are welcome in worship! Children's bulletins and crayons are available on Augustana's entrance tables. On either side of the sanctuary there are activity bags for children. Please return the bags when worship is finished. The Cozy Corner is available to parents at the west sanctuary entrance. Changing tables are available in the men's bathroom and in the family bathroom on this floor.
- Secure online gifts may be made through the [Giving page at Augustana's website, augustanadenver.org](http://augustanadenver.org). You can also text message your offering to 303-653-9592.
- Restrooms and water stations 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.

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 (augustanadenver.org) for links, downloadable worship resources, and past worship recordings.

Christmas Eve Ministries

Altar Guild:

December Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Communion:

3 p.m. Katherine Cruson

Pat Vaillancourt

7 p.m. Robin Hoffman

AJ Levy

Morgan Levy

Communion Linens:

Kathy Edstrom

Reader:

3 p.m. Sharon Schillereff

7 p.m. Marcia Olson

Ushers:

3 p.m. Griffin Brown

Robert Brown

Emmett Cruson

Rosalee Wanchisen

Jordan Ourada

Lance Wheeland

7 p.m. Annie Nessa

Kathy Schmidt

Inez Smith

Brad Uyemura

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Nursery Attendant: Mary Beth Brown

Faith Community Nurse:

Sue Ann Glusenkamp

Director of Music and Organist:

Andrew Peters

Chancel Choir Director: Kevin Padworski

Augustana Vocal Ensemble:

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Blake Nawa`a, Keith Williamson

Choristers and Cantabile Director:

Angela Howard

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Christine Peters

Publications Administrator: Lyn Goodrum

Administrator of Volunteer Ministry and

Building Use: Julie MacDougall

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Alice Alister and Jesse Crone

Facility Manager: Craig Tamminga

Building and Grounds Manager:

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Tamminga, Erin Saboe Willoughby

Augustana Early Learning Center Director:

Kisanet Yohannes

President of the Congregation:

Lisa Boe-Sims

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

Dial-a-Care, Pre-recorded Daily Devotions:

303-996-2733