



Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2024 | Noon and 7 p.m.

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH

5000 East Alameda Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80246

PHONE: 303-388-4678

FAX: 303-388-1338

WEB: augustanadenver.org

E-MAIL: info@augustanadenver.org

Worship | Grow | Go

***Lent** starts today with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the joy of Easter. As we hear in today's scripture, now is the acceptable time to return to God. During Lent we reflect on the meaning of our journey of faith, which begins in the waters of baptism and is completed in Jesus' resurrection promise. At the heart of this Ash Wednesday worship is the reminder of God's constant love and mercy.*

The ashes we receive today remind us of our human frailty, but what seems like an ending is really an invitation to see each day as a new beginning, in which we are embraced by Christ's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our foreheads, we walk through the days of Lent, claimed and sent into the world to serve.

Our 7 p.m. worship is livestreamed especially to include our home-centered members who cannot join us in person. Given recent advances in artificial intelligence (A.I.) on the Internet, children's faces are protected from being livestreamed as is everyone going forward for Holy Communion.

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

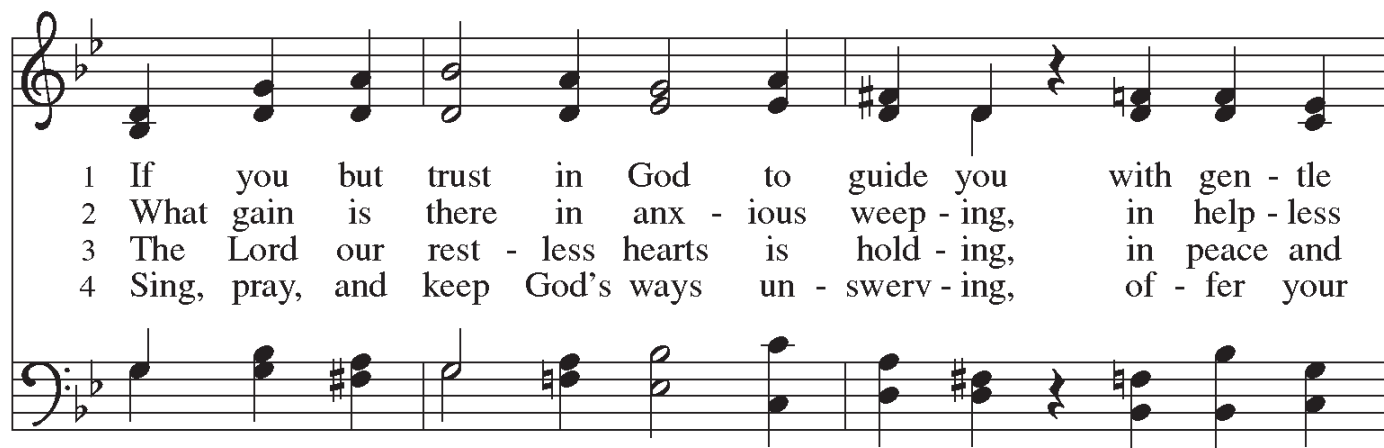
Prelude ♦ "Prelude on WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT" –F.W. Marburg

Welcome

The assembly stands.

Gathering Hymn ♦ ELW 769: **If You But Trust in God to Guide You**

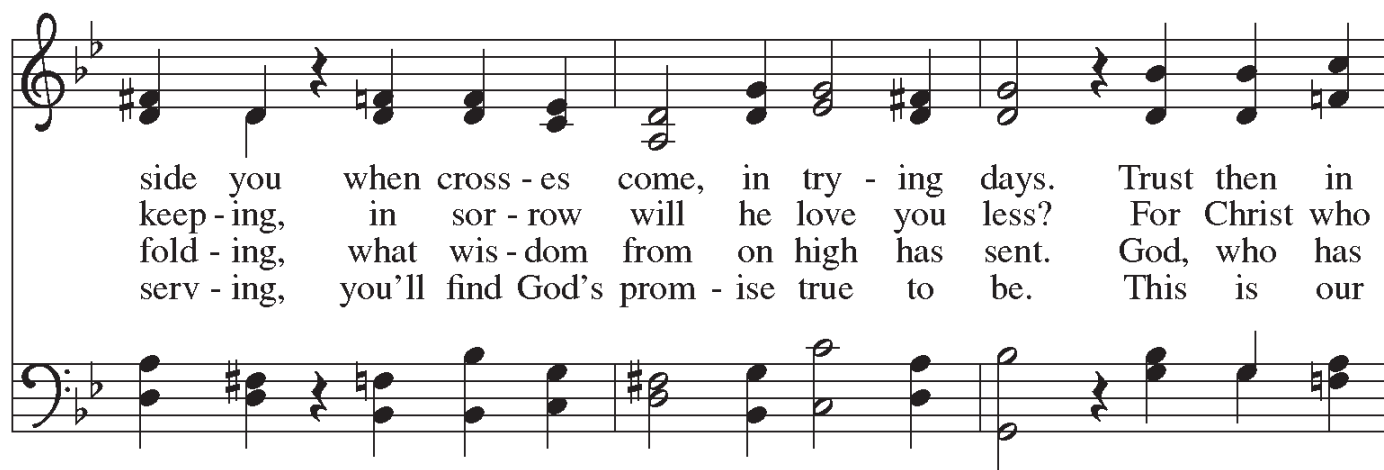
WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT



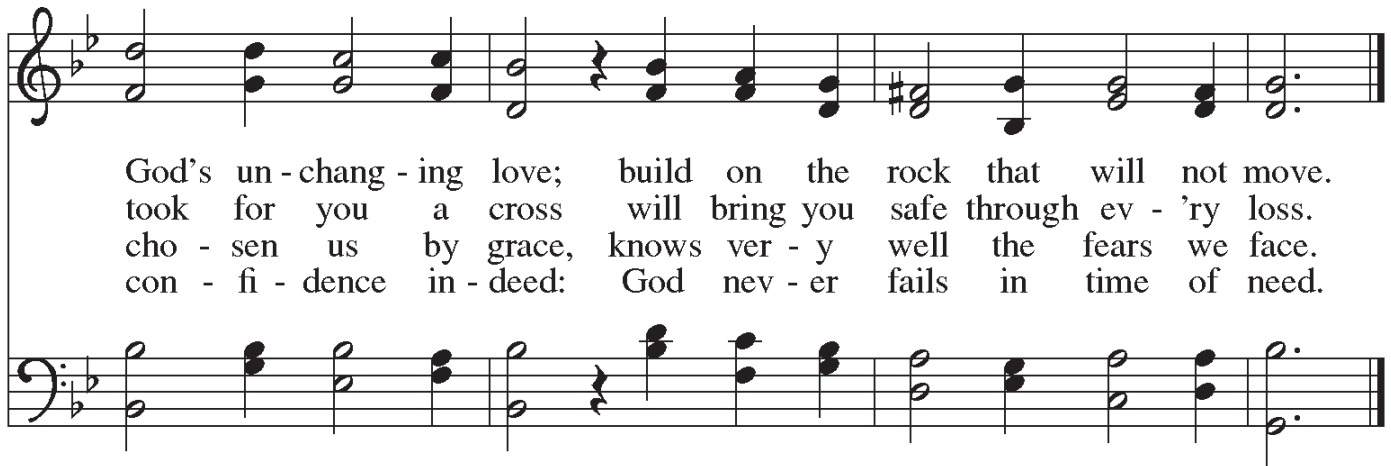
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
 Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

Almighty and ever-living God, **you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through 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.

First Reading ♦ Joel 2:12–17

A reading from Joel.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.
¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD, your God?
¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.
¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem ♦ Noon "Kyrie" –Richard Quesnel
Augustana Singers
Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Second Reading ♦ 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

A reading from Second Corinthians.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation ♦ ACS 958

WONDERS

3 Re - joic - ing in God's prom - ise strong, our
treasure and our song, in faith we
cling, and glad - ly sing: to Christ we now be - long.
In Christ a - bide, in Christ be - hold the
world be - loved and whole. In love re -
main, by love pro - claim God's won - ders still un -
told, God's won - ders still un - told.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: WONDERS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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Gospel ♦ Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

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

The assembly is seated.

The assembly stands.

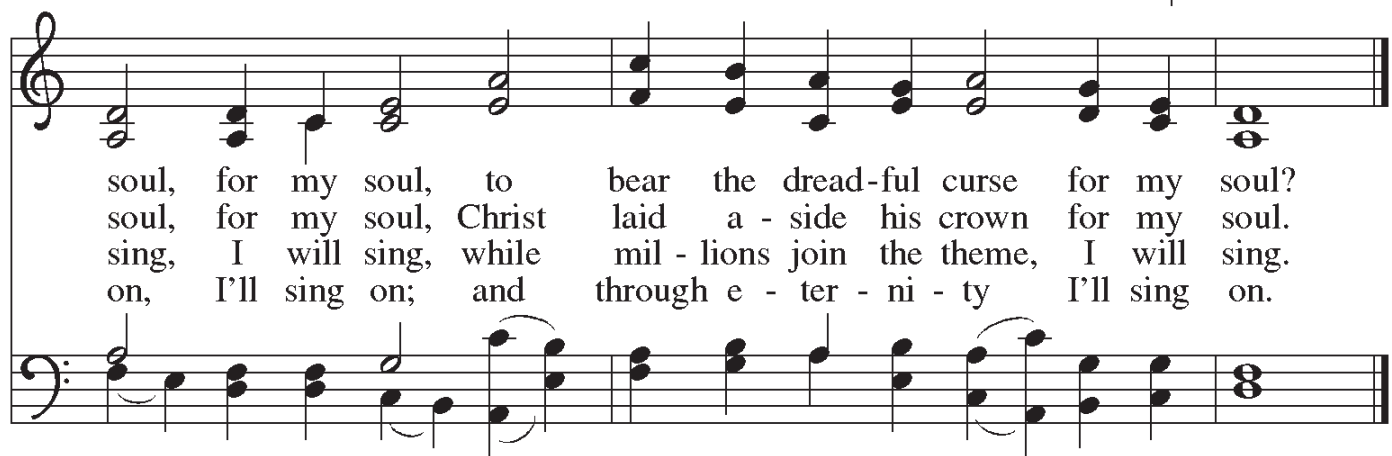
Hymn of the Day ♦ ELW 666: **What Wondrous Love Is This**

WONDROUS LOVE

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.

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Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

The people may kneel.

Most holy and merciful God, we confess to
you and to one another, and before the whole
company of heaven, that we have sinned by
our fault, by our own fault, by our own most
grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by
what we have done and by what we have left
undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart,
and mind, and strength. We have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven
others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

The assembly is seated.

Imposition of Ashes

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.
Following this, the assembly completes our confession:*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Offering

Noon “A Lenten Prayer” –Hal H. Hopson
Augustana Singers

Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins,
and close by thee to stay.

Jesus walked this lonesome valley,
he had to walk it by himself,
oh, nobody else could walk it for him,
he had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley,
we have to walk it by ourselves;
oh, nobody else can walk it for us;
we have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial,
you have to stand it by yourself,
oh, nobody else can stand it for you,
you have to stand it by yourself.

And through these days of penitence,
and through thy Passiontide,
yea, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.

–Claudia F.I. Hernaman

7 p.m. “Into the Wood My Master Went” –Austin Lovelace
Chancel Choir

Into the woods my Master went, clean forspent,
into the woods my Master came, forspent with love and shame.
But the olives they were not blind to Him,
the little gray leaves were kind to Him,
the thorn-tree had a mind to Him,
when into the woods He came.

Out of the woods my Master went, and He was well content;
out of the woods my Master came,
content with death and shame.

When death and shame would woo Him last,
from under the trees they drew Him last,
'twas on a tree they slew Him last,
when out of the woods He came.

–Sidney Lanier

The assembly stands.

Offering Response ♦ ELW 188: **Create in Me a Clean Heart**

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
In your great love for the world,
you sent Jesus the beloved,
who reached out in hope and healing,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
to the glory of your holy name,
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.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion today. We share this meal with confidence in Christ's real presence with us in this sacrament.

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.



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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, grant us peace." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, with some notes beamed together. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

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, grant us peace.

The assembly stands.

Post Communion Blessing

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

Prayer

Merciful God, **accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life 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.**

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ♦ ELW 606: **Our Father, We Have Wandered**

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

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Dismissal Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude ♦ “Meditation on HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN”
–Charles Callahan



Gathered by Promises!

Lent at Augustana Lutheran Church

Wednesdays in Lent

February 21, 28 and March 6, 13, and 20

5:45 p.m. Lenten Soup Suppers
- Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
- Christ Chapel

Many thanks to our Soup Supper hosts! Health Ministry, Children, Youth and Family Ministry, Worship & Music Committee, 60+ Adult Ministry, and Knitters

Adult Forum during Lent: "Gathered by Promises!"

Sundays, 9:15 a.m.,
Anna Paulson Room
February 18, 25, March 3, 10,
and 17

Living into our baptisms: the promises we make and how we live into them together by the power of promises God makes to us.

Lenten Devotional Books

Pick up a free copy of *Gathered Into One* pocket-size or large-print daily devotionals at Augustana's entrance tables.

Creation Care: Online Discussion

Tuesday, February 27,
6 p.m.

"Regenerating Life:
How to cool the planet,
feed the world, and
live happily ever after."



Watch this film then join the online discussion with filmmaker John Feldman. Scan the QR code for details and registration.

Warren Village Easter Basket

money gifts for grocery gift cards (\$40/each) are due by Sunday, March 15. Warren Village supports financially fragile single-parent households into self-sufficiency.

Colorado Lutheran Day at the Capitol

Monday, March 16, 8 a.m.–1 p.m. at St. John's Cathedral and Colorado State Capitol

The morning is a good introduction for first time learners about the healthy intersection between issues of human dignity, faith, and citizenship. All are welcome!



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](https://www.augustanadenver.org/giving). 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](https://www.augustanadenver.org)) for links, downloadable worship resources, and past worship recordings.

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Ash Wednesday Ministries

Augustana Singers Accompanist:

Christel Menth

Communion:

Noon AJ Levy

Micah Levy

7 p.m. Morgan Levy

Robin Hoffman

Communion Bread:

February Kent Mueller

Communion Linens:

February Kathy Edstrom

Livestream Assistant:

7 p.m. Paul Blanchard

Reader:

Noon Don Troike

7 p.m. Larry Rasmussen

Ushers:

Noon Karen Bourg

Errol Buhr

Herman Ezpeleta

John Flory

Greg Hempelman

Kristin Hempelman

Katy Lunsford

Allan Schneider

7 p.m. Griffin Brown

Robert Brown

Emmett Cruson

Jordan Ourada

Rosalee Wanchisen

Lance Wheeland

Staff

Pastor: Caitlin Trussell

Bridge Pastor: Gail Mundt

Director of Youth and Family Ministry:

Shanna VanderWel

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:

Emily Murdock, Bella Mallow,

Blake Nawa`a, Keith Williamson

Choristers and Cantabile Director:

Angela Howard

Finance Administrator: William Crossen

Building Systems Administrator:

Christine Peters

Publications Administrator: Lyn Goodrum

Administrator of Volunteer Ministry and

Building Use: Julie MacDougall

AV Technicians:

Alice Alister and Jesse Crone

Facility Manager: Craig Tamminga

Building and Grounds Manager:

Asmir Hodzic

Wedding Coordinators: Ellen Kastens, Amy

Tamminga, Erin Saboe Willoughby

Augustana Early Learning Center Director:

Kisanet Yohannes

President of the Congregation:

Heidi Johnson

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