

St. Francis of Assissi / Blessing of the Animals October 6, 2024 | 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 1



5000 East Alameda Avenue Denver, Colorado 80246

PHONE: 303-388-4678 WEB: augustanadenver.org

Worship | Grow | Go

Welcome to Worship on Blessing of the Animals Sunday! Today we commemorate Francis of Assisi, who died 798 years ago on October 4, 1226. Well-known for his love for all creatures, we remember him today as we invite animals to join us in worship for a blessing, an expansive inclusion of those pets who bring us joy, emotional support, and companionship. At 10:30 a.m. worship, for those who must keep their distance from animals for allergies or other reasons, we are offering a pet-free seating zone in the front, left seating area as you face the front of the Sanctuary on the pulpit/preaching side.

10:30 a.m. worship is livestreamed weekly especially to include our home-centered members who cannot join us in person. Celebrating our public worship, we also protect our kids in real time on livestream by redirecting the cameras to other views during children's time and 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 ROYAL OAK" -Emma Lou Diemer

Welcome

GATHERING *

Week after week, God calls us together to hear God's word and receive Christ's meal—to then be sent back into the world. We gather not on the Sabbath day, but on the day after; Sunday is the day of Resurrection.

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as we begin.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose grace flows freely, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God in hope.

Silence is kept for reflection. The people may kneel.

We know that we have not always been faithful caretakers of our animals; forgive us when we have dirtied their environment, erased places of shelter, polluted the waters, or neglected to feed or care for the animals in our own communities.

Forgive us when we have not loved them as they have loved us. Forgive us when we neglect to see all animals as part of your creation. Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge that your love beats in all hearts, and that you give breath to all creation.

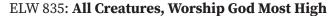
God is love.

Through Christ your sins are forgiven and you are deeply loved. Know that the Holy Spirit will enable you to live fully, richly, and deeply. **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn

10:30 a.m. Pets and their companions, along with children who desire to come forward for Children's Time, will join in the procession after the choir and pastors, gathering at the front for the Blessing of the Animals, which follows the Prayer of the Day.

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.



LASST UNS ERFREUEN



All: 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and High Voices: 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and All: 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the Low Voices: 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor-row





bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night: clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare: fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -



Cantor: 5 And you, most gentle sister death,

waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,

fair is the night that leads us home.

Alleluia.

All: 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One:

Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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

Greeling

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

Creator God, your servant Francis of Assisi sought to reflect the image of Christ through a life of poverty and humility: Grant your people grace to imitate his joyful love, treasure and protect the diversity of life on this fragile planet, and delight in your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Blessing of the Animals | Children's Time • 10:30 a.m.

We gather to commemorate and remember St. Francis of Assisi, and to honor the animals who share our lives.

St. Francis is the patron saint of animals and of ecology.

He gloried in the beauty of the world God created,

and we recall many tales of his affection for animals and their trust in him.

Today we thank God for the gifts of companionship and beauty which animals and pets bring to our lives and homes, and we ask God's blessing on them.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Almighty God, our Creator, yours be the praise, the honor, and the glory!

To you alone do all things belong.

Be praised for giving us the animals, the birds, the fish,

and all forms of life which fill your world.

Be praised for bringing happiness, companionship, and playfulness

through the animals and pets who we share our lives.

May we love them, care for them, and treasure them.

O God, your world is wonderful.

Bring us, with all your creatures, to a vision of wholeness in the world to come.

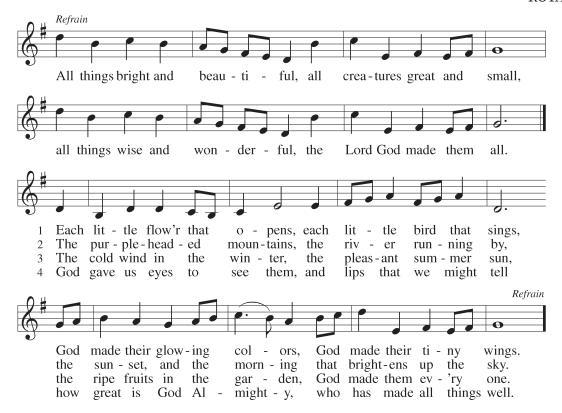
All praise to you, blessed God of all creation. Amen.

If you are at home, please gather your pet close to you or lay your hand on their head and repeat after me:

[Name], may the God who created you bless you.

May you find joy together in the love of God.

ROYAL OAK



Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

+ WORD +

As Lutherans, we understand that the Word of God is proclaimed in scripture, sermon, song, and prayer, bringing God's Good News (Gospel) into our time and place to awaken and nourish faith.

First Reading • Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm • Psalm 8

Antiphon: (sung by choir) You crown us with glory and honor.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Bold verses are sung by all using the tone above.

¹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

4what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,

human beings that you should | care for them?Antiphon

⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine;

with glory and hon- or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands; you have put all things un- | der their feet:

⁷all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

8the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,

and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! Antiphon

Second Reading • Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor,

*subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, 'but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

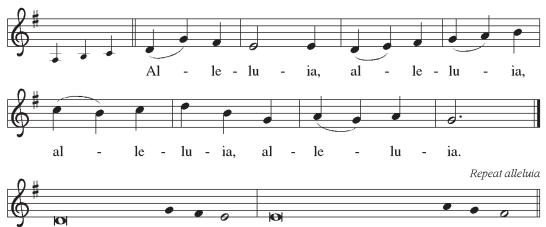
¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands.



Cantor: If we love one another, God | lives in us* and God's love is perfect- | ed in us. (1 John 4:12)

The assembly sings the Alleluia again.

Gospel • Mark 10:6-9, 13-16

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ⁶ "From the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

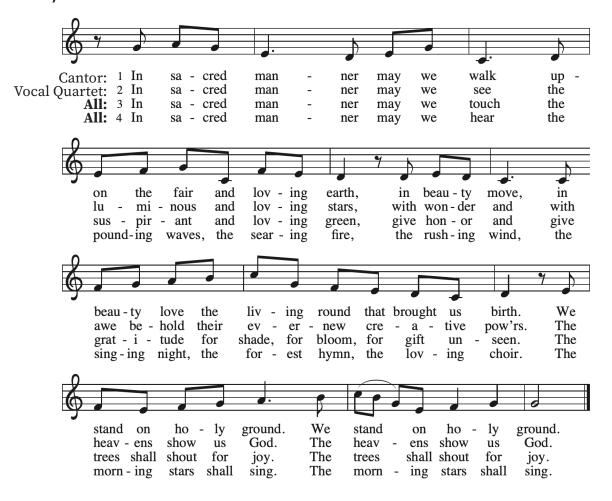
¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

The assembly is seated.

Hymn of the Day • ACS 1071: In Sacred Manner

SEATTLE



All: 5 In sacred manner may we live among the wise and loving ones, sit humbly, as at sages' feet, by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones. The animals will teach.

The animals will teach.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: SEATTLE, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950 Text © 1990 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress All: 6 In sacred manner may we walk upon the fair and loving earth, in beauty move, in beauty love the living round that brought us birth. We stand on holy ground.

We stand on holy ground.

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

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Peace

Let us share the peace of the Lord with one another, and to our animals.

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

You are invited to greet one another with these words: "Peace be with you."

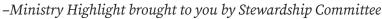
The assembly is seated.

MEAL *

In the meal of bread and wine we are forgiven, sustained, and become what we receive: we are the body of Christ to be God's presence in the world for love, justice, and healing.

Offering

"Every animal of the field and every bird of the air" is a gift from God for our wellbeing, blessing and stewardship.





"All Things Bright and Beautiful" –John Rutter 8 a.m. Augustana Vocal Ensemble • 10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings. All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset and the morning, that brightens up the sky; the cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the gardens, He made them every one: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

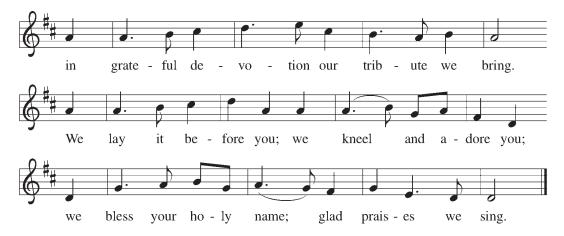
-Cecil Frances Alexander

The assembly stands.

Offering Response • ELW 870: We Praise You, O God

KREMSER





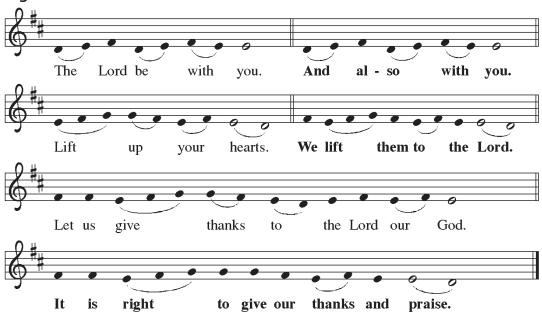
Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963

Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck, 1626

Offertory Prayer

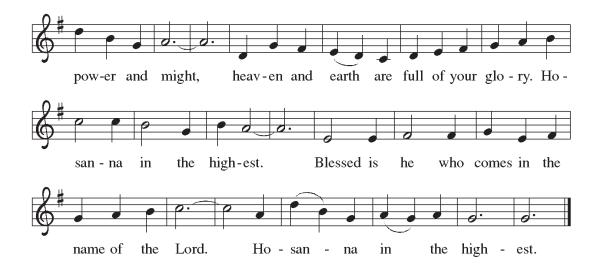
God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks for all the animals and other creatures that have enriched our lives. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



Blessed are you, strong and faithful God . . . we sing the ageless hymn of your glory:





Eucharistic Prayer

Creating God, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Sustained by the wonders of creation, we creatures of dust join the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

Redeeming God, you took on flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Therefore, we sing this song of praise and gratitude: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

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.

Sustaining God, gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song of hope and gratitude: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory. 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.

Invitation to Communion

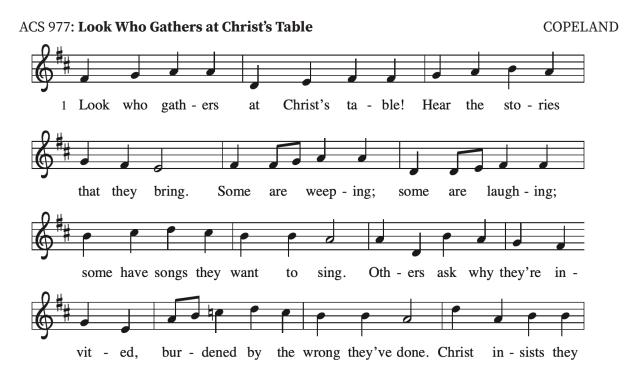
The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Holy Communion

The assembly is seated.

We trust that the love of Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of holy communion. All adults, and children of any age with parental permission, are welcome to commune—both those present in person and on livestream.

- The ushers will invite you into the center aisle to receive gluten-free bread from the server.
- Receive wine (darker color) or grape juice (lighter color) from the server, place the empty cup in the basket or empty tray, and return to your seat.
- If you desire a blessing rather than communion, please approach the servers with your arms crossed.
- If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher so that communion may be brought to you in the pew.





Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945 Music: COPELAND, Michael Corzine, b. 1947 Text © 2002 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Music © 2000 Michael Corzine, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

Communion Anthem • "For the Beauty of the Earth" –John Rutter 8 a.m. Augustana Vocal Ensemble • 10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

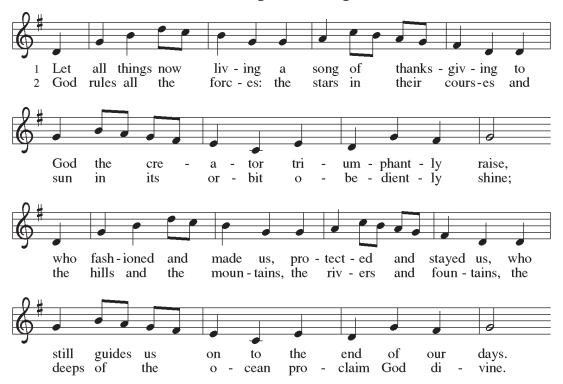
For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

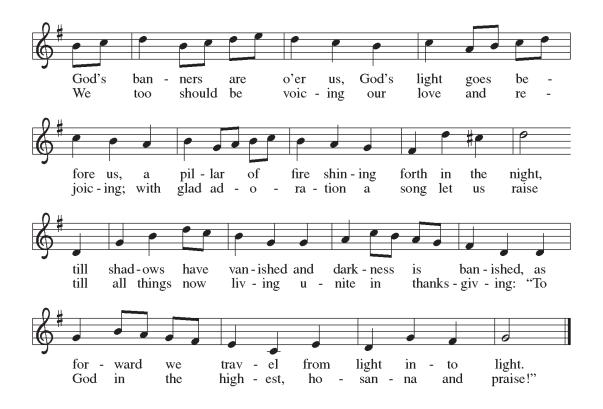
For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

-F.S. Pierpoint

Communion Hymn • 10:30 a.m. ELW 881: Let All Things Now Living

THE ASH GROVE





Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

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

Blessing after Communion

The assembly stands.

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

Prayer after Communion

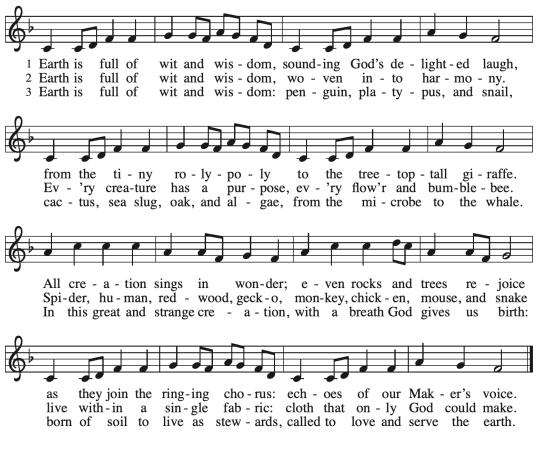
Christ calls you to be his disciples, to serve him with love and compassion, and to serve Earth by caring for her creatures. **Amen.**

* SENDING *

The Church cannot be contained within these walls. Through word and meal, the living Christ encounters us in this place, and we are empowered for ministry. God sends us as bearers of hope into a struggling world.

Blessing May the God who is love № be gracious to you, and fill you with hope. Amen.

10:30 a.m. During the Sending Hymn, please turn and face the processional cross as it leaves the sanctuary, facing the back of the sanctuary for the dismissal.



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, Columbian Harmony, 1825; arr. hymnal version

Text © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

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

Dismissal

Go in peace, serving Christ and loving all creatures!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude • "Hornpipe in D Major" -John S. Dixon

You are welcome to sit by the organ console during the postlude.

Candles for the Christ Chapel and Sanctuary altar lamps this month are given in memory of Alan Cunniff by Shirley Cunniff.



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 10:30 a.m. worship.
- You are welcome to have your water bottles with you during worship.
- Children are welcome in worship! Activity bags for children are available just outside of Christ Chapel. On the south side of the Sanctuary, children are welcome to borrow items from the Worship & Wiggle shelf. Please return the items after worship. Childcare is available in the nursery, 9 a.m.-noon, for newborns through children age 5, and 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.
- Faith Formation for all children and youth is available Sundays, 9:30–10:15 a.m., in the education building. Adult Forum is offered 9:15–10:15 a.m.
- Secure online gifts may be made through the Giving page at Augustana's website (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.
- Accessible seating for people with assistive health and mobility devices is available on the south side of the sanctuary.
- Handicapped parking and entrances are available at the Fairfax Street and Elm Street entrances. Additional parking is available on the south side of the building.
- The Ammerman Library is open and staffed every Sunday.
- Please make sure your cell phones are silenced during worship.
- Parents, for the safety and well-being of all our children, we ask that you attend your children at all times.
- If you would like to leave your bulletin for recycling, please place it at the end of the pew.

Worship Ministries

Altar Guild:

October Paul Whitehurst **Bus Driver:**

Cantor:

Emily Murdock

Communion Bread:

October Kelly McCartney

Communion:

8 a.m. Roger Lipker 10:30 a.m. Heidi Johnson

Jordan Hainey

Communion Linens:

October **Library:**

Ellen Kastens Billie Wolter

Prayers:

Mark Peterson

Readers:

8 a.m. Kara Epperson 10:30 a.m. Sharon Schillereff

Ushers:

8 a.m. Jim Gustad

Pat Vaillancourt

10:30 a.m. Jayme Howard

Annie Nessa Kathi Schmidt Inez Smith Brad Uyemura

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26527.

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

Mission Statement

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

Worship

- Worship in person at 8 a.m. in Christ Chapel or at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.
- Join Augustana on our Facebook page 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.

Staff

Senior Pastor: Caitlin Trussell

Assisting Pastor (interim): Karen Ullestad Assisting Pastor (interim): Kent Mueller Director of Youth and Family Ministry:

Deacon 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