

Welcome to worship during this time of Advent—the first season of the Christian church year that includes the four Sundays before Christmas. Advent means arrival, so each year we anticipate: Christ's return, John the Baptist's call to preparation and repentance, and the incarnation that brings God into skin and solidarity with the world through Jesus. At the same time, we celebrate the advent of Jesus Christ in the Word that is read, preached, prayed, and sung, as well as his advent in Holy Communion.

Silence will be kept at various times during worship to emphasize the waiting aspect of the season of Advent and to slow us down at a time of year when events outpace our sensibilities.

May Advent worship strengthen us in faith and embolden us to live the radical grace that proclaims the good news of Jesus by our words and actions.

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 • "Plaint" -Robert Elmore

#### 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, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection. The people may kneel.

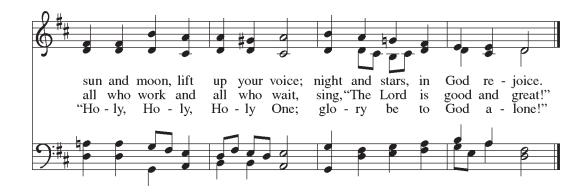
God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers alone and turn away from our neighbors. We trust false promises and cling to false comforts. We grow fearful.

God in our midst, bring your mercy to birth in us. Still our minds with your holy peace. Infuse our hearts with your advent hope.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, the grace of God is yours, and your sins are forgiven through ₱ Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

10:30 a.m. For the Gathering Hymn, 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.





Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

**Greefing** 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

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Anthem • 10:30 a.m. "Magnificat" –Ruth Elaine Schram Cantabile and Emily Murdock, flute

> My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. Mighty and holy, he has exalted the lowly, filled the hungry, and scattered the proud. He has remembered his servant. My soul glorifies the Lord.

> > -Luke 1:46-55

#### Children's Time + 10:30 a.m.

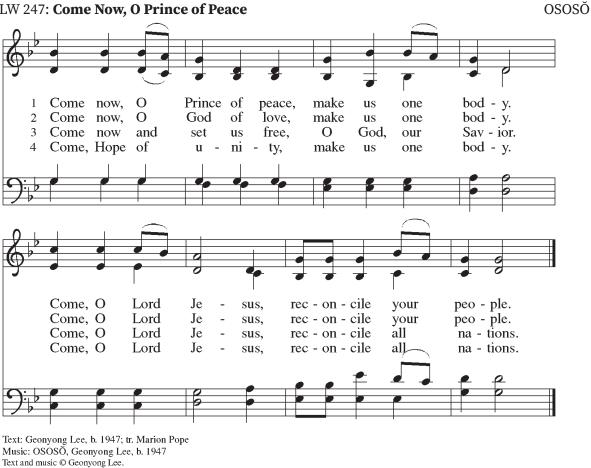
#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, God of the heavenly hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us, guiding us to love you and our neighbor.

As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us new life.

O people of hope, come, let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.

#### ELW 247: Come Now, O Prince of Peace



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#### + WORD +

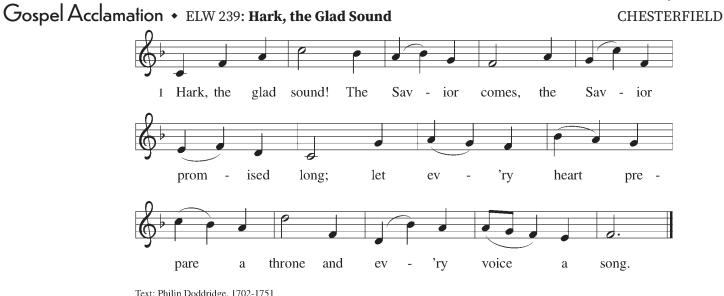
As Lutherans, we understand that the Word of God is proclaimed in scripture, sermon, song, and prayer, bringing God's Good News (Gospel) into our time and place to awaken and nourish faith.

#### Reading • Micah 5:2–5a

A reading from Micah.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
<sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



The assembly stands.

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

#### Gospel • Luke 1:39-55

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

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,

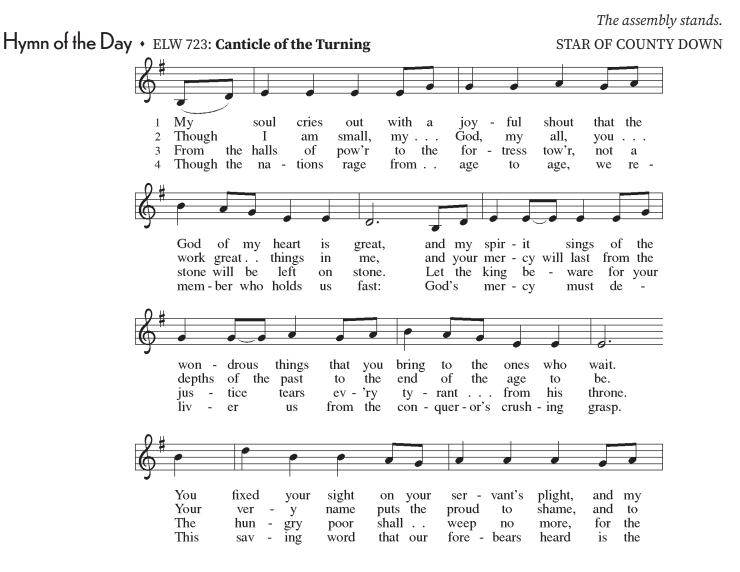
- "My soul magnifies the Lord,
  - <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
- <sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
  - Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- <sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- <sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him
  - from generation to generation.
- <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;
  - he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

<sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
<sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

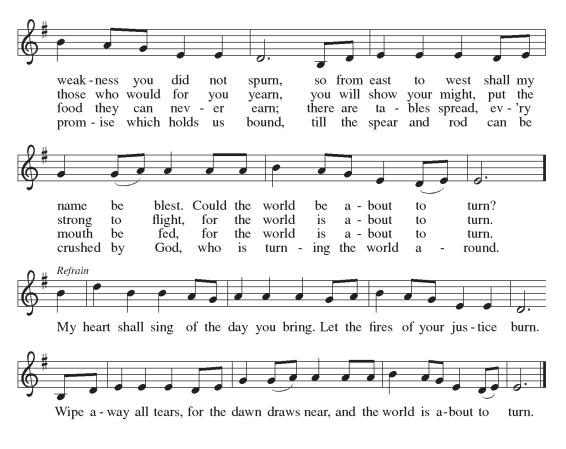
The assembly is seated.

Sermon • Pastor Karen Ullestad

Silence is kept for reflection.



6



Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition:* Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.** 

**Peace** 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.

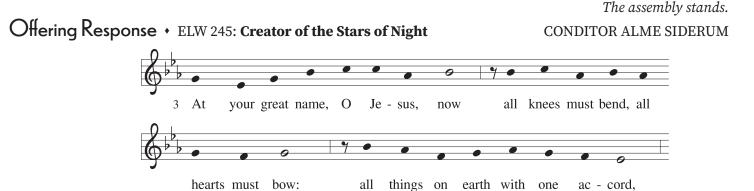
# MEAL \* In the meal of bread and wine we are forgiven, sustained, and become what we receive: we are the body of Christ to be God's presence in the world for love, justice, and healing.

## Offering

This week nearly 1,000 Augustana members, friends and guests will come to worship the Christ Child on Christmas Eve. Thank you for your offerings which support the preparation of sermons, music, bulletins, spiritual arts, and facility care in celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord.

"Magnificat" –Rob Landes 8 a.m. Augustana Vocal Ensemble + 10:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Magnificat.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, Magnificat. My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed. Magnificat. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.







like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

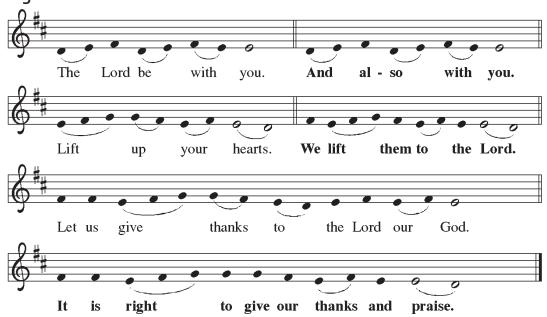
Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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#### Offertory Prayer

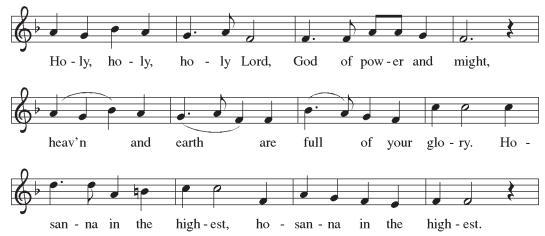
Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

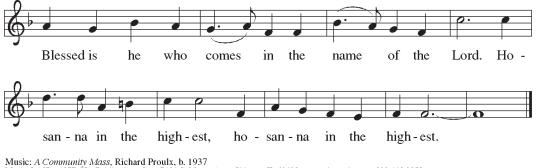
## Great Thanksgiving



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

ELW 192: Holy, Holy, Holy





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#### **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.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

#### Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

#### Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of the wilderness, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, 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.

#### Invitation to Communion

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

#### Holy Communion

The assembly is seated.

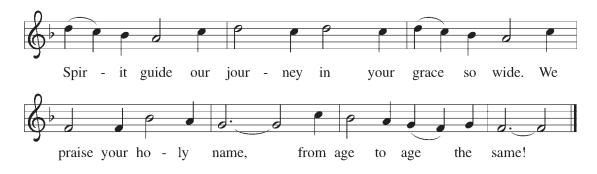
We trust that the love of Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of holy communion. All adults, and children of any age with parental permission, are welcome to commune—both those present in person and on livestream.

- 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.

#### ELW 259: Fling Wide the Door

#### MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR





Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943 Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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#### Communion Anthem

"The Almighty Father" –Rob Landes

8 a.m. Augustana Vocal Ensemble • 10:30 Chancel Choir

The Almighty Father has done great things for me and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him from generation to generation.

For God is mighty and holy is God's name.

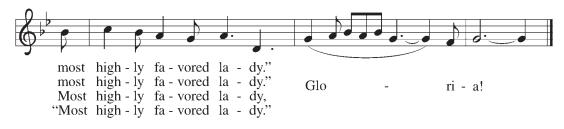
God has done great things for me.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm and scattered the proud in their conceit. The Almighty Father has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

#### 10:30 a.m. ELW 265: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE





Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

#### Blessing after Communion

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

#### Prayer after Communion

Generous God, we thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for shining your light through us. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us now to bring hope to a weary world. **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 God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God our hope for today and tomorrow, ✤ bless and keep you now and forever. 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.

The assembly stands.

#### Sending Hymn • ELW 267: Joy to the World



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

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

Dismissal Go in peace. Live in hope. Thanks be to God.

Postlude • "Advent Voluntary" -C. S. Lang

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

**Flowers** for worship today are given in memory of Leone Edstrom, dear mother and grandmother, by Paul and Kathy Edstrom.



### 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.
- 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

	-
Acolyte:	
10:30 a.m.	Beck Miller
Advent Prayers:	
8 a.m.	Dan, Heidi, Stella, Madelyn,
	Haakon, & Hazel Logsdon
10:30 a.m.	Henok, Kisanet, Fikir, & Matthias
	kYohannes
Altar Guild:	
December	Bill Crossen
	Rhonda Crossen
<b>Bus Driver:</b>	
	Henok Yohannes
Cantor:	
	Keith Williamson
<b>Cantabile</b> Ac	companist:
	Tim Garrington
Communion	
December	Ron Glusenkamp
Communion	
8 a.m.	Jim Dierker
10:30 a.m.	Ann Sethre
	Inez Smith
Communion Linens:	
December	Kathy Edstrom
Crucifer:	
10:30 a.m.	Max Johnson
Greeters:	
10:30 a.m.	Michael Quintana
Library:	
	Linda Crow
Prayers:	
	Don Troike
Readers:	
8 a.m.	Robin Hoffman
10:30 a.m.	Holly Massie
Ushers:	
8 a.m.	Roger Lipker
	Rob Trussell
10:30 a.m.	Karen Bourg
	Dana Buhr
	Herman Ezpeleta
	John Flory
	Greg Hempelman
	Kristin Hempelman
	Allan Schneider

**Advent banners** created by Ken Phillips, Denver fabric artist specializing in liturgical hangings.

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## Mission Statement

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

## Worship

- Worship in person at 8 a.m. in Christ Chapel or at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.
- Join Augustana on our Facebook page or YouTube channel for worship livestreamed every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Visit Augustana's website (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 **Interim Faith Community Nurse:** Inez Smith **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 Interim Office Administrator: Janice Schulz 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, Pam Uyemura 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