



The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve | December 24, 2024 | 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Augustana

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Denver, Colorado 80246

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Worship | Grow | Go

Welcome to Christmas worship! We celebrate and give thanks for the birth of Jesus, the Nativity of our Lord, when God came in skin and solidarity by way of a mother's body through the power of the Holy Spirit for the sake of the world and for you—imperfections, gifts, and all.

We celebrate the humanity of Jesus trusting in the promise of Christ's hope—the hope of all that God is yesterday in a living baby all grown up, today in a living Christ, and tomorrow in an eternal God. The eternal God who reveals a baby in a manger as good news of great joy for all people, and turns death on a cross into the promise of new life for the world that God so loves. It's one subversive act of love after another for this God. After all, who can resist a baby? Merry Christmas!

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!

A warm welcome to you, and to children and adults of all ages, abilities, and attributes, with the unconditional welcome we first received from Jesus. 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. Communion is for all. Yes, even you. Scan the code for more information about Augustana and our welcome to you!



Prelude

“O Magnum Mysterium” –Morten Lauridsen
Emily Murdock, solo

“Quiet Reflections” –Dan R. Edwards

“O Come, Little Children” –Michael Helman

3 p.m. Andrew Peters, organ ♦ 7 p.m. Augustana Ringers

“Comfort ye, my People” –George F. Handel

“Every Valley” –George F. Handel

Blake Nawa`a, solo

“The Angel Gabriel” –Basque carol

Andrew Peters, organ

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.**

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 ♦ “Of the Father’s love begotten” –arr. Blake Nawa`a
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world’s redeemer, first revealed his sacred
face—evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of Heaven adore him! Angel hosts his praises sing!
All dominions bow before him and exalt our God and King.
Let no tongue on Earth be silent, every voice in concert ring—
evermore and evermore.

–Prudentius, translated John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker;
adapted Blake Nawa`a

Children’s Time ♦ 3 p.m.

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.

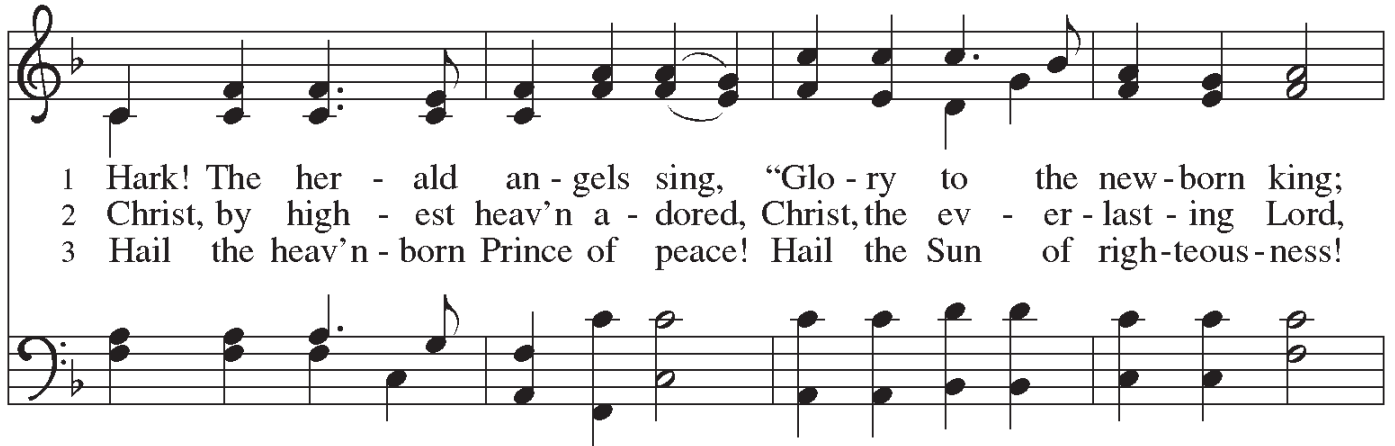
Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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!”



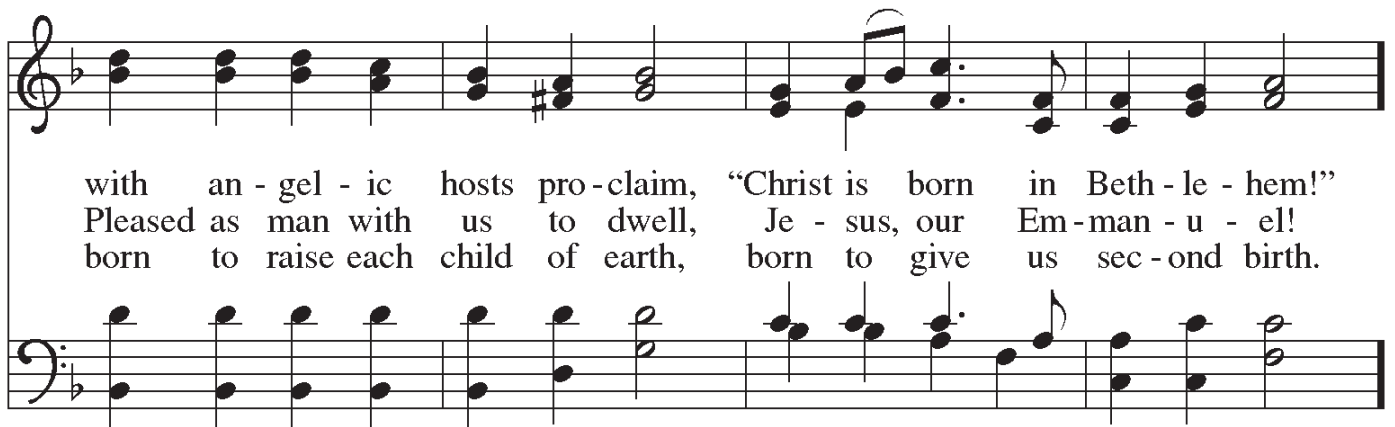
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of high-teous-ness!



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.

Sermon ♦ Pastor Caitlin Trussell

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;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

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 your gift! Your gift is important and impacts real people in real time through Augustana's mission to worship, grow in faith, and go serve in our community and across the world!

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



“Love Came Down at Christmas” –Howard Helvey

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

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
 love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;
 worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine,
 love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

–Christina Rossetti

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,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.

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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son.

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

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.

We give thanks to you, O God of grace,
And we ask you to accept our praise and thanksgiving.
By the power of your Word, bless these gifts of bread and wine,
so that we may be filled with grace and formed to live as your
holy people.

To you, O God of heaven and earth,
be all honor and glory, 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

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 a wafer of bread from the server. Hold your wafer and move to the next server. Dip your wafer in either the wine (darker color) or grape juice (lighter color). This is called intinction.*
- *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.*

Communion Anthems

3 p.m. “Go Tell it on the Mountain” – John W. Work
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere!
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching
over silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere!
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

7 p.m. “There Is No Rose of Such Virtue” –Simon Andrews
Chancel Choir

Alleluia. There is no rose of such virtue
as is the rose that bare Jesu; alleluia!
For in this rose contained was heaven
and earth in little space; alleluia!
Now leave we all this worldly mirth
and follow we this joyful birth, alleluia!

–traditional English carol

Communion Carol

ELW 274: On Christmas Night

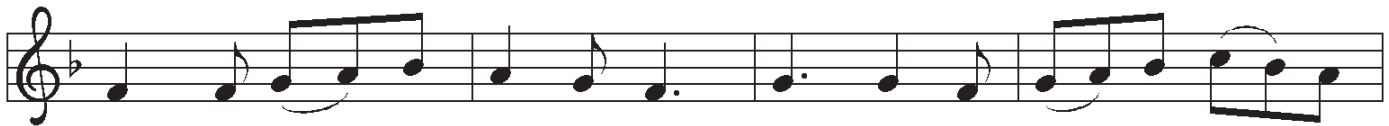
SUSSEX CAROL



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



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



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



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.
free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?
sing, all for to see the new-born king.
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.
Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

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

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who
is our heavenly food. Strengthened by his
goodness, send us forth to announce your
peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good
news of great joy. **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.

Blessing The God of love, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

Postlude ♦ “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” –Friedrich Zachau



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.
- On the south side of the Sanctuary, children are welcome to borrow items from the Worship & Wiggle shelf. Please return the items after worship. 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/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.
- 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.

- 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.

About our Christmas Art

The exquisite Christmas banners and altar frontal are comprised of thousands of fabric pieces glued in place to create a tapestry of mosaic color featuring the Christmas star and the light of Christ shining into the heavens and the earth. The banners were designed by Ken Phillips, a Denver artist who specializes in liturgical fabric art. They were created as a community art project at Regis University. This Christmas art installation is provided through a memorial gift given to Augustana for our spiritual arts.

Christmas Eve Ministries

Altar Guild:

December Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Communion:

3 p.m. Angie Ourada
Katherine Cruson
Sharon Schillereff
Paul & Kathy Edstrom
Pat Vaillancourt
7 p.m. Robin Hoffman
Pam Uyemura

Communion Linens:

Kathy Edstrom

Crucifers:

3 p.m. John Flory
7 p.m. Max Johnson

Reader:

3 p.m. Karen Morgenthaler
7 p.m. Marcia Olson

Ushers:

3 p.m. Griffin Brown
Robert Brown
Emmett Cruson
Jordan Ourada
Rosalee Wanchisen
Lance Wheeland
7 p.m. Jayme Howard
Annie Nessa
Inez Smith
Kathi Schmidt
Brad Uyemura

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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