

While the feast of Epiphany always falls on January 6, we celebrate God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ today, on the Twelfth Day of Christmas. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out on our life journeys to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

10:30 a.m. worship is livestreamed weekly especially to include our homecentered 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** • "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" - Craig Mather

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, Source of grace, Light of the world, Wellspring of life. **Amen.** 

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection. The people may kneel.

Merciful God, you speak compassion into the world, while we ignore the needs of our neighbors, give in to scarcity and fear, and assume the worst about one another. Restore our hearts to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you in the light of Christ. Amen.

Hear this promise of grace: In ♥ Christ, your sins are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.** 

<sup>10:30 a.m.</sup> 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.

#### Gathering Hymn • ELW 303: Brightest and Best of the Stars

MORNING STAR



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

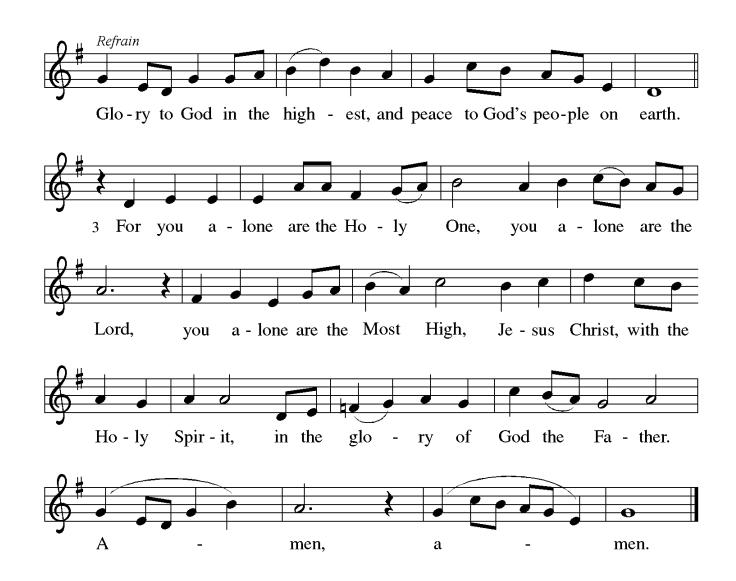
## Greeting

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

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

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

# • 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.

## 

A reading from Isaiah. <sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Psalm •** Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14

Antiphon: (sung by soloists) All kings shall bow down before him.



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

Bold verses are sung by all using the tone above. <sup>1</sup>Give the king your jus- | tice, O God, and your righteousness to | the king's son; <sup>2</sup> that he may rule your | people righteously and the | poor with justice; <sup>3</sup> that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people, and the | hills, in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people, rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. Antiphon <sup>5</sup> May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure, from one generation | to another. <sup>6</sup> Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field, like showers that wa- | ter the earth. <sup>7</sup> In his time may the | righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more. <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts. Antiphon <sup>11</sup> May all kings bow | down before him, and all the nations | do him service. <sup>12</sup> For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress, the oppressed, and those who | have no helper. <sup>13</sup> He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor, and preserves the lives | of the needy. <sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives, and precious is their blood | in his sight. Antiphon

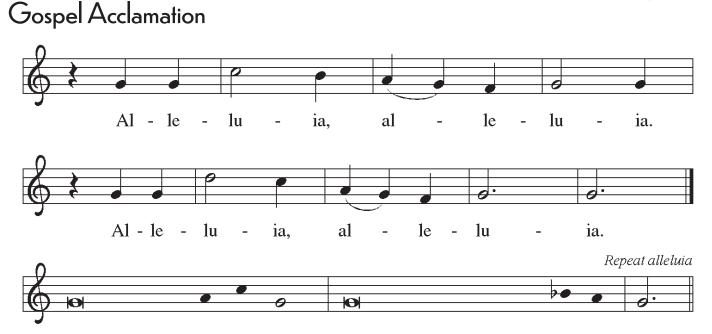
## Second Reading • Ephesians 3:1–12

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup> for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup> and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup> a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup> In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup> that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup> Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup> Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup> This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Cantor: We have observed his star | at its rising,\* and have come to | worship him. (Matt. 2:2) *The assembly sings the Alleluia again.* 

#### Gospel • Matthew 2:1–12

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

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

The assembly is seated.

#### Sermon • Pastor Kent Mueller

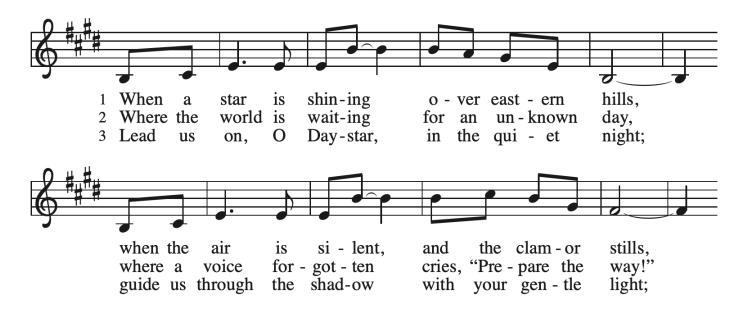
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

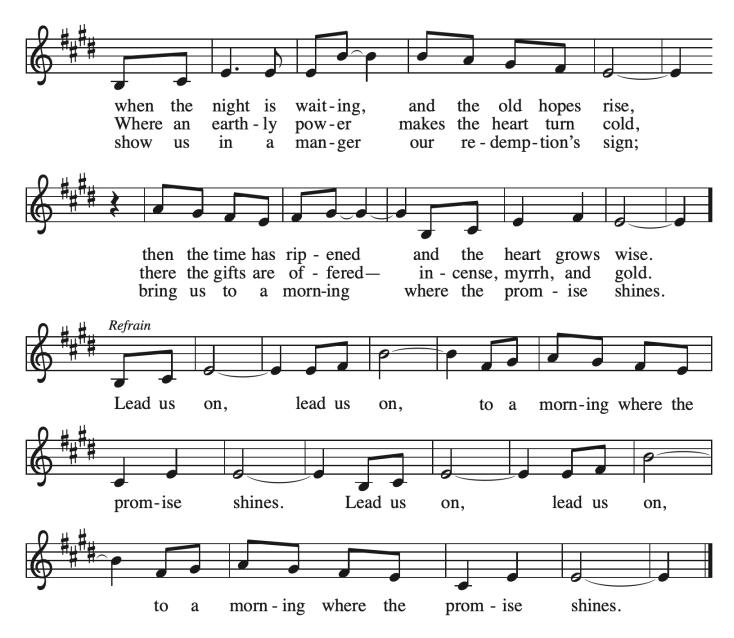
The assembly stands.

## Hymn of the Day • ACS 915: When a Star Is Shining

WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES

stanza 1: cantor • stanzas 2–3: all





Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993 Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962 Text © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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#### Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition:* God of grace, **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

Just as the star guided the wise men to the Christ child, let our hearts be guided by the light of God's grace, leading us to generously share the gifts he entrusted to us.



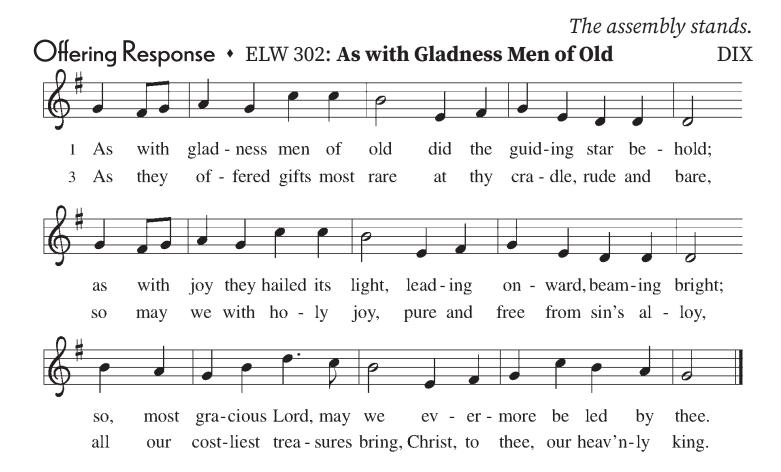
"The Road Not Taken" –Randall Thompson Emily Murdock and Keith Williamson, duet

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood and sorry I could not travel both and be one traveler, long I stood and looked down one as far as I could to where it bent in the undergrowth.

Then took the other, as just as fair, and having perhaps the better claim, because it was grassy and wanted wear; though as for that the passing there had worn them really about the same.

And both that morning equally lay in leaves no step had trodden black. Oh, I kept the first for another day! Yet knowing how way leads on to way, I doubted if I should ever come back. I shall be telling this with a sigh somewhere ages and ages hence: two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.

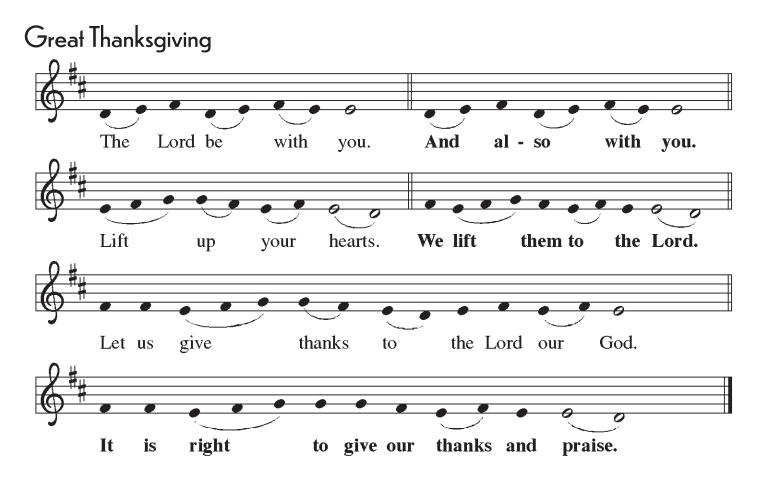
-Robert Frost



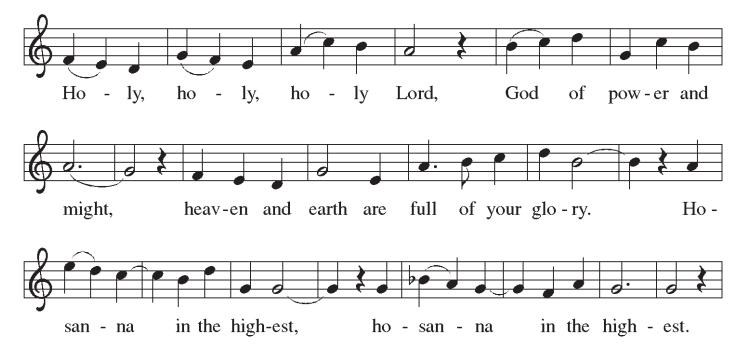
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

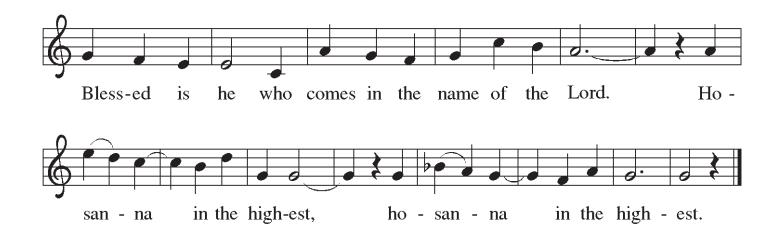
#### Offertory Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.



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:





## Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

#### We praise you, O God.

Generations have followed the Light of the Epiphany star: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

#### We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

#### We thank you, O God.

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. Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.** 

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **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.

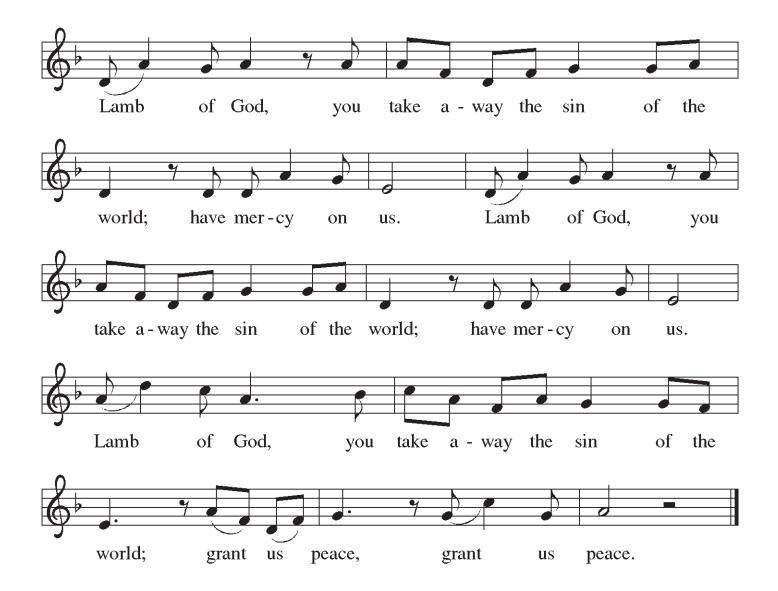
## Holy Communion

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 glutenfree 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.



## Communion Anthem

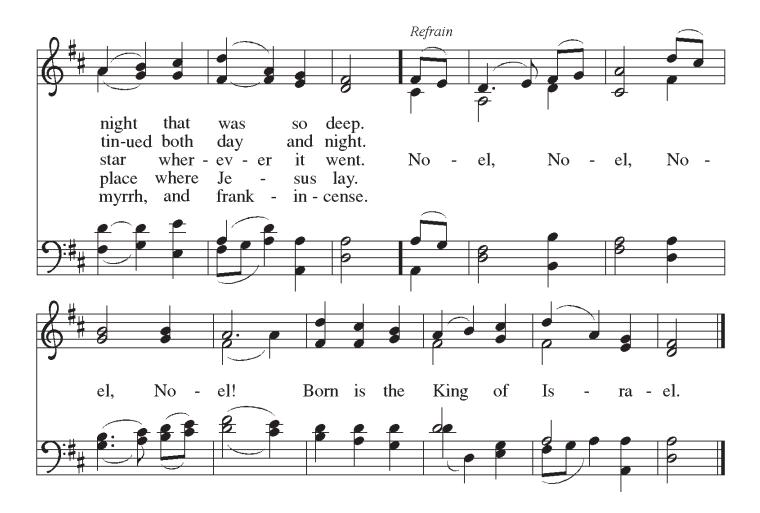
"I Wonder as I Wander" –John Jacob Niles Emily Murdock, solo

I wonder as I wander out under the sky, how Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die for poor, ornery people like you and like I I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cows' stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it did then recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing: a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing; or all of God's angels in heaven to sing, He surely could have had it, 'cause He was the King! –Appalachian carol





Text: English traditional Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

#### 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

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with this holy meal. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of grace and freedom for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen**.

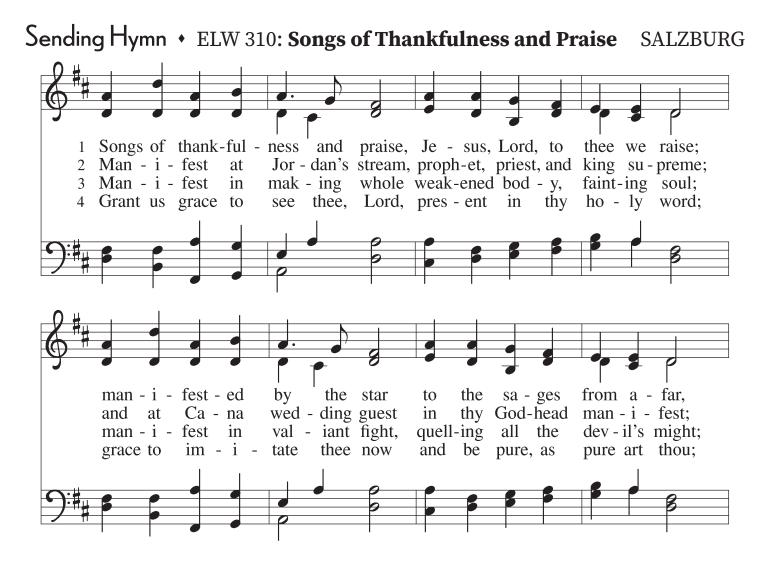
# SENDING \*

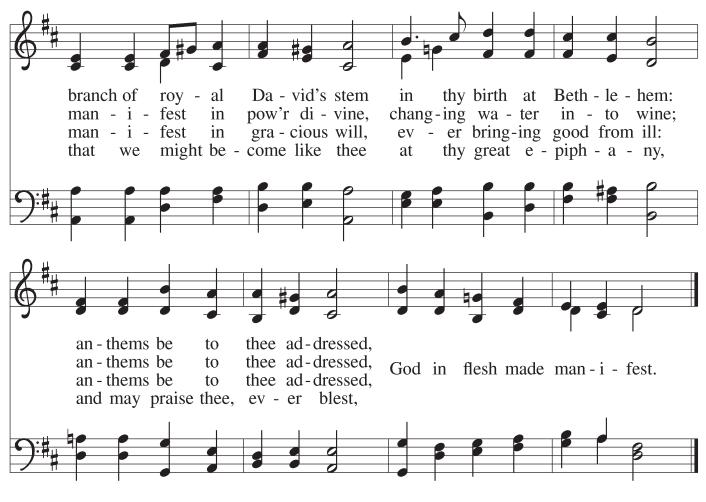
The Church cannot be contained within these walls. Through word and meal, the living Christ encounters us in this place, and we are empowered for ministry. God sends us as bearers of hope into a struggling world.

## Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God ቛ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. 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: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

## Dismissal

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

## **Postlude** • "The First Nowell" –Robert Below

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

# **Candles** for the Christ Chapel altar lamp this month are given in memory of Viola Munson by her granddaughter, Karen Yeager.

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# 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.

# 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.

## 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 (<u>augustanadenver.org</u>) for links, downloadable worship resources, and past worship recordings.

## Worship Ministries

Acolyte: 10:30 a.m. Max Johnson Altar Guild: January Tracy Lutz **Bus Driver:** Ryan VanderWel **Cantor:** Keith Williamson **Communion Bread:** January Karen Bassford **Communion:** 8 a.m. Robin Hoffman 10:30 a.m. Matt Miller Jordan Hainey **Communion Linens:** January Margaret Aarestad **Crucifer:** 10:30 a.m. John Flory **Greeters:** 10:30 a.m. Alan & Mendy Motes Library: **Billie Wolter Prayers:** Don Troike **Readers:** 8 a.m. Beth Black 10:30 a.m. Paul Blanchard **Ushers:** 8 a.m. Jim Gustad Pat Vaillancourt 10:30 a.m. Jayme Howard Annie Nessa Inez Smith Kathi Schmidt Brad Uyemura

## 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