

Holy Cross Day
September 14, 2025 | 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 1

Augustana
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Hope lives here.

5000 East Alameda Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80246
PHONE: 303-388-4678
WEB: augustanadenver.org
E-MAIL: info@augustanadenver.org

Welcome to worship at Augustana! Today is Holy Cross Day, which has been observed on September 14 since the fourth century. On this day we are reminded that the Cross points us not only to Christ's death, but also to God's deep identification with the brokenness of the world—and the hope that new life can emerge from even the darkest places.

But Holy Cross Day doesn't offer easy answers. On this day we are invited to see in the Cross a powerful witness: that God's love enters into suffering, resists violence, and refuses to let death have the last word.

Our 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 ♦ "My Soul, Adorn Thyself" –J.S. Bach (BWV 654)
Denise Lanning, Guest Organist

Welcome

◆ GATHERING ◆

The assembly stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

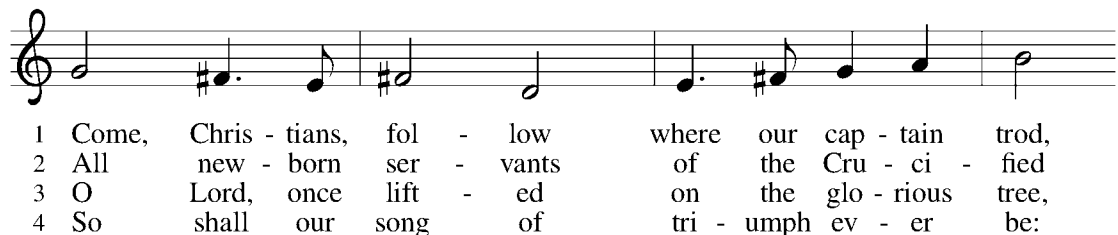
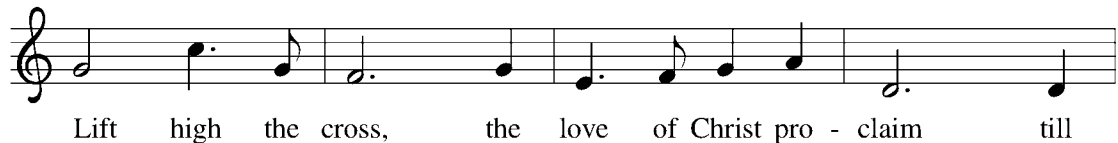
Gracious God, **draw us to your heart and root us in your steadfast love. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues, fueling conflicts and disputes. We neglect the needs of our fellow humans and we wound your good creation. In your abundant mercy, forgive our sins, and turn us to follow the way of Jesus, Amen.**

God promises to forgive us and to take away our sin. Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, a harvest of unconditional grace. **Amen.**

10:30 a.m. *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 660: **Lift High the Cross**

CRUCIFER



Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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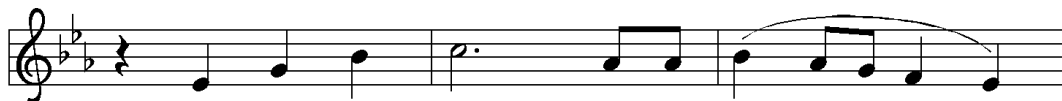
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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Canticle or Praise



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, **your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, 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.

♦ WORD ♦

First Reading ♦ Numbers 21:4b-9

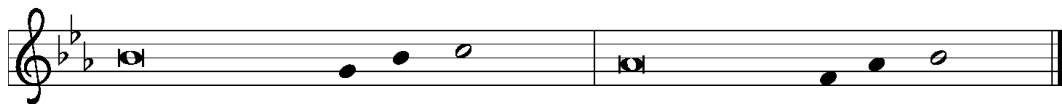
A reading from Numbers.

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm ♦ Psalm 98:1-4

Antiphon: (*sung by choir*) The LORD has done marvelous things.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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Bold verses are sung by all using the tone above.

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made | known your victory,**
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations. *Antiphon*

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;**
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. *Antiphon*

Second Reading ♦ 1 Corinthians 1:18–24

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Cantor: May I never boast of | anything*
except the cross of our Lord | Jesus Christ. (Gal. 6:14)

The assembly sings the Alleluia again.

Gospel ♦ John 3:13–17

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

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

The assembly is seated.

Sermon ♦ Pastor Kent Mueller

Silence for reflection.

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day ♦ ACS 1048: **Founded on Faith**

FOUNDED ON FAITH



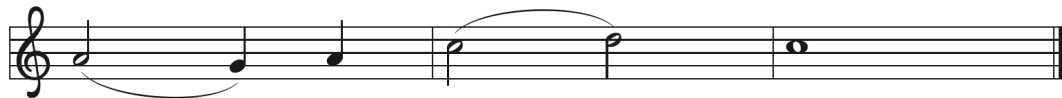
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow' red to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow' red to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

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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:

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." You may additionally shake hands or place your hand over your heart with a small bow to your neighbor.

The assembly is seated.

◆ MEAL ◆

Offering

A new season of Faith Formation for all ages and Music Ministry for children and youth begins today! Thank you for your offerings which support opportunities to learn about God's love and sing God's praises.



8 a.m. "Adoramus te, Christe" –Orlando di Lasso
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

Adoramus te, Christe
et benedicimus tibi.
Quia per tuam sanctam crucem
redemisti mundum.
Domine, miserere nobis.

Translation:

*We adore thee, O Christ,
and we bless thee,
because by thy holy cross
thou hast redeemed the world.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.*

10:30 a.m. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
Chancel Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

The assembly stands.

Offering Response ♦ ELW 182: **Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

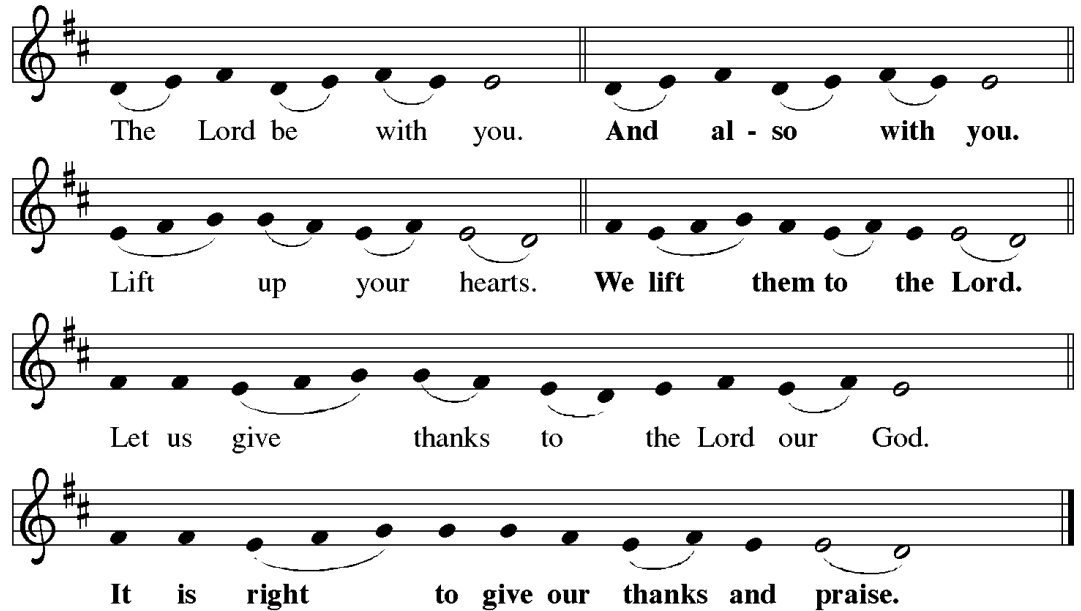
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Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

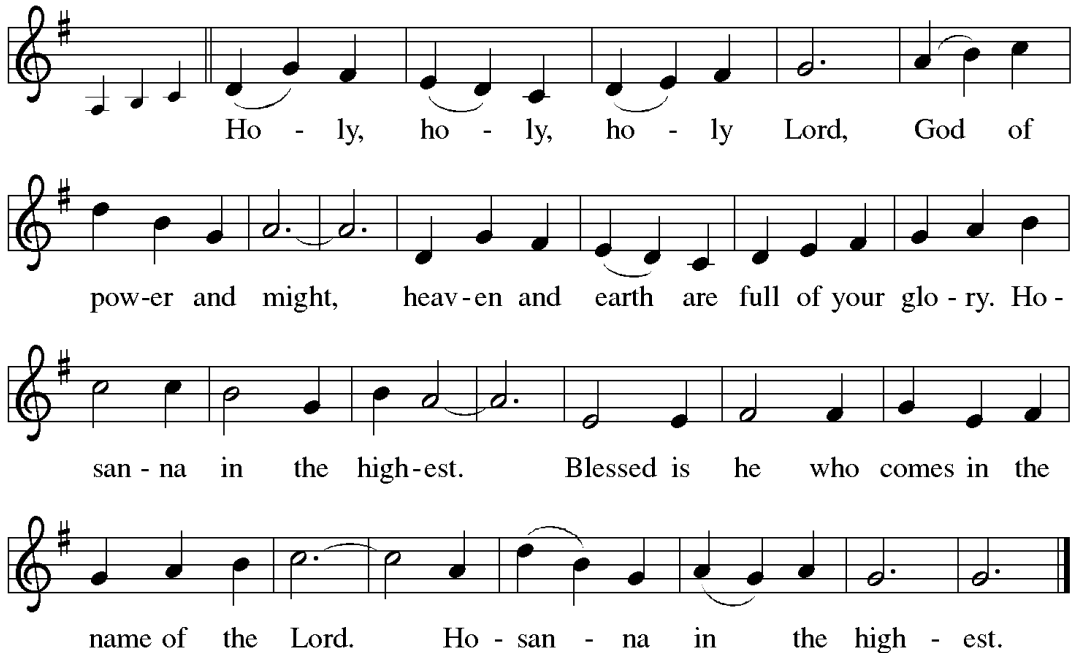
God of water and sunlight, wheat and grape, **turn us to see your abundance and plant your hope in us. Multiply what we have gathered to help people who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Compassionate God, author of the cosmos,
heaven and earth reveal the wonder of your glory,
from the mighty mountains to the smallest seed.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal people who are sick and suffering,
who preached good news to those who live without enough,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Nourish us with the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and tend the hearts of all who share this heavenly food,
from Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
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.**

Holy Communion

The assembly is seated.

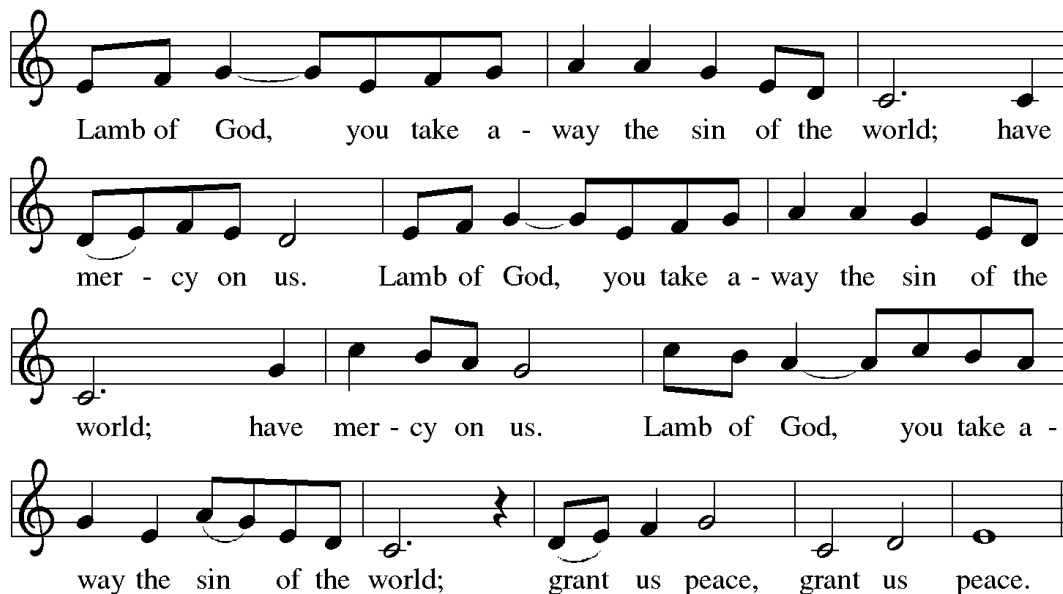
We trust that the love of Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of holy communion. All adults, and children of any age with parental permission, are welcome to commune—both those present in person and on livestream.

- *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.*
- *When you return to your pew you are invited to kneel or sit as you continue to pray and reflect.*

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to this holy meal. **Thanks be to God.**

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Anthem

“Da pacem” –Charles Gounod
Augustana Vocal Ensemble

Da pacem, Domine, in diebus nostris
Quia non est alius
Qui pugnet pro nobis
Nisi tu Deus noster.

Translation:

*Give peace in our time, O Lord
Because there is none other
that fighteth for us
But only thou, O God.*

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - dianc e stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

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

Let us pray.

O God, through this meal you have fed and forgiven us. Now send us as your servants to sow hope in a weary world. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

◆ SENDING ◆

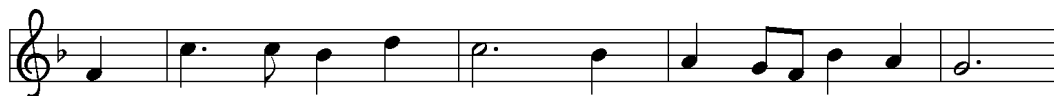
Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

10:30 a.m. *Please turn and face the processional cross as it leaves the sanctuary, facing the back of the sanctuary for the dismissal.*

Sending Hymn ◆ ELW 651: Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

CHRISTPRAISE RAY



all:	1	Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
all:	2	Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
high voices:	3	Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
low voices:	4	Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
choir:	5	Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

all: 6	Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide. Yet more than these, oh, praise their source, praise Christ the crucified: <i>Refrain</i>	all: 7	Oh, praise the living Christ with faith's bright songful voice! Announce the gospel to the world and with these words rejoice: <i>Refrain</i>
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Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
 Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936
 Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

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Dismissal

Go in peace, sent on the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude ◆ "Caprice" Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

The postlude closes our worship time together. You are welcome to listen from your pew, or leave quietly while others are enjoying the music.

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.
- 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–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.
- From Christ Chapel, restrooms and water stations are located at the north end of the hallway leading from Christ Chapel. Restrooms and water stations are also located downstairs beneath the west sanctuary 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.

Worship Ministries

- Acolyte:**
10:30 a.m. Hattie Warren
- Altar Guild:**
September Lisa Boe-Sims
- Bus Driver:**
Tim Dickinson
- Cantor:**
Blake Nawa`a
- Communion Bread:**
September Robin Hoffman
- Communion:**
8 a.m. Laura Libby
10:30 a.m. Jayme Howard
Angela Ourada
- Communion Linens:**
September Margaret Aarestad
- Crucifer:**
10:30 a.m. Amelia Matossian
- Greeters:**
8 a.m. A.J. Levy
Morgan Levy
10:30 a.m. Kevin & Janet Flesch
- Livestream Assistants:**
Bill Crossen
Nancy Nyhus
- Offering:**
8 a.m. Roger Lipker
Nancy Nyhus
Jo Martin
10:30 a.m. Betty Boyd
Brian Willoughby
- Prayers:**
Nancy Nyhus
- Readers:**
8 a.m. Kirsten Lamphere
10:30 a.m. Jena Requist
- Ushers:**
8 a.m. Lisa Boe Sims
Kirsten Lamphere
10:30 a.m. Grace Crook
Wil Crook
Bill Crossen
James Kastens
Craig Tamminga
Miles Tamminga

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New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition.
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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
Interim Faith Community Nurses: Inez Smith and Heather Nelson
Interim Music Coordinator: Susan Patterson
Chancel Choir Director: Kevin Padworski
Choristers and Cantabile Director:
Steven Aguilo`Arbues,
Augustana Vocal Ensemble:
Emily Murdock, Blake Nawa`a,
Keith Williamson
Finance Administrator: William Crossen
Front Office and Membership Coordinator:
Rich Lamphere
Publications Administrator: Lyn Goodrum
AV Technician: Alice Alister
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:
Roger Lipker

Office Hours:
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday
Augustana Early Learning Center:
303-388-7012
Please call 303-388-4678 for Critical Illness and Emergencies.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

