



Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2025 | 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m.

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 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.

Our 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. worship is livestreamed, especially to include our home-centered members and friends 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.

Merry Christmas and a Warm Welcome to All!

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

- 1, 5, 7 p.m. "In the Bleak Midwinter" -arr. Richard Walters
Blake Nawa`a, Emily Murdock, flute
- 1, 3, 5, 7 p.m. "Joy to the World" -Alfred Fedak
Denise Lanning, organ
- 1, 3, 5 p.m. "The First Noël" -arr. Richard Walters
Emily Murdock, vocal solo; Steven Aguiló-Arbues, piano
- 1, 7 p.m. "Nativity Lullaby" -César Franck, arr. K. Lee Scott
Keith Williamson
- 3 p.m. "O Holy Night" -Cappeau/Adam
Elion Dickinson, violin; Steven Aguiló-Arbues, piano
- 3 p.m. "Holy Child within the Manger" -Marty Haugen
Elise Earhart, vocal solo; Caroline Stratton, piano
- 5, 7 p.m. "Gesú Bambino" -Martens/Yon, arr. Mark Schweizer
Augustana Vocal Ensemble; Kirsten Daniel, flute; Kent Mueller, cello
- 1, 3, 5, 7 p.m. "A Carol Fantasy" -Franklin Ashdown
Denise Lanning, 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.**

The assembly is seated.

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 exultation;
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.

⁷Great will be his authority,
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 ♦ 3 p.m. “He is Born/Sing Noel”

–Il est né Traditional 18th c. French Carol, Arr. Vicki Hancock Wright
Cherubs, Choristers, Cantabile; Charlie Dickinson, conga

Children’s Time

Gospel ♦ Luke 2:1-7

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar 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 in the guest room.

Carol ♦ ELW 279: **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

ST. LOUIS

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Gospel ♦ Luke 2:8-14

The assembly remains seated.

⁸Now in that same 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 righ-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.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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

¹⁵ When 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.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

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

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

- 1, 7 p.m. Pastor Michael Tassler
- 3, 5 p.m. 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 ministries in the congregation, the wider community, and around the world as we serve in love.

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



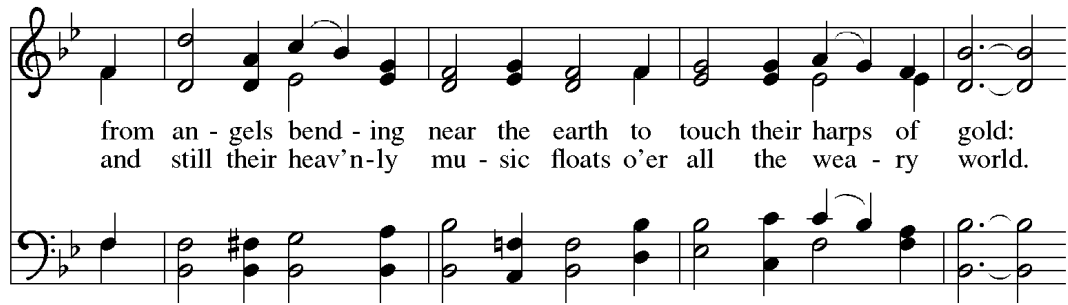
- 1 p.m. "Gesú Bambino" –Martens/Yon, arr. Mark Schweizer
Blake Nawa`a, Keith Williamson, vocal duet; Emily Murdock, flute
- 3 p.m. "O Come, Emmanuel" –arr. Elwood Coggin
Cantabile; Tim Garrington, piano
stanzas 1–3: Cantabile, stanza 4: all
- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 2 O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to light.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient Times didst give the law
in clouds, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 4 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the path that leads on high,
And guide the way to victory!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**
- 5 p.m. "Wexford Carol" –Elaine Hagenberg
Chancel Choir; Rachel Padworski, flute
- 7 p.m. "Cantique de Noël" –Adolphe Adam
Emily Murdock, Blake Nawa`a, vocal duet

Offering Response ♦ ELW 282: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

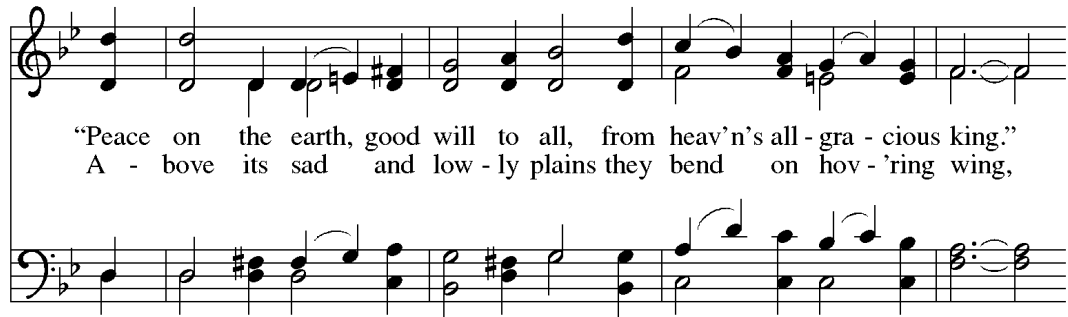
CAROL



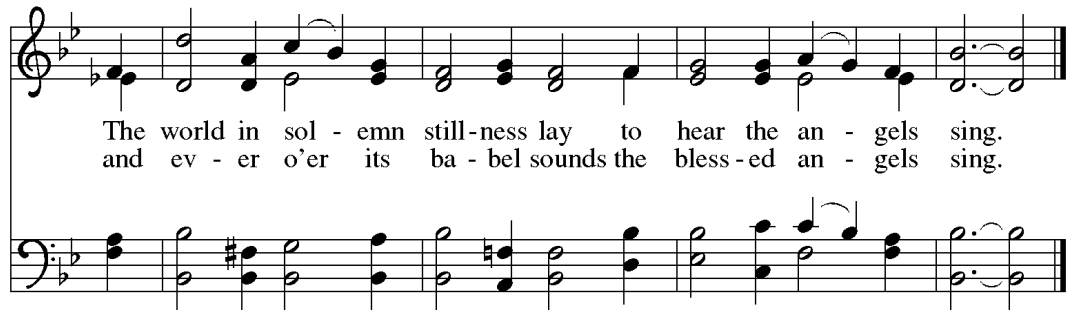
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,



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 sent 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 Music

- 1 p.m. “Cantique de Noël” –Adolphe Adam
Emily Murdock, Blake Nawa`a, vocal duet
- 5 p.m. “Joy to the World” –G.F. Handel, arr. Valerie Stephenson
Augustana Ringers
- 7 p.m. “In the Bleak Midwinter” –Gustav Holst, arr. E. Larter
Kirsten Daniel, flute; Kent Mueller, cello

Communion Carols

ELW 278: **Away in the Manger**

CRADLE SONG

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.
 Music: CRADLE SONG, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838–1921; arr. David Willcocks, b. 1919
 Arr. from *Carols for Choirs 1*, © Oxford University Press 1960.

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ELW 289: Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

continued, next page

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

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 Anthem ♦ 3 p.m. "Peace Peace/Silent Night" –Rick and Sylvia Powell, arr. Fred Bock Cantabile; Tim Garrington, piano

The assembly joins Cantabile to sing "Silent Night."

Candlelighting 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 - dianc 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, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

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 ♦ “Noël Suisse” –Louis-Claude Daquin

Denise Lanning, organ

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.
- 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.
- 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 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.

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Worship Ministries

Altar Guild:

December Bill & Rhonda Crossen

Communion:

1 p.m. Karen Bourg
Lisa Boe-Sims
3 p.m. Peg Burnette
Mitch & Kari Kusek
Pat Miller
Anne Stratton
Shanna VanderWel
5 p.m. Jim Dierker
Jordan Hainey
Suzanne Johnson
Karen Ullestad
Pat Vaillancourt
Zack Warren
7 p.m. Julie Churchill
A.J. Levy

Communion Linens:

December Kay Cruson

Greeters:

1 p.m. Lisa Boe-Sims
Michael Tassler
3 p.m. Greta Devol
Karen Morgenthaler
5 p.m. Larry Rasmussen
7 p.m. Julie Churchill
Morgan Levy
Michael Quintana

Readers:

1 p.m. Mark Caldwell
3 p.m. Donald Troike
5 p.m. Marcia Olson
7 p.m. Linda Daniel

Ushers:

1 p.m. Karen Bourg
Dana Buhr
Herman Ezpeleta
John Flory
Greg Hempelman
Kristin Hempelman
Dale Penny
Mindy Penny
Allan Schneider
3 p.m. Grace Crook
Wil Crook
Bill Crossen
James Kastens
Craig Tamminga
Miles Tamminga
5 p.m. Griffin Brown
Robert Brown
Emmett Cruson
Joy Dillon
Jordan Ourada
Rosalee Wanchisen
Lance Wheeland
7 p.m. Jayme Howard
Annie Nessa
Inez Smith
Kathi Schmidt
Brad Uyemura

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 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.

Volunteer Music Staff

Cherub Choir Director: Marcia Olson

Children's/Youth Choirs Accompanist:
Tim Garrington

Chapel Ringers and Chapel Handbells

Director: Kari Kusek

Augustana Ringers Director: Kent Mueller

Staff

Senior Pastor: Caitlin Trussell

Pastor: Michael Tassler

Director of Youth and Family Ministry:
Deacon Shanna VanderWel

Interim Music Coordinator: Susan Patterson

Chancel Choir Director: Kevin Padworski

Choristers and Cantabile Director:

Steven Aguiló-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