

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Mandy France 651-800-6672

Visitation Deacon Lyla Klee (h) 507-439-6940 - (c) 507-227-9250

Augustana office 375-4792 website: www.aeslutheran.org

Organist: Heidi Engel **Lector:** Lisa Carlson **Greeter:** Eugene Zarn

Missionary Sponsors for the month of December: Eugene & Carol Zarn

Lighting the Advent Candle: The Moll Family

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025, 9:00 AM

"Congregations joined in faith and fellowship to spread God's love."

- AES Ministries mission statement

Welcome to all who worship with us today! All are welcome at the Lord's Table!

PRELUDE, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"He Came Down"

Vs. 2 ELW #253

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have peace; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
he came down that we may have joy;

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

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

One of the following or another confession is prayed.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess

**that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved
our neighbors as ourselves.**

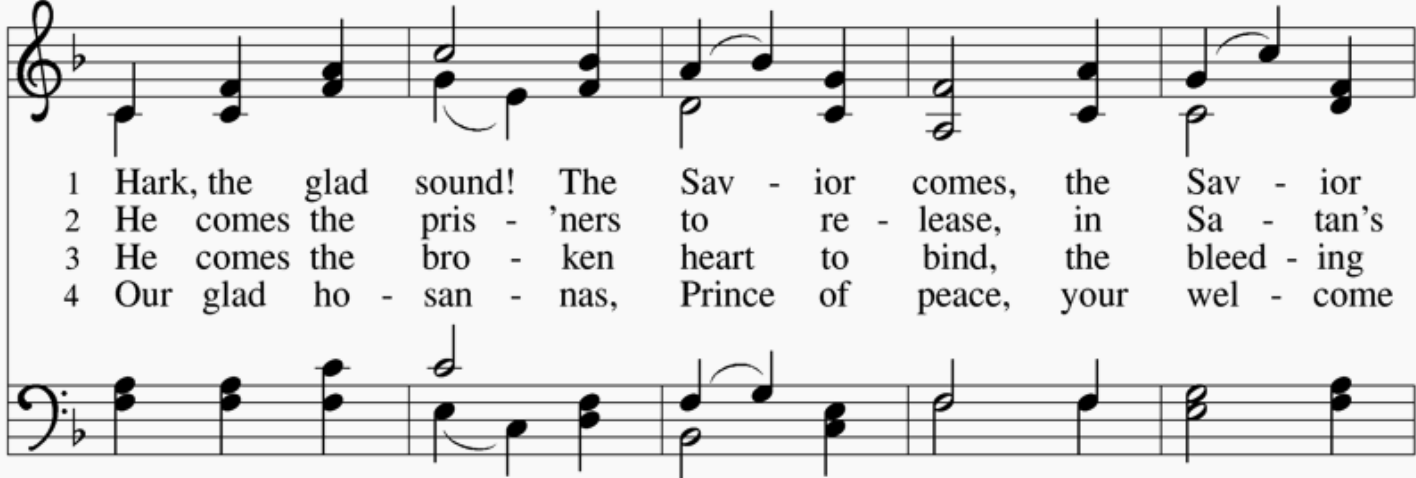
**For the sake
of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**


Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.


In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray....

C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: ISIAH 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
² **that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**
⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸ **Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 15:4-13

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth

of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; ¹⁰ and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; ¹¹ and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; ¹² and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.” ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

vs. 1 ELW #264

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first three staves are in a single system, and the fourth staff is a separate system labeled 'Refrain'. The lyrics are: '1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near! Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear! Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry: Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the word 'word!'.

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew, the 3rd Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ” ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the

coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.


C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

ELW #256



1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row’s load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God’s ho - ly reign.

To God’s peo - ple now pro-claim that God’s par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



APOSTLE'S CREED

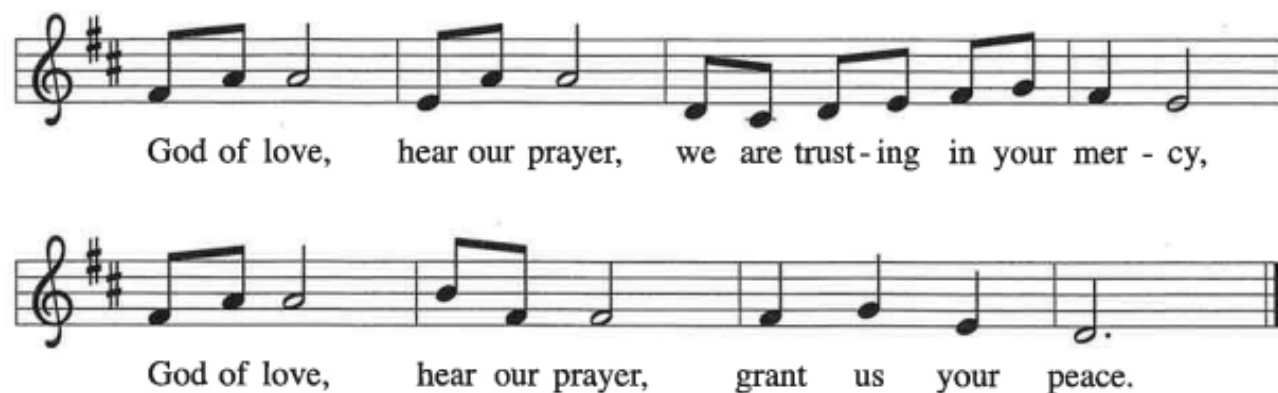
ELW p. 217

**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.**

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION



SHARING GOD'S PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Offertory Hymn

"Take My Life"

vs. 2 ELW #583

Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas *Last time*



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
not a mite would I with - hold;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry

Refrain/Estribillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Offertory Prayer

***L:** Let us pray. Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Here at Augustana we are committed to the inclusion of all God's people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice open communion, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Juice (light color) and wine (dark red) are both available. Individually wrapped gluten free wafers are available as well. If you would like to receive communion, but are unable to physically come forward, please indicate that to an usher and communion will be brought to you.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 221

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless
you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the World”

ELW #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

DISMISSAL P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer Concerns: Jesse Berg, Debbie McGuire, Roger Hagen, Nolan O'Connor, Judy Berg, Terry "Cub" Watson, Darrell Ask, Dennis Johnson, Mike Larson, Jamie (Noren) Seiner, Marie Christenson, Darryl Jensen, Phyllis Jurgens, Dave Finnegan, Suzann Olson, Tim Knaak, Don Flater, Bruce Ohland, Sam Christenson, Melissa Anderson, Steven Olson, Tom Anderson, Chloe Anderson, Orval Larson, Dennis Madison, Linda Madison, and Emma Overson

General Offering: \$1,387.00
Vanco/Online Offering: \$ 514.95
Total Offering for November 30th: \$1,901.95
Amount needed each week is \$3,553.69 to make budget.

Activities this week: December 8 – December 14

Monday 3:00 pm – (E) Study Group
6:00 pm – (A) Education Meeting
Tuesday 2:15 pm – Augustana worship on cable tv
Wednesday 6:00 pm – (A) Committee Meetings
6:00 pm – (A) ROAR Christmas Program Practice @ East
7:00 pm – (A) Council
Thursday 7:00 pm – (E) Council
Saturday 8:00 am – (A) St. Lucia
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (E) ROAR Rehearsal
Sunday 10:00 am – (E) Joint Worship – ROAR Christmas Program, Meal to follow
11:30 am – Radio Broadcast on 1370AM
6:00 pm – (A) Youtherans

Church Announcements

- ✚ **Our ROAR Children's Program at 10:00 AM at East Sveadahl** on Dec 14th. Then come and enjoy a Christmas Dinner after Service. Free will offering for the Meal.

- ✚ **St. Lucia & Christmas Shoppe** is Sat, Dec 13th from 8 – 10:30 am. Come Celebrate with us! If anyone is interested in help working, please contact John Coleman, Lynn Watson or Ray Berg. Donations can be dropped off on Friday, December 12th.

- ✚ **StJ Historical Society's** Holiday Bake Sale is Sat Dec 13th, 10 am – 2 pm at their center - 602 3rd Ave. S.

- ✚ **Lutefisk and Meatball Supper** is Sat. Dec. 13th at Trinity Lutheran in Madelia from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. Presale tickets only call Louise 507-848-6169. No tickets are sold at the door. Adults \$25, 10 & under \$8.

- ✚ **Poinsettia order forms are now available and due Monday Dec 15th. Order forms are by bulletins.**

- ✚ **Brewed Theology** is 7:00 pm on Monday, December 22nd at the VFW

- ✚ Ecumenical **Blue Christmas** at Sturm Funeral Home is Sunday, December 21st at 4:00 pm.

- ✚ The **Christmas Eve Services** will be 4:00 pm at East Sveadahl and 6:00 pm at Augustana.

- ✚ **Month of December is Worship/Music Committee** to fill our Food Pantry.

- ✚ **Newsletter Deadline is Tuesday, December 16th.**