



Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Luke 3:9

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

The presence of the Lord “in your midst” in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news – and cause for exultation – for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Five

The paraments are blue today and will be for the four Sundays of Advent. The color suggests hope.

✠ GATHERING ✠

The Assembly is invited to gather in quiet meditation.

ACCLAMATION

Text: Michael Morgan

Music: William Stevens

May gladness tune the mournful song our souls by turns must sing.

When heartfelt sorrows weigh so strong we know but languishing.

Let us delight! To us belong the joys your Son will bring!

OPENING PRELUDE Creator of the Stars of Night

Bruce Tippet

Adult Handbell Choir

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from whom no secrets are hid:

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you

and worthily magnify your holy name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace we have been saved.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
our sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

GATHERING HYMN 246 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

MERTON

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.

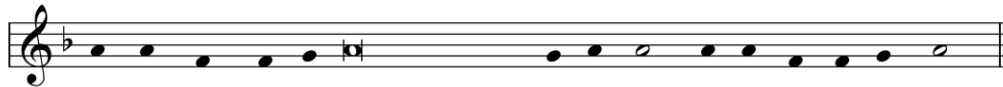
KYRIE



In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



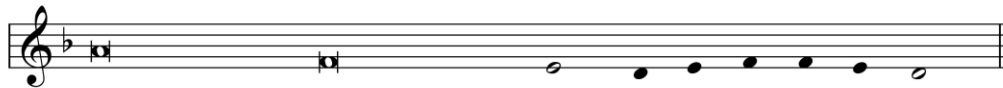
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, com-fort and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI, EMMANUEL

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.**

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

ISAIAH 12:2-6



- ²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not [|] be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become [|] my salvation.
- ³With joy you [|] will draw water
from the wells [|] of salvation.
- ⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call [|] on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name [|] is
exalted.
- ⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he [|] has done gloriously;
let this be known in [|] all the earth.
- ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O [|] royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy [|] One of Israel.

SECOND READING Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Sung by the choir:

I am sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you.

Repeat alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke.



John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.



We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Wollner

SERMON

Pastor Wollner and Vicar Norris

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 249 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

PUER NOBIS

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

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each portion of the prayers conclude:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

Please be considerate of those who may be reluctant to shake hands in this flu season.

We sit.

✠ MEAL ✠

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (8:30) This Is The Truth Sent From Above James Kirkby

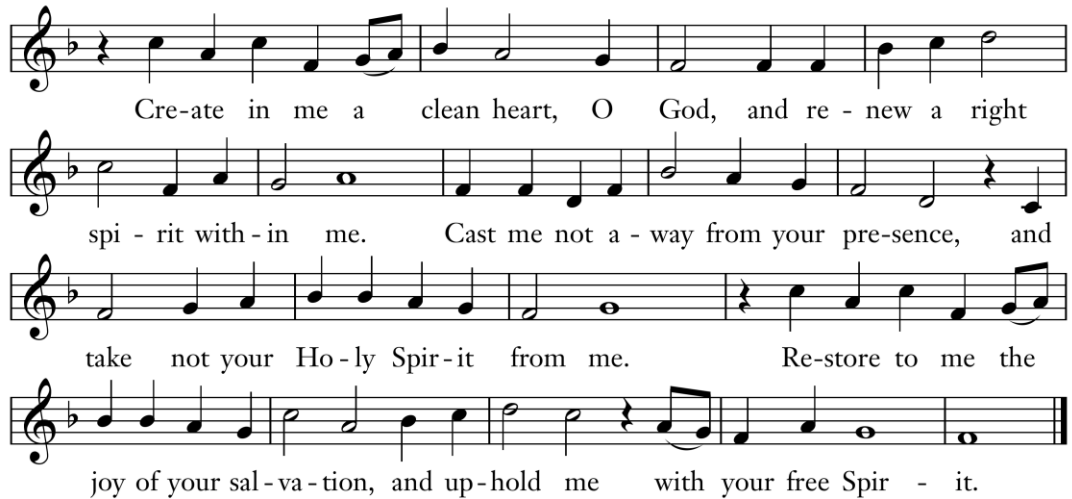
This is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from the door, But hearken all, both rich and poor.
The first thing which I do relate, Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell, Woman was made with man to dwell.
Then after that 'twas God's own choice To place them both in paradise,
There to remain from evil free Except they ate of such a tree.
But they did eat, which was a sin, And thus their ruin did begin,
Ruined themselves, both you and me, And all of our posterity.
Thus we were heirs to endless woes, Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run: That he would redeem us by his Son.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11:00) Rejoice in the Lord alway Anon. 16th Cent.

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all men: The Lord is e'en at hand.
Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication
Let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving thanks.
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
Keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pre-sence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God,
maker of all things.
Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff begins with a repeat sign. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has a fermata over the final note. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de-liv - er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the
glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The presiding minister lifts the bread and cup and says

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

The assembly responds

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

AGNUS DEI

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. A - men.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Today we will be communing by intinction. Receive the bread and dip it in the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available on the organ side of the church. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who have never communed and would like to are encouraged to talk to a pastor. All who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ANTHEM (8:30) People, Look East

HYMN 260 The King Shall Come

HYMN 261 As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

arr. Malcolm Archer

CONSOLATION

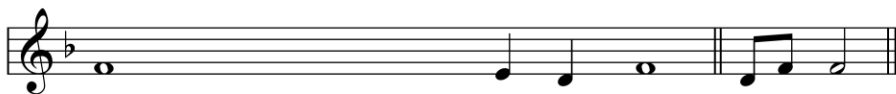
LUCENT

We stand.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

O God, we give you thanks
that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son.
By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING



The Lord bless you ... and ✠ give you peace. **A - men.**

The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.

SENDING HYMN 711 O Day of Peace

JERUSALEM

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Carillon on People, Look East

Rebecca te Velde

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Providing Service Today

Bulletin Cover Artist

Winnie McCleary

Acolytes

8:30 Meghan Ballard and Mary Claire Bevis

11:00 Harrison Hickman and Tate McOuat

Crucifers

8:30 Juliette Levine

11:00 Travis Pipes

Offering Bearer

TBD

Liturgists

8:30 Daniele Olsen

11:00 Stan Whitley

Lay Readers

8:30 Rob McOuat

11:00 Roger Hill

Communion Assistants

8:30 Joanna Britt and Marty Tanyi

11:00 Vicki Strandhoy and Marge Wagstaff

Nursery

8:30 Dana Mulhearn

SS Elizabeth Chéron

11:00 Colette Griffin

Usbers

8:30 Chris Almerini, Susan Doran,
Alex Paschold and Roger Riggs

11:00 Clarence Dixon, Carrol Epting,
Kevin Lynch and Phil Martin

Visitors Welcoming Table & Greeters

8:30 Sheila Oppel

11:00 Debbie Byorick

Sunday Morning Fellowship

Kent and Bobbie Reichert

Oblation Bearers

8:30 Zeller Family

11:00 Frank James

Assisting Ministers

8:30 John Collins

11:00 Pastor Lori Carter

Preaching and Presiding

Pastor Wollner

Providing Service Next Sunday

Bulletin Cover Artist

William Sanders

Acolytes

8:30 Mason Paschold and Walker Paschold

11:00 Ryan Hicks and Ethan Olsen

Crucifers

8:30 Daniel Nolting

11:00 Jacob Andrews

Lay Reader

8:30 Carol Thornton

Communion Assistants

8:30 Barbara Merced and Nanette Shutt

11:00 Maria Fortin and Joes Myers

Nursery

8:30 Elisa Fernbach

SS TBD

11:00 Jill Fowler

Usbers

8:30 Chris Almerini, Susan Doran,
Alex Paschold and Roger Riggs

11:00 Clarence Dixon, Carrol Epting,
Kevin Lynch and Phil Martin

Visitors Welcoming Table & Greeters

8:30 Jane Maxey

11:00 Keith Kookan/Peggy Sturgis

Sunday Morning Fellowship

TBD

Oblation Bearers

8:30 Zeller Family

11:00 N/A

Assisting Minister

8:30 Kate Frucht

Preaching and Presiding

8:30 Pastor Wollner

11:00 Lessons and Carols

Announcements

WELCOME all who enter the Lord's house this day! We invite you to fill out the Friendship Register found on each pew. If you are visiting Augsburg, please stop by the Visitor Welcoming Table after today's service to pick up a welcome package. The visitor's table is located at the bottom of the ramp leading to the lobby.

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God.

This week we keep in prayer Mrs. Virginia Freeze, 125 Marian Lane, Winston Salem, NC 27104. Please send Virginia a note.

Quilt Ministry will have its annual Christmas potluck lunch on December 20 at the home of Martha Claire Henzler at 11:30 A.M.. If directions are needed, contact at mcquilt@triad.rr.com. Phone 336-768-4561. If you have an interest in what we do, consider attending. Just let us know if you plan to come. Our last official gathering for quilt ministry will be December 13th. We will reconvene for 2019 on January 10.

Overflow Shelter Needs: We need volunteers for these positions from December 12 – December 31:

December 16:	TONIGHT ! Partial Overnight Volunteer – 8:00 pm – 12:00 pm
December 25:	Guest Reception (help set up) – 7:15 pm – 9:00 pm
December 26:	Guest Reception
December 27:	Partial Overnight Volunteer
December 28:	Guest Reception, Overnight Volunteer – 8:00 pm – 6:30 am
December 29:	Guest Reception, Overnight Volunteer,
December 30:	Provide To Go Bags, Partial Overnight Volunteer,
December 31:	Provide To Go Bags, Guest Reception

Additional details on the duties of these positions are listed on signup.com. Sign-up directly at <http://signup.com/go/AugsburgOverflow2018>, or contact Elizabeth Chéron (336-971-5472, eg.cheron@gmail.com), John Collins (336-408-1519, jchcollins@gmail.com) or Emily Norris (336-971-4897, harkinsemily@gmail.com) if you have questions or need assistance. Please help us out in any way you can.

Readings for next week: Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 [46-55].

Worship attendance for services December 2: 172 at 8:30; 169 at 11:00; 18 visitors.



Compline

Night Prayer

Compline (Night Prayer) dates back to the 4th century monastic traditions of daily prayer and praise. Serving as the final service of the day, it is a sung service primarily of chant. On the evenings of the first three Sundays of Advent (December 9, & 16) at 8:30 P.M. in the sanctuary, a Compline Choir will lead this quiet contemplative service offering a calm, quiet (often silent) time of respite from the hectic pace of our world. Each service will be preceded by a brief recital at 8:00 P.M. Please extend an invitation to your neighbors and friends, and come experience the hope and anticipation of Advent through this candlelit service.

Tonight's Compline concludes this year's Advent Compline services.

We look forward to the festival and season of Christmas by preparing through the season of Advent. All are welcome to worship at Augsburg. Our services for the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season are below.

Sunday, Dec. 16—Advent III
8:30a & 11:00a: Holy Communion
8:00p pre-Compline recital
8:40p Compline

Sunday, Dec. 23—Advent IV
8:30a: Holy Communion
11:00a: Advent Lessons & Carols (no Communion)

Monday, Dec. 24—Christmas Eve
5:00p: Christmas Eve Family Service
7:30p & 11:00p: Holy Communion with Candlelight

Tuesday, Dec. 25—Christmas Day
10:30a: Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec. 30—Christmas I
8:30a & 11:00a: Holy Communion

Sunday, Jan. 6—Epiphany of Our Lord
8:30a & 11:00a: Holy Communion
5:30p Epiphany Chili Cook-off
6:30p Epiphany Vespers

Calendar for December 16 –December 23

16 Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:30a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)
9:45a Fellowship Breakfast
(Family Life Center)
10:00a Children's Pageant
11:00a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)
3:45p Music Exploration
(Youth Choir Room)
4:15p Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
(Youth Choir Room)
4:45p Lobchor Rehearsal
(Youth Choir Room)
5:45p Youth Group
(Youth Area)
8:00p Pre-Compline Recital
(Sanctuary)
8:40p Compline Service
(Sanctuary)

17 Monday

- 6:00p Continue in My Word
(Youth Area)
6:00p Adult Handbell Choir
(Handbell Room)
6:30p Youth Ministry
(Quiet Pint)

18 Tuesday

- 1:30p Pastor Paul's Bible Study
(Sid Sowers Classroom)
7:18p Youth Bible Study
(Youth Area)

19 Wednesday

- 6:30a Bagels
12:00p Staff Luncheon
(Family Life Center)
7:15p Adult Choir II
(Choir Room)
7:30p Emotions Anonymous
(Lounge)

20 Thursday

- 7:30a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
(Youth Area)
10:00a Quilt Ministry
(Youth Area)
6:15p Adult Choir I
(Choir Room)
7:00p College Dinner
(Brath Residence)

22 Saturday

- 10:00a Choir Rehearsal
(Sanctuary)
12:15p Assembly of Chrismon Trees
(Sanctuary)

23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)
9:45a Fellowship Breakfast
(Family Life Center)
10:00a Sunday School
11:00a Advent Lessons and Carols Service
(Sanctuary)



AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Emily Norris, Vicar, Dir. of Student and Social Ministries, Seminarian

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Director

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Adam Waldo, Organ Intern

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Michaelene Wirth, Parish Secretary

Reggie Jackson, Sexton

Stephanie Hickman, Sexton

Carl Davis, Substitute Sexton

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation