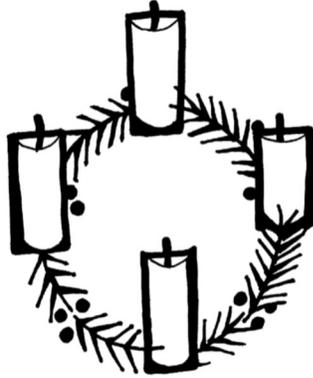


Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



First Sunday
of Advent

December 2, 2018

9:30 a.m.

All Are Welcome Here!

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church proclaims that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. Because Christ reconciles us, we welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

Our Congregation's Vision Statement

God in Christ loves us; therefore, through the Holy Spirit we will:

Do justice

- We **hope** for our community and all of God's creation
- We feed the poor and comfort the afflicted
- We welcome and **respect** our neighbor and the stranger

Love kindness

- We **love** and care for our congregation and our community
- We practice **forgiveness** locally and globally
- We strive for **compassion** and **acceptance**

Walk humbly with our God

- We find **joy** in creation
- We desire to grow in **spirituality**
- We delight in liturgical worship and creative expression

We are all children of God. Jesus calls us by name. With the Holy Spirit, we seek to live out God's grace.

Welcome to
Gustavus Adolphus!

If you are a guest today, please fill out the blue slip included in today's bulletin so that we may have a record of your visit with us.

We welcome people of all ages in worship. Activity bags for children are available from the ushers.

We invite you to remain for refreshments and a time of fellowship following worship today.

Please remember to silence all electronic devices.

✝ Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Setting, David N. Johnson

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

✝ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Let us come before God in confession.

☐ To you, O God,

☑ **we lift up our souls.**

You know us through and through;

we confess our sins to you.

Remember not our sins;

remember us with your steadfast love.

Show us your ways;

teach us your paths;

and lead us in justice and truth,

for the sake of your goodness

in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

☐ Children of God, come with joy
and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism:

your sin is washed away in the name of ✝ Jesus;

you belong to Christ;

you are anointed to serve.

Stand up and raise your heads!

The reign of God is near.

☑ **Amen.**

✝ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 254

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

✝ GREETING

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

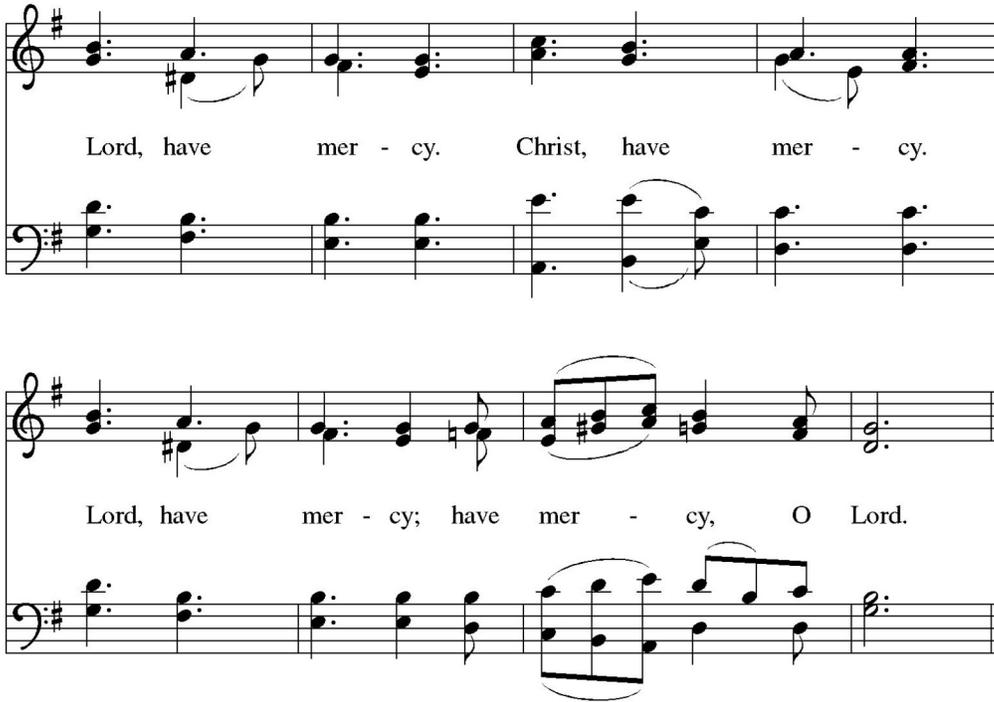
☑ **And also with you.**

Worship Notes

Numbers marked with the word
“page...” are found in the front
portion of ELW (the red
hardcover hymnal, *Evangelical
Lutheran Worship*) at the bottom
left and right corners of
the page.

Numbers marked with the word
“Hymn...” are found in the back
portion of ELW in the upper left
and right corners of the page.

✦ KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

✦ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Word

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

After a prayer, we will sing this verse...

Light one candle to watch for Messiah,
Let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise

(ELW Hymn 240)

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14–16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

P Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Introduction to the Day

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper.

Guest Pastor

During Pastor Jo's medical leave, we have been welcoming guest pastors each Sunday. Pastor Gordon Braatz has helped us out quite a bit during this time, and we are pleased to have him back with us one final time today.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

P Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ ACCLAMATION

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

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

✠ GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & NOISY OFFERING

Our donations from Noisy Offerings this Advent 2018 will be sent to ELCA Good Gifts/God's Global Barnyard to be used to buy farm animals for families around the world that can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

SERMON

✝ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW HYMN 253

He Came Down

✝ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Petitions follow. Each petition ends...

- A** Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

After the final petition...

- P** 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.
- C** **Amen.**

✝ PEACE

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

Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

Senior Choir
arr. Bailey



Continuing Prayer Concerns

*Joy Anderson;
Sharon & Paul Banitt;
Mary Boatwright;
Peggy Bowman; Charline Burns;
Jean Clausen; Shirley Cropper;
Vi Dorumsgaard; Katie Falang;
Ed Femrite; Joann Femrite;
Ted Femrite; Renae Frasee;
Kara Fraser; Kimberly Garner;
Dawn Jackson; Jeff McQuarrie;
June Mondeng;
Juliana Palmer; Jean Pope;
Jean Rosebrock; Walt Schopf;
Arden & Joyce Swanson;
Vi Tefft; Vesta Todd;
Stephanie Vavríček;
Marion White; Andrew;
Annette and family; Sveah;
Gretchen; Bre; Pastor Jo; those
who are homebound or in
nursing homes or care centers.*

*Our continual prayers are offered
for peace. We pray for all of the
world's governments, leaders,
and peoples, especially for those
who work toward peace.*

*To have someone's name added
to or removed from this list,
contact Phil Holzman.*



*Please join us for
The Lord's Supper*

All are invited to join us in the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christ is present in the bread and wine and that we receive God's grace and forgiveness through this meal. Those adults and children not communing with us are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

There are gluten-free wafers available for those who need them. Simply indicate this to the communion server.

✦ OFFERTORY

ELW Hymn 241, stanzas 1 & 3

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy, your lamp within my breast
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
in love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.

✦ OFFERING PRAYER

P God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

✦ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
join their unending hymn...

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

heav'n 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.

✦ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

✦ LORD'S PRAYER

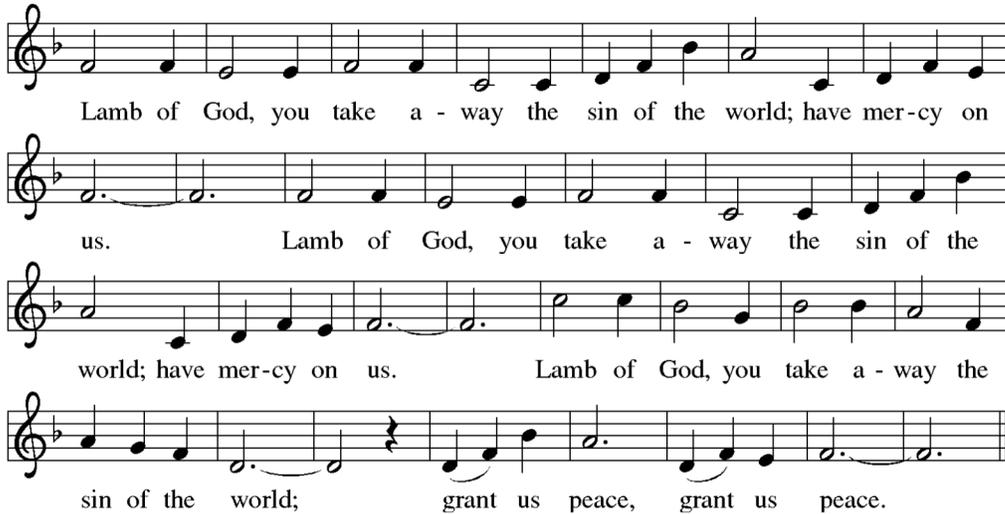
ELW page 112

Our Father, who art in heaven...

INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

We serve communion by intinction. Receive a wafer and dip it into the larger chalice containing wine or into the smaller chalice containing grape juice.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION



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.

What Feast of Love

ELW Hymn 487

✦ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray. Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Sending

✦ BLESSING

✦ SENDING SONG

ELW Hymn 248

People, Look East

✦ DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Setting, Kristina Langlois

People, Look East

Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are given by Annette and Tom Parker in memory of their parents and loved ones.

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***Our Core Values at
Gustavus Adolphus
Lutheran Church***

***love
joy
hope
compassion
spirituality
forgiveness
acceptance
respect***



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

God's Work. Our Hands
Your gift. Your choice.

Direct – Cash or check donation to the plate.

Online – On our website or by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone.

Text to Donate – Text 612-235-4476 and enter an amount (no dollar sign needed); follow the prompts to complete your donation.

Give+ App – Search “Give Plus Church” in your phone’s App store, download, and find Gustavus Adolphus by Zip Code (55418).



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Church Staff

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pastorjo@gachurchmpls.org
Cell phone: 952-285-6945

Phil Holzman, Deacon/Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)
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philh@gachurchmpls.org

Dan Hager, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)
danh@gachurchmpls.org

Joel Lurvey, Contemporary Choir Director
joel.lurvey@gmail.com

**God's Mission for Gustavus
Adolphus Church –**

***To build
community
where God is at
the center.***

Serving Today

Ministers	The Baptized people of GA Church
Preacher	Pastor Gordon Braatz
Assisting Minister	Cheryl Johnson
Minister of Worship & Music	Deacon Phil Holzman
Lector	Lynette Paulson
Sacristan	Joan Mitchell
Transportation	James Hamilton