

# Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



Third Sunday  
of Advent

December 16, 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

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

#### ✝ CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us come before God in confession.

**P** To you, O God,

**C** **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.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

#### ✝ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 532

**Gather Us In**

#### ✝ GREETING

**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.**

### *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



## ✦ 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.

Light two candles to watch for Messiah,  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway  
for the King of glory.

(ELW HYMN 240)

### FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14–20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>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.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>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;

## *Introduction to the Day*

*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 circum-  
stance, is cause for  
rejoicing. The coming of  
one “more powerful” than  
John, even with his winnow-  
ing 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 prophet Zephaniah’s  
message is mostly one of  
judgment for sin. This reading,  
however, which comes from the  
conclusion of the book, prophe-  
sies joy for Judah and Jerusalem.  
Judgment has led to repentance,  
and God’s salvation is at hand.*

he will exult over you with loud singing  
<sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival.  
 I will remove disaster from you,  
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
<sup>19</sup>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.  
<sup>20</sup>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.

**P** Word of God. Word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns, with the hope they will experience God's joy and peace.*

## SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**P** Word of God. Word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ✠ ACCLAMATION

The musical notation for the Acclamation is presented in four staves, arranged in two pairs. Each pair consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics 'Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.' are written below the first two staves, and 'Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.' are written below the last two staves. The music is in a major key and 4/4 time, featuring a simple, joyful melody with a final cadence on the word 'ia'.

## ✝ GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>7</sup>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? <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>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."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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."

<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**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.*

I NOTICE..., I WONDER...

SERMON

I HEAR...

*John the Baptist heralds the mighty one "who is coming." John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.*

# ✦ HYMN OF THE DAY

# I Am For You

1. There is a moun-tain there is a sea.  
 2. There was a wom-an small as a star,  
 3. There was a man who walked in the storm,  
 4. We are a - noint - ed, ser - vants of God;  
 5. There is a world that waits in the womb;

There is a wind with - in all breath - ing,  
 Full of the pa - tient dreams of her na - tion,  
 Caught in be - tween the waves and the light - ning,  
 We have been born a - gain of Spir - it.  
 There is a hope un - born God is bear - ing,

There is an arm to break ev - 'ry chain,  
 Wel - com - ing in an an - gel of God,  
 Shar - ing his bread with those cast a - side,  
 We are the word God speaks to the world,  
 Though the powers of death prowl the night,

There is a fire in all things liv - ing.  
 Wel - com - ing in God's bold in - vi - ta - tion.  
 Heal - ing by touch the lost and the dy - ing.  
 Free - dom and light to all who will hear it.  
 There is a day our God is pre - par - ing.

There is a voice that speaks from the flame:  
 "Let it be done," she sang, "un - to me.  
 Send - ing us forth, he says to his friends:  
 So let us be the word of the Lord:  
 Sing 'round the fire to wa - ken the dawn:

"I am for you, I am for you, I am for you is my name."  
 I am for you, I am for you, I am for you: let it be."  
 "I am for you, I am for you, I am for you to the end."  
 I am for you, I am for you, I am for you ev - er - more.  
 I am for you, I am for you, I am for you: We are one.

# ✦ 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...*

☐ 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.**

## *Meal*

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*This Is the Christ*

Good news from heaven the angels bring  
Glad tidings to the earth they sing:  
To us this day a child is giv'n,  
To crown us with the joy of heav'n.

Refrain: *This is the Christ, our God and Lord,  
Who in all need shall aid afford;  
He will Himself our Savior be,  
From all our sins to set us free.*

All hail, Thou noble Guest, this morn,  
Whose love did not the sinner scorn;  
In my distress Thou com'st to me;  
What thanks shall I return to Thee?

Were earth a thousand times as fair,  
Beset with gold and jewels rare,  
She yet were far too poor to be  
A narrow cradle, Lord, for Thee.

Praise God upon His heavenly throne,  
Who gave to us His only Son;  
For this His hosts, on joyful wing,  
A blest New Year of mercy sing.

Contemporary Choir

Sandra McCracken

Words: Martin Luther

#### ✝ OFFERTORY

ELW Hymn 487, stanzas 1 & 3

What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven,  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!



### *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 Vavrichak;  
Marion White; Andrew;  
Annette and family; Sveah;  
Gretchen; Bre; 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.*

What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sweetest wine of heaven,  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

✝ 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...

**C** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth of your glory are full.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! (Repeat)  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!  
(return to the beginning)**

✝ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

✝ LORD'S PRAYER

**C** **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.**

## 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.*

## HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

***Come Now, O Prince of Peace***  
***The King Shall Come***

ELW Hymn 247

ELW Hymn 260

## ✝ 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.

**G** **Amen.**

## *Sending*

## ✝ BLESSING

## ✝ SENDING SONG

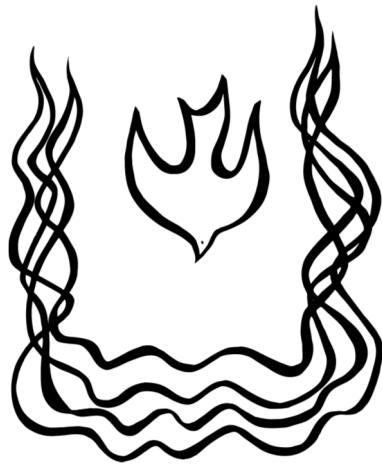
***All Earth Is Hopeful***

ELW Hymn 266

## ✝ DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**G** **Thanks be to God!**



## *Flowers*

*The flowers on the altar today are given by Mary Ann Eide in honor of her daughter Carly's birthday.*

- Liturgical Materials from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
- Music reprinted by permission of OneLicense.net license#A-708093 and CCLI license#1955062.
- Liturgical music reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23346.
- New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

# God's Global Barnyard

An animal can make a world of a difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.



## Cow

A cow's milk, meat, fertilizer and calves can quickly strengthen a family's financial security.

\$500



## Chicks

Chicks begin laying eggs at just a few months old, offering nutritious, protein rich meals for families who are hungry.

\$10



## Goat

Fresh milk from a goat is very nutritious and can be used to make products like yogurt and cheese to sell at the market.

\$50



## Honeybees

Bees pollinate plants and boost crop growth – helping the wider community. Soaps and candles can be made from their wax and sold at the local market.

\$20



## Pig

Within months after birth, piglets grow to weigh over 200 pounds – bringing a big payoff at the market.

\$30



## Fish Farm

A fish farm and training in good business economics can provide a lifetime of meals for a community.

\$250



## Oxen and plow

A pair of oxen will help create record-breaking harvests, provide natural fertilizer for the fields and give families the gift of time.

\$1,000

Give through your congregation, by visiting [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts) or by sending a check to ELCA Good Gifts, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Please indicate your gift in the memo line of your check.

[ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts)

December 16, 2018

## Calendar for the Week

**Church Office Phone:**  
**612-789-7256**

### **TODAY...SUNDAY, December 16**

#### **Third Sunday of Advent**

8:30 a.m. Confirmation Class

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School & Frolic

4:00 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons  
and Carols presented by GA's  
Musicians and Northeast Chorale

### **MONDAY, December 17**

6:30 p.m. Advent Movie

### **TUESDAY, December 18**

### **WEDNESDAY, December 19**

6:00 p.m. GA Choristers

6:30 p.m. Gustavus Bells

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir for those  
singing on Christmas Eve

### **THURSDAY, December 20**

5:00 p.m. Mission Partner Advocates

6:00 p.m. Church Council

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

### **FRIDAY, December 21**

### **SATURDAY, December 22**

6:00 p.m. Free Community Meal

### **NEXT SUNDAY, December 23**

#### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:30 a.m. Worship

### **NEXT MONDAY, December 24**

#### **Christmas Eve**

3:45 p.m. Handbell Prelude

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

### **NEXT TUESDAY, December 25**

#### **Christmas Day**

9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Worship

## **FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS THIS AFTERNOON**

You are invited to return to church this afternoon for our annual "Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols" presented by the musicians of GA Church and the Northeast Chorale, directed by Phil Holzman. The service begins at 4:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a twenty-minute string quartet prelude.

## **JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL ADVENT MOVIE NIGHT**

Salvation, surprise, redemption, and peace — and all of this from just one meal! ***Babette's Feast*** is a film about an extravagant, multi-course, French dinner. But, really, it's not about dinner, it's about a meal. It's about personal transformation, food, and how the two are linked. 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Media Room. There is always popcorn! For more info. contact Joan Mitchell.

## **POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GARDEN DEADLINE**

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia in the memorial garden for Christmas Eve, please have your sponsorship envelope turned into Phil in the office no later than Wednesday noon to have your information included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. There are extra sponsorship envelopes available on the table with the bulletins in the Narthex this morning.

## *Christmas Worship at Gustavus Adolphus*

### **Christmas Eve ... Monday, December 24**

3:45 p.m. – Handbell Music by the Gustavus Bells

4:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Worship including Candle-lighting

### **Christmas Day ... Tuesday, December 25**

9:30 a.m. – Christmas Morning Worship

## **GA MEMBER CELEBRATING A MILESTONE BIRTHDAY**

GA member Marion White will celebrate her 100th birthday this Friday, December 21! Wouldn't it be great if she got some birthday cards from her church family members? Even though you probably don't know Marion because it's been some years since she's been able to attend worship, consider sending her a card and identifying yourself as a member of GA Church. Her address is 2540 Kenzie Terrace, #309, Minneapolis, MN 55418.

## **FREE COMMUNITY MEAL ON SATURDAY**

Just a reminder about our monthly Free Community Meal coming up this Saturday, Dec. 22. Soup will be served at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and share a meal with our guests from the neighborhood. If you'd like to help with set-up or clean-up (or provide some soup), contact Lynn Lurvey.

***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).



**Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church**  
1509 27th Avenue NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

**Website: [www.gachurchmpls.org](http://www.gachurchmpls.org)**  
**Email: [info@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:info@gachurchmpls.org)**  
**Church Phone: 612-789-7256**

**Church Staff**

**The Rev. Jo Bauman Johnson**, Pastor (Ext. 10)  
[pastorjo@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:pastorjo@gachurchmpls.org)  
Cell phone: 952-285-6945

**Phil Holzman**, Deacon/Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)  
(Worship & Music, Parish Administration)  
[philh@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:philh@gachurchmpls.org)

**Dan Hager**, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)  
[danh@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:danh@gachurchmpls.org)

**Joel Lurvey**, Contemporary Choir Director  
[joel.lurvey@gmail.com](mailto:joel.lurvey@gmail.com)

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

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

***Serving Today***

Ministers  
Presiding Minister & Preacher  
Assisting Minister  
Minister of Worship & Music  
Contemporary Choir Director  
Lector  
Sacristan  
Transportation

The Baptized people of GA Church  
Pastor Jo Bauman Johnson  
Gary Anderson  
Deacon Phil Holzman  
Joel Lurvey  
Adrienne Bisping  
Brock Bisping  
Pat Lynch