

Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



First Sunday
of Christmas

December 30, 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

Matt Brown and Kari Navratil, cello

✝ CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who shines in glory,
clothes us in compassion,
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise
of forgiveness.

God, wonderful counselor,

☑ **we confess that we have turned from your gifts
and chosen our own way.**

**We have not made room for you
in our hearts or in our world.**

**We have lived in fear;
we have not welcomed the stranger;
we desire gifts that will not endure.**

**Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus
dwelling in and among us.**

Amen.

☐ God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ
our Savior.

We are saved, not by anything we have done,
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.

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

Through the Spirit living in you,
God give you faith to trust Jesus,
who is Love born for you, now and always.

☑ **Amen.**

✝ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 288

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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.

✦ 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.**

✦ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW Hymn 275

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

✦ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Word

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod.

¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

P Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12–17

¹²As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

P Word of God. Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Introduction to the Day

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

✠ 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.

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

✠ GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

I NOTICE..., I WONDER...

SERMON

I HEAR...

✝ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn 269

Once in Royal David's City



✝ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

Petitions follow. Each petition ends...

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

After the final petition...

P Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

✝ PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Michael Head

The Little Road to Bethlehem

Nicole Navratil, soprano

✝ OFFERTORY

ELW Hymn 296

What Child Is This

✝ OFFERING PRAYER

P Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these sign of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

C **Amen.**

✝ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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 Vavrichek;
Marion White; Andrew;
Annette and family; Sveah;
Gretchen; Bre; Winnie; 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.

- 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

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

***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
In the Bleak Midwinter***

ELW Hymn 276
ELW Hymn 294

✝ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☞ Let us pray. God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

☞ **Amen.**

Sending

✝ BLESSING

✝ SENDING SONG

ELW Hymn 299

Cold December Flies Away

✝ DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Setting, Myron Roberts

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

As always you are invited to remain and share in the postlude.

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Calendar for the Week

Church Office Phone:
612-789-7256

TODAY...SUNDAY, December 30
First Sunday of Christmas
9:30 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, December 31

TUESDAY, January 1, 2019
New Year's Day

WEDNESDAY, January 2
January "Gazette" Mailed Today
NO Choir Rehearsals

THURSDAY, January 3
9:30 a.m. Quilters
7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

FRIDAY, January 4

SATURDAY, January 5

NEXT SUNDAY, January 6
Epiphany of Our Lord
8:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School & Frolic

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

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for the new year will be available as soon as we receive them from the printer! We have made a conscious effort to consolidate the number of boxes we ordered this year. If members did not pick up their box of envelopes last year, we did not order a box for them for 2019. We realize that many people use the yellow pew envelopes, Simply Giving, other methods of online giving, or just put a check in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Not everyone uses our envelope boxes.

What those who use envelope boxes will notice is that their envelope number will change for 2019; this reflects the fact that we have ordered many fewer boxes this year and realized quite a cost savings to our budget. If you have questions, please contact Phil in the church office. Thank you for your understanding.

If the envelopes do not arrive in time for next Sunday, we will ask you to place your offering in a yellow pew envelope and write your name on the envelope so that you receive credit for your gift.

Serving Today

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

The Baptized people of GA Church
Pastor Jo Bauman Johnson
Justin Navratil
Deacon Phil Holzman
Joan Mitchell
Nicole Navratil
Ron Anderson