

# Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



## 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.

Fourth Sunday  
in Lent

March 31, 2019

9:30 a.m.

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

### Organ Prelude

Today's prelude features the chorale tune of our Hymn of the Day played first, followed by two different settings of that chorale tune by the famous composer Johannes Brahms. You will find the chorale tune, by Hans Leo Hassler, at number 606 in our hymnal.

PRELUDE

Johannes Brahms

*Chorale and Two Chorale Preludes*

✝ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,  
anoint us, and make us new.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Trusting the grace promised to us in Jesus Christ,  
let us confess our sins before God and one another

**C** **Merciful God,  
we confess that we have strayed from your ways.  
Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance.  
You gave us the earth for our home,  
but we squander earth's resources and hoard  
its bounty.  
You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue  
selfish ambitions.  
You gave us the commandments that lead to  
human flourishing,  
but we break your law and forsake your love.  
Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance.  
Draw our wandering hearts back to you  
that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.  
Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

**P** As a parent welcomes home a wayward child,  
so God embraces all who return in true repentance.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

✝ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 666

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

✝ GREETING

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

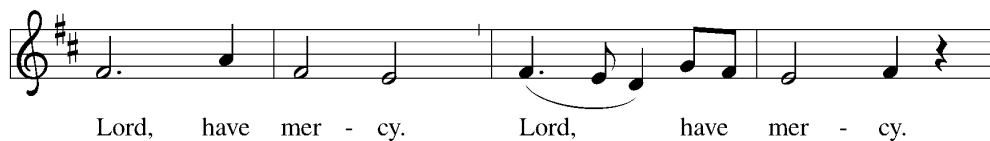
**C** **And also with you.**

### Worship Notes

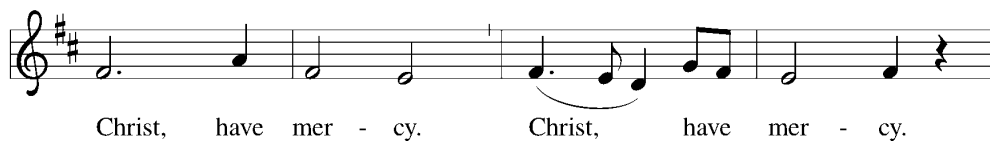
Numbers marked with the word "page..." are found in the front portion of ELW (the red hardcover hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*) at the bottom left and right corners of the page.

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



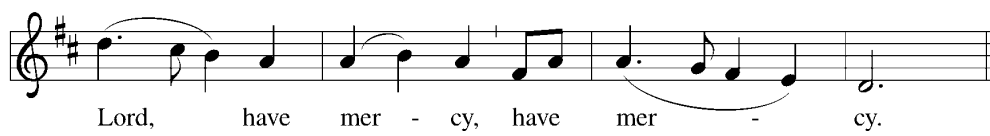
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

✦ PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Gracious God, seeker of the lost: draw your children back to your loving embrace, restore us to our inheritance as daughters and sons, and reconcile our hearts to you, that we many become ambassadors of your reconciling love to all the world. Through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray.

**C** Amen.

*Word*

FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

**L** Word of God. Word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Introduction to the Day*

*The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!*

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**L** Word of God. Word of life.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

† ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,

slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

† GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father

said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

☐ 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 606

***Our Father, We Have Wandered***

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

☐ In peace let us pray to the Lord saying, *Lord, have mercy.*

*Petitions follow. Each petition ends...*

☐ let us pray to the Lord.

☑ **Lord, have mercy.**

*After the final petition...*

☐ Loving God, hear the prayers of your people for the sake of our world, and our Savior Jesus Christ, through whom we pray.

☑ **Amen.**

+ PEACE

☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.

☑ **And also with you.**



#### ***Continuing Prayer Concerns***

*Joy Anderson;  
Sharon & Paul Banitt;  
Mary Boatwright;  
Peggy Bowman; Charline Burns;  
Shirley Cropper; Vi Dorumsgaard;  
Katie Falang; Renae Frasee;  
Kimberly Garner;  
Morrie Gulbrandson;  
Dawn Jackson; Jeff McQuarrie;  
June Mondeng; Juliana Palmer;  
Jean Rosebrock; Al Satter;  
Carol Stout;  
Arden & Joyce Swanson;  
Vi Tefft; Stephanie Vavrichek;  
Marion White; Nikki Wick;  
Andrew; Annette and family;  
Sveah; Gretchen; Bre; Winnie;  
those who are homebound or in  
nursing homes or care centers.*

*We extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of GA member Jean Clausen who died March 21. Jean's funeral was held here at the church this past Friday.*

*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.*

# Meal

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
*Amazing Grace*

Senior Choir  
Setting, John Rutter  
Hannah Rosebrock, soloist

## + OFFERTORY

ELW Hymn 186  
*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

## + OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

**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, God of pow'r and might,



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



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



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

✦ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

✦ LORD'S PRAYER

☒ **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.*

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

***Just As I Am, without One Plea*** ELW Hymn 592  
***There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*** ELW Hymn 588

✦ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☒ Let us pray. Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ.

☒ **Amen.**

## *Sending*

✦ BLESSING

✦ SENDING SONG ELW Hymn 763  
***My Life Flows On in Endless Song***

✦ DISMISSAL

☒ Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
☒ **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Johannes Brahms  
*O World, I Must Now Leave Thee*



### *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.*

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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 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)  
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**Dan Hager**, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)  
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**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	The Baptized people of GA Church
Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Jo Bauman Johnson
Assisting Minister	Justin Navratil
Minister of Worship & Music	Deacon Phil Holzman
Lector	Lynette Paulson
Sacristan	Joan Mitchell
Transportation	Ron Anderson