

# Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



First Sunday  
of Advent

December 1, 2019

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

### When the Prelude Begins...

When the music begins, we encourage you to quiet your hearts and minds and begin to focus on worship.

PRELUDE

J. S. Bach

*Sleepers, Awake!*

WELCOME

MUSICAL MEDITATION

✠ CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
the parent who rouses us from slumber,  
the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain,  
the deliverer who sets us free.

**C** Amen.

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

**P** As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

**C** **we open our hearts to you, O God.**

**Search us and know us.**

**Reveal all that we keep inside.**

**To you, O God, we confess our sins,**

**known and unknown.**

**Forgive us, renew us,**

**and lead us in your ways of justice and peace.**

**Make us reflections of the radiant love**

**of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**P** Beloved children of the Most High,  
you are gathered before the righteous judge  
who has mercy on all.

Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism,  
where sin is washed away in the river of life.

Dwell peacefully in the loving arms  
of the one who nurtures all creation.

Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven  
in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,

✠ Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C** Amen.

### 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.

+ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 241

*O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

+ 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.**

+ KYRIE

ELW page 98

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Word

### CHILDREN'S SERMON/LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*During the lighting of the wreath we will sing the first stanza of the song "Light the Candle"*



(Advent 1) Light	the can - dle of LOVE	to - day,	the Giv - er of
(Advent 2) Light	the can - dle of PEACE	to - day,	the Giv - er of
(Advent 3) Light	the can - dle of JOY	to - day,	the Giv - er of
(Advent 4) Light	the can - dle of HOPE	to - day,	the Giv - er of



love is here!	Wel - come the love	we live and
peace is here!	Wel - come the peace	we fight and
joy is here!	Wel - come the joy	we crave and
hope will come!	Wel - come the hope	we long and



die for, but	on - ly Christ can give.	Flick - er and
cry for, but	on - ly Christ can give.	Flick - er and
pay for, but	on - ly Christ can give.	Flick - er and
wait for, but	on - ly Christ can give.	Flick - er and

## *Introduction to the Day*

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*



flame and glow with love, light up the world a -  
 flame and glow with peace, light up the world a -  
 flame and glow with joy, light up the world a -  
 flame and glow with hope, light up the world a -



round you. Flick - er and flame and glow with love,  
 round you. Flick - er and flame and glow with peace,  
 round you. Flick - er and flame and glow with joy,  
 round you. Flick - er and flame and glow with hope,



light up the world a - round you.  
 light up the world a - round you.  
 light up the world a - round you.  
 light up the world a - round you.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come  
 the mountain of the LORD's house  
 shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
 and shall be raised above the hills;  
 all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
 "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
 to the house of the God of Jacob;  
 that he may teach us his ways  
 and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
 and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
 and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
 they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
 and their spears into pruning hooks;  
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
 neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
 come, let us walk  
 in the light of the LORD!

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Bach, arr. Hopson

*Now Hear the Glad Tidings*



SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**L** 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

Matthew 24:36-44

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Continuing Prayer Concerns*

Sharon & Paul Banitt;  
DJ Bedah; Adrienne Bisping;  
Mary Boatwright;  
Peggy Bowman; Charline Burns;  
Amy Cersier; Shirley Cropper;  
Vi Dorumsgaard; Katie Falang;  
Rena Frasee; Kimberly Garner;  
Morrie Gulbrandson;  
Nancy Johnson;  
Michelle Mamood;  
Darlene McQuarrie;  
Jeff McQuarrie; June Mondeng;  
Norma Munson; Juliana Palmer;  
Jean Rosebrock; Virginia Seigfried;  
Arden & Joyce Swanson;  
Vi Tefft; Stephanie Vavrichek;  
Andrew; Ann; Dave and family;  
Sveah; Gretchen; Bre;  
Kathryn and family; those who are homebound or in nursing homes or care centers.

We extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Gerald Dunphy who died on November 22. At Gerald's request, a private, family-only service will take place in the new year.

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.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn 438

*My Lord, What a Morning*

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

*Petitions follow. Each petition ends...*

**A** Come Lord Jesus,

**C** **and hear our prayer.**

*After the final petition...*

**P** Come among us, O God, and hear our prayers. Walk with us in this season of Advent, slowing us down, quieting our hearts, and preparing us for the Christ Child who is to come.

**C** **Amen.**

+ PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

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

*Offering Hymn*

The giving of our tithes and offerings is an act of worship. Singing a hymn is also an act of worship. To maintain a worshipful mood during the offering, we sing a hymn.

*Meal*

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

+ OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.

**C** **Amen.**

† GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

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

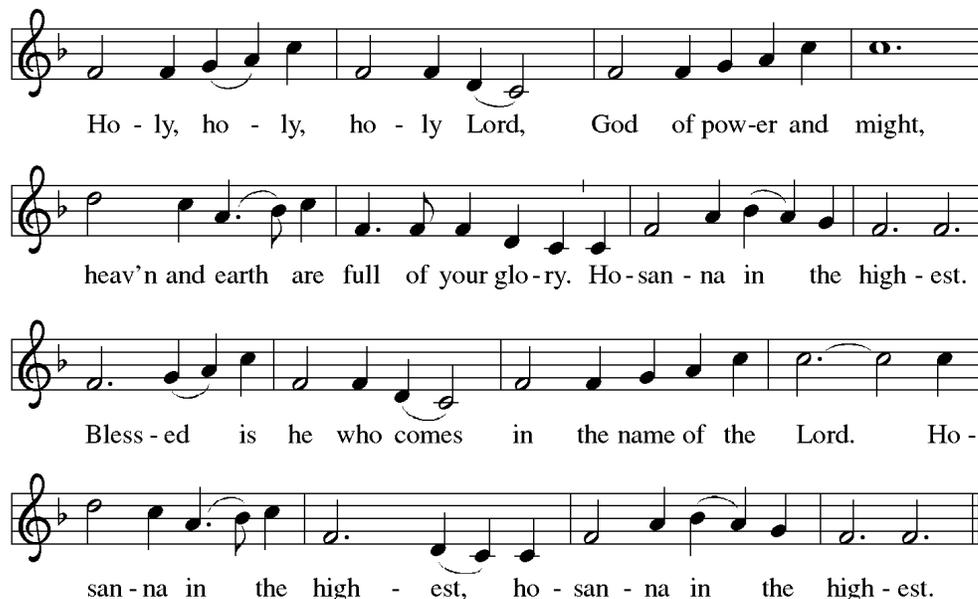
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**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-er 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, 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.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness***

ELW Hymn 490

ELW Hymn 488



*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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# Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

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## Church Staff

### The Rev. Susan Masters,

Interim Pastor (Ext. 10)

[pastorsusan@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:pastorsusan@gachurchmpls.org)

### Deacon Phil Holzman, Minister

of Word and Service (Ext. 11)

[philh@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:philh@gachurchmpls.org)

### Dan Hager,

Finance Manager (Ext. 14)

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### Joel Lurvey,

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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).



## ✝ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A** Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## *Sending*

## ✝ BLESSING

## ✝ SENDING SONG

ELW Hymn 244

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

## ✝ DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

Harmonized, J. S. Bach

*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

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

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 Susan Masters
Assisting Minister	Carlotta Rosebrock
Minister of Worship & Music	Deacon Phil Holzman
Lector	Joan Mitchell
Choir	Senior Choir
Sacristan	Aaron Bisping
Transportation	James Hamilton