

# 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  
After Epiphany

February 2, 2020

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.

## When the Prelude Begins...

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

## 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.

✝ Please stand as you are able.

## Gathering

PRELUDE

Setting, Richard Purvis

*Canzona on "Liebster Jesu"*

WELCOME

MUSICAL MEDITATION

✝ CALL TO WORSHIP – *from 1 Corinthians*

**P** O God, you are the gathering one,  
**C** **who calls us into community with each other to love and work, to support and heal.**

**P** You are the gathering one,  
**C** **who calls us into community with all people; to bring justice and hope, freedom and truth.**

**P** You are the gathering one,  
**C** **who calls us into community with the whole creation; to live in harmony, to cherish and renew.**

**P** You are the gathering one,  
**C** **Let us now worship the God who makes us one.**

✝ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Forgive us, O God, when we gather up our goods and store them into barns, for soon this life will be over.

**C** **Blessed are we when we let go of possessions, for the kingdom of God unfolds in open places.**

**P** Forgive us who fill our lives to capacity, for we fail to recognize what is missing.

**C** **Blessed are we who know the ache of hunger, for the empty places in body and soul are the fertile soil for new growth.**

**P** Forgive us when we too easily succumb to a culture of incivility and judgment.

**C** **Blessed are those who regard all your children as precious and worthy of love and respect.**

**P** Forgive us, O God, when we depend on the approval of others and seek power over your gospel call to care for the least among us.

**C** Blessed are those who live humbly that all might simply live.

**P** Blessed are we who live in the harmony of life in the Spirit,

**C** For we will recognize abundance. Amen.

+ GATHERING SONG

ELW Hymn 520

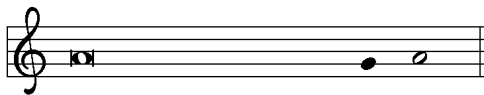
*Dearest Jesus, at Your Word*

+ 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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

## *Introduction to the Day*

*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.  
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

### ✚ PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Word

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### ANTHEM

arr. Carlton Young

*Be Thou My Vision*

#### FIRST READING

Micah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.*

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”  
<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

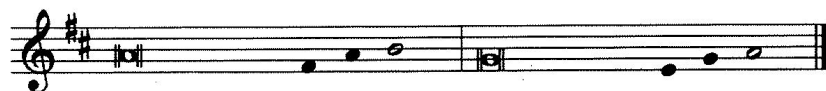
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 15

We will sing the refrain first, and then at the places indicated.



We will then chant the psalm responsively,  
with the congregation chanting the verses in **bold print**.



<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,  
who speak the truth | from their heart; Refrain**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their  
friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those  
who | fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back  
their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take  
bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be |  
overthrown. **Refrain**

*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

## SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

<sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ✠ ACCLAMATION

ELW Hymn 671, Stanza 1

***Shine, Jesus, Shine***

*Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!*

**Verse:** Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me (*Repeat refrain*):

## ✠ GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

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

#### GOSPEL LITANY – *Based on the Beatitudes*

**P** To you who are poor, and those in solidarity with you –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To those who mourn and feel grief about the state of the world –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To the non-violent, gentle and humble –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To those who hunger and thirst for the common good –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To the merciful and compassionate –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To those called sincere, kind, and generous –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To those who work for peace and reconciliation –

**C** God is on your side.

**P** To those who keep seeking justice –

**C** God is on your side.

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

*Because Pastor Susan's call is 3/4 time, she will now be preaching three times a month. This will free up more time for her to lead us through the intentional interim work that we have called her to do with us. On the Sundays she does not preach, our worship service will include more liturgy and music.*



### *Continuing Prayer Concerns*

Sharon & Paul Banitt;  
DJ Bedah; Adrienne Bisping;  
Peggy Bowman; Charline Burns;  
Amy Cersier; Shirley Cropper;  
Vi Dorumsgaard; Bill Eads;  
Katie Falang; Renae Frasee;  
Kimberly Garner;  
Morrie Gulbrandson;  
Nancy Johnson;  
Darlene McQuarrie;  
Jeff McQuarrie; Norma Munson;  
Juliana Palmer; Jean Rosebrock;  
Virginia Seigfried;  
Kermit Sommers;  
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 celebrate with four of our  
children who are receiving Holy  
Communion for the first time this  
morning: Anne Miller, Elizabeth  
(Libby) Nordling, Ada Peterson,  
and Jenna Schuette.

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.

- P** To those who stand for justice and truth as the prophets did,  
who refuse to be quiet even when slandered,  
misrepresented, threatened, imprisoned or harmed –
- C** **God is on your side!**

### ✦ HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn 728

### *Blest Are They*

### ✦ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- A** Let us pray. Holy One, we are reminded that your blessings  
do not always follow the logic of the world, which teaches  
that those with most power and wealth are most blessed.  
Jesus reminds us that it is the poor in body, soul, and mind  
who are blessed. We pray for a more just world in which all  
have enough and none are left behind. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** Jesus teaches us that those who mourn are blessed. Help us  
to know the truth of this mystery, O God, that we might bring  
healing and wholeness to those who are sick, and comfort  
those who are grieving, especially those who are included on  
our congregation's prayer list. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king-dom of God!

- A** While some covet power, Jesus blesses the meek. Teach us, O  
God, the ways of humility; help us to stand in solidarity with  
the oppressed and marginalized; show us your presence in  
the faces of those the world forgets. God of mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**



**A** In a world divided by race, gender, class, ideology, sexual orientation, and so many other ways we seek to harm one another, remind us that we are created in your image, each of us a beautiful reflection of you, each of us your beloved child. Help us to end our conflicts and wars, and to be peacemakers and agents of reconciliation. God of mercy,

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

**A** We give you thanks, O God, for the blessed gift of all our children here at GA. We rejoice that today Jenna, Libby, Ada, and Anne will join us at your table for the first time. May they be nurtured and nourished by your holy meal. We pray for Nancy Johnson for continued healing and comfort, and for Marvin Johnson for strength and courage as he cares for his beloved. God of mercy,

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

All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king-dom of God!

**P** Holy One, give us eyes to see the ways you are changing the world in which we live. Give us ears to hear your call to join with you in the great transformation. Hear us now, O God, as we pray for the coming of your kingdom,

**C** **Amen.**

✚ PEACE

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

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

*Meal*

OFFERING



### *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.*

## OFFERING HYMN

1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

## + OFFERING PRAYER

**P** God of wonder, you formed us in our mother's womb, and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine. We place them on your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life.

**C** **Amen.**

## + GREAT THANKSGIVING

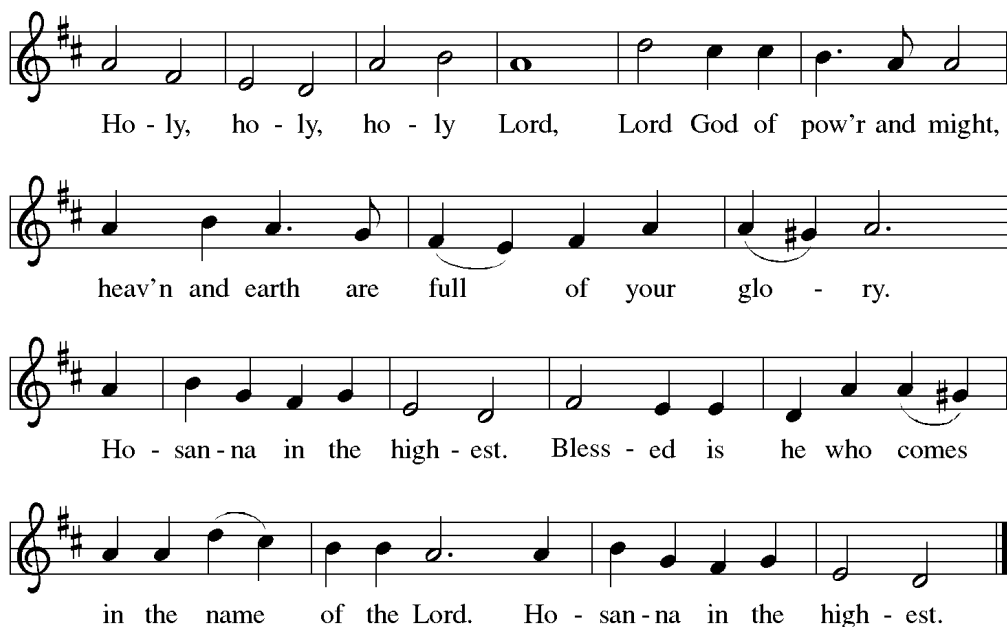
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**☐ 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

***Lamb of God***  
***We Are Called***

ELW page 154  
 ELW Hymn 720

## ✚ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**☐** Let us pray. Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**☐ Amen.**

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- Call to Worship adapted from <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>
- Confession and Forgiveness adapted from Katherine Hawker (2004) <http://liturgyoutside.net/beatitudes.pdf>
- Gospel Litany adapted from Brian McLaren and Rob Bell, <http://thirdspace.org.uk/fairtrade-beatitudes-and-sanctuary>

Gustavus Adolphus  
Lutheran Church

1509 27th Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

**Website:**

**www.gachurchmpls.org**

Email: [info@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:info@gachurchmpls.org)

**Phone: 612-789-7256**

**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)

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

**Joel Lurvey,**

Contemporary Choir Director

[joel.lurvey@gmail.com](mailto:joel.lurvey@gmail.com)

## *Sending*

### ✚ BLESSING



Receive now the final blessing.

May the holy wisdom of God guard your ways and guide your paths. May the living truth of God enlighten your hearts and open your minds. (+) And may the living Spirit of God give you life, and life to the full!



**In blessing, we go now into the world, to share the Good News of God's love for all creation. Amen.**

### ✚ SENDING SONG

ELW Hymn 669

***Rise Up, O Saints of God!***

### ✚ DISMISSAL



Go in peace. Let your light shine.



**Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

G.F. Handel

*Solemn Processional from "Water Music Suite"*

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

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



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



## *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
Sacristan	Aaron Bisping
Choir	Senior Choir
Lector	Joan Mitchell
Transportation	James Hamilton