

## HOLY WEEK



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion – March 24*  
9:30 a.m. – Worship

*Maundy Thursday – March 28*  
7:00 p.m. – Worship

*Good Friday – March 29*  
7:00 p.m. – Tenebrae/Service of Shadows

*Holy Saturday/Resurrection of Our Lord – March 30*  
7:00 p.m. – Vigil of Easter

*Easter Sunday/Resurrection of Our Lord – March 31*  
9:30 a.m. – Festival Worship

All services will be available to attend via Zoom.  
Links and information will be shared in our Saturday email on March 23  
(or email Deacon Phil for specifics).



### Easter Coffee Fellowship

The Congregational Life committee is once again hosting donuts on Easter! Stay after worship and enjoy a sweet treat with our community.

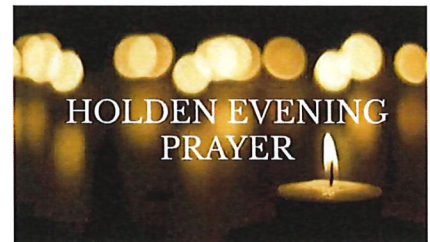
### Easter Memorial Garden

Envelopes are available in the Narthex for you to contribute toward the purchase of Easter lilies for the Easter Memorial Garden. You may contribute any amount and note your dedication on the envelope. Then simply place the envelope in the offering plate. The deadline for making contributions is Sunday, March 17.



### Lent Wednesdays – Through March 20

You are invited to join us on the remaining Wednesday evenings of Lent at 7:00 p.m. for Evening Prayer. We use the much-loved *Holden Evening Prayer* as our liturgy each week. As in the past several years, these services are hybrid – you can attend in-person or online. A Zoom link for all the Wednesday services is shared in each Saturday's email newsletter.



### Lenten Soup Suppers

We have many wonderful opportunities during the Lenten season to gather with our community for meals and worship. This can be a deepening time in our faith journey. Meals will be served every Wednesday through March 20 at 6:00 p.m. (prior to Evening Prayer).

Aki's BreadHaus on Central Ave. is donating bread for all meals! Cub Foods is donating cookies for all meals. Please join us for soup and worship one of these weeks.





These last few months, I have been sharing about the Easter Vigil that we are introducing to GA this year. I have shared about how the service will be multisensory, with ways that our whole bodies will actively participate in the worship. Then last month, I shared how the outline of the service will be familiar to a Sunday morning service, but with every aspect given more attention and space than Sunday worship might allow. With Lent upon us, I wanted to use this gazette article as a space to concretely address questions that have been asked in the past few weeks.

*"I remember attending an Easter Vigil worship service at a church I attended previously, and the service didn't start until really late and it was reallllllllllllllllllly long. Are we going to be up all night for this?"*

No, we won't be up all night as part of this service. It will begin at 7 p.m. like all of our Holy Week services, and the candlelight nature of the service will foster a beautiful atmosphere. With the selection of readings in addition to the Affirmation of Baptism, it will be longer than a regular Sunday morning worship. But with the ways the readings and service are structured, it will feel very engaging, and should be about 1 hour and 45 minutes long.

*"Why are we going to celebrate the resurrection on Saturday night? Didn't Jesus rise on the "Third Day," meaning Sunday?"*

It is true that we profess that Jesus rose on the third day. According to Jewish reckoning, one day is over and the next begins at sundown, and so the Easter Vigil carries on this tradition of celebrating the great Vigil of Easter on Saturday night. And surrounding this worship, we know that Jesus' rising from the dead is not dependent on when we gather, but rather as a community we can choose to celebrate Jesus' rising in the present.

*"Why have I never heard of an Easter Vigil before this year, and does this mean I missed something in confirmation?"*

No, you didn't miss anything in confirmation. While the Easter Vigil is an ancient worship service, it fell out of practice in many traditions during the middle ages, and only recently (in the last 50 years) has it begun to be reintroduced to churches. Through having an Easter Vigil service, we will be connecting with Christians of different traditions (especially the Roman Catholic church) and demonstrate in the unity of our faith!

"Will there be a social time following the worship?"

No, there will not be a formal reception following the Easter Vigil service. While many congregations celebrate breaking the Lenten fast with festive food and drink after their Vigil, we will be saving that celebration for following worship on Sunday morning. The focus of this first Easter vigil at GA is to introduce the beauty of the worship. In following years we might add the festive celebration following the vigil.

Now, this certainly isn't an exhaustive list of all the questions I have been asked, and if you have any other curiosities about this festive worship, please reach out! I hope that as we continue journeying through Lent, you might be moved to join in this unique service on Saturday, March 30, at 7 p.m. It will be a wonderful opportunity to gather and celebrate the joy of the resurrection in community in a new (yet ancient) manner.

-pr. ian

### Adult Education at GA!

Adult ed. will take place on the second Sunday of each month after worship in the Faith Room. Topics will vary each month. If you are interested in being involved or teaching a class about something you are passionate about, talk to Bryant Kumlin or send him an email at [kumli004@umn.edu](mailto:kumli004@umn.edu)!



Come to the Faith Room after worship on Sunday, March 10, to learn about the history of Easter and talk about the upcoming Easter Vigil!



### 110th Anniversary Talent Show!

Please join us in the audience, as a performer, or both on Saturday, April 13, 3 – 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! Mary Larson will be the emcee, and Joel Lurvey will be running the sound equipment. If you need an accompanist, please reach out to Deacon Phil directly.

Performer sign-up sheets will be in the narthex, both at GA and at Mt. Carmel. Refreshments provided. Free will offering happily accepted. Plan to join in the fun! Questions? Call Shirley Fors: 612-419-4726.

### Updated Welcome Statement

Four members of our original Reconciling in Christ taskforce met recently to update GA's welcome statement. As you might be aware, 2024 is the 15th anniversary of GA becoming a RIC congregation. We plan to have a celebration of this milestone on Sunday, May 5. More details to come. Please read our newly-approved (by church council) welcome statement:



***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. We give thanks for the gift of reconciliation through Christ Jesus, thus we commit to the work of racial equity and justice. We welcome people of all ages, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, faith backgrounds and socioeconomic status. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.***

From Deacon Phil



## *Sing for the Easter Vigil*

I'm extending an invitation to singers to join a one-time choir to sing for our Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday (March 30) at 7:00 p.m. There's quite a bit of wonderful music included in the Easter Vigil, and we need an ensemble to lead it. We'll have one rehearsal on Saturday, March 23, at 10:00 a.m. in the choir loft. Think about joining us. If you have any questions, find me and we'll chat – or email me.

## *GA Choir Update*

We are so happy that our adult choir is now up to 16 singers. You can probably tell they have a fuller sound on Sunday mornings. This is great! However, we could use a more balanced group voice-wise. Right now, we have 13 sopranos and altos and three tenors and basses; we could use more tenors and basses! I know there are some low-voiced singers out there in the congregation who could be part of our choir. And just to be clear, we're not turning away new sopranos or altos either! There is still time to join the choir for the rest of this season. Think about it! We practice on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:30 p.m. and sing for worship on the first and fourth Sundays of the month (plus Good Friday and Easter upcoming).

## *Northeast Chorale Spring Season Coming Up*

GA Church is host to the Northeast Chorale – a community choir of approximately 45 voices that I am privileged to direct. The Chorale will be starting its spring season this month...on Tuesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. with a pot luck supper and sing-through of our spring music. Regular rehearsals will commence the following Tuesday and continue until our spring concert weekend on June 1 and 2. The Chorale is open to high school and adult singers; no auditions are required. There is a \$25.00 participation fee for adults and \$15.00 for students. If you have questions, you can find me or Carlotta Rosebrock, who is a member of the Chorale's board of directors. We generally have a group of singers from GA in the Chorale, and we'd love to welcome more GA folks.

## *Remind Me Again How the Organ Plays By Itself!*

It's been several years since I've addressed this topic, and I always get some quizzical looks when the organ is playing "Lamb of God" or another Communion hymn and I'm downstairs to receive Communion. Our organ is a digital/pipe organ hybrid that is "run" by a computer. Therefore, it is capable of communicating with a MIDI module, which we have connected to the organ. MIDI stands for "Musical Instrument Digital Interface" – a technology developed in the 1980's to allow digital instruments to communicate with each other. This allows me to play and "record" music from the organ to the MIDI module and store it there and play it back at a later time. It plays back exactly what I record. So when someone asks me, "Who's playing the organ?" – the answer is: "I am!" It also allows me, on occasion, to record an accompaniment to a choir anthem and direct the choir while the organ plays the accompaniment. It's really wonderful technology (when used sparingly!).

## *Holy Week and Easter Worship*

I am very much looking forward to the addition of the Easter Vigil to our worship schedule this year. I encourage you to attend all our Holy Week services. Each one offers its own unique and rich part of the Passion story that is so important to our Christian faith. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and now the Easter Vigil, and of course Easter morning...each one is so meaningful. We will have a brass quartet, choir, and handbells sharing music on Easter morning for our festival worship service. May you experience God's real presence in your life as you participate in worship this Holy Week and Easter!

– Deacon Phil

## 110 Years of Celebrations!

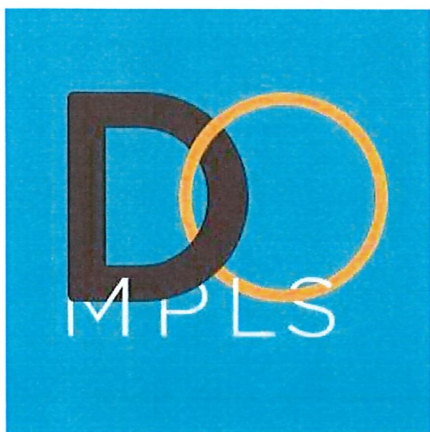
For 110 years, GA has been a place where community gathers and community celebrates. For the 110th Anniversary Celebration, we are collecting photos of weddings that took place at GA. Were you married at GA? Was a relative? A friend? A neighbor? Can you help us find photos from different eras? You can enjoy the display at Doors Open, May 18-19.

110th  
Anniversary

Gustavus Adolphus  
LUTHERAN CHURCH 1911 - 2021

Here are the specifics:

Send one - maybe two - photo showing the wedding in the interior of the GA Sanctuary. Bonus points if the photo includes the archway around the altar! Photos can be sent by mail to the GA office, dropped off in the narthex, or emailed to [anniversary@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:anniversary@gachurchmpls.org). Provide the date of the wedding and the names of the people in the photo. Please do not provide original photos. If you need help digitalizing the photo, meet in the workroom after church on March 10 or April 14. Please provide photos by April 15. See Sarah Larson or Kristin Tangen for questions.



The 110th Anniversary Committee is happy to report that GA has been chosen as a site for the annual citywide event **Doors Open Minneapolis**.

What is Doors Open Minneapolis?

Doors Open Minneapolis, produced by Rethos, is a chance to explore the buildings that tell our city's story. From theaters to business hubs, sacred spaces to private clubs, sports complexes to engineering wonders, historical gems to not-even-open-yet buildings, Doors Open Minneapolis will give you a FREE behind-the-scenes look at dozens of exciting venues. Building owners and caretakers will provide unique perspectives that illustrate why these venues, people, and businesses, are central to our city's identity.

The two-day event will take place May 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. We hope many GA members will volunteer to work a 1-2 hour shift with the primary responsibility of welcoming our neighbors and sharing our story. Stay tuned for more details.

## Community Soup Suppers

Our soup suppers have been going so well! Thank you to all the groups and individuals who are helping this effort be successful. We are thankful to Aki of Aki's BreadHaus and Cub Foods for the donations of bread and cookies! We have been having a good turn out of people each week. We have enjoyed delicious soups and nice conversations.

Our worship services have been so meaningful too! Thanks to all who make such great things happen for all of us.

We are hoping to continue the Community Meals on a once-a-month basis after Easter. For now, we will continue in our prayer and discernment process.

One thing that we can use is to-go containers with tight fitting covers. If you have some at home, please drop them off at the kitchen any time!



## Prayer List

*As the body of Christ and a family of believers, let us pray for each other.*

- ♥ *Paul & Sharon Banitt – Carlotta Rosebrock requests prayers for her parents, as her father has ongoing health issues, and her mother is his caregiver in the home.*
- ♥ *Rodney Christopherson*
- ♥ *Pam Evangelist – Pam would like prayers for her as she is living with Parkinsons.*
- ♥ *Jon Huntsinger, Melissa Hentges’ father, who recently lost his wife, Deb, to cancer.*
- ♥ *Linda Lindahl – Prayers for continuing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Darlene McQuarrie – Upcoming surgery and recovery.*
- ♥ *Robbie Murphy – Pat Lynch would like prayers for her sister who is experiencing several health challenges.*
- ♥ *Nancy Rathbun – Experiencing some recent health concerns.*
- ♥ *Jean Rosebrock – Prayers for Jean as she experiences declining health.*
- ♥ *Lesa Rowen, Melissa Hentges’ mother, who has an ongoing health situation.*
- ♥ *Mary Nelson Yunker – Prayers for Mary as she continues to recover from a fall.*
- ♥ *Doug – Ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *Sarah – James Hamilton would like prayers for his daughter who is facing a health challenge.*
- ♥ *Maria – Prayers for a mother of four who has just received a critical health diagnosis.*
- ♥ *David – Concussion recovery during travel. Prayers for getting home safely.*



To have someone’s name included on the prayer list, contact our volunteer prayer coordinator, Jean Jenson, at [mpjsjean@yahoo.com](mailto:mpjsjean@yahoo.com) or Pastor Ian, or Deacon Phil.

## Here’s Something to Consider

Have you been putting off completing important end of life documents? These could include a:

- Health Care Directive
- Will
- Power of Attorney
- Living Revocable Trust



If yes, a group of us have begun gathering at GA following worship to begin our work on these important documents. Documents that thoughtfully detail our final wishes for ourselves, family, friends, charity, and church at the end of our lives. If you would like to work on these documents with us, we invite you to join us in **Fellowship Hall following worship on Sunday, March 3, when we will be working on the subject of “Power of Attorney.”** We will cover wills and trusts sometime in spring or early summer. Please consider joining us!

### Gustavus Adolphus Executive Committee Contact Information:

Jenny Arneson, president..... arneson.jenny@gmail.com  
Matthew Streed, vice-president..... matthewstreed@gmail.com  
Kristin Tangen, secretary..... ksnobeck@gmail.com  
Lynn Lurvey, treasurer..... lclurvey@gmail.com



## Church Council Update

We spent the first meeting of our newly elected council organizing ourselves. Jenny Arneson will serve as president; Matt Streed will be vice-president; Lynn Lurvey will be treasurer; Kristin Tangen will be secretary.



We approved funds from our Life Together Capital Appeal to paint the upstairs Sunday School area. After renting out this space for a number of years, updates are needed to address the wear and tear on the space. We will be hiring Reach Higher Painting and Drywall, LLC, who handled the painting in our sanctuary, for \$3,500.

In March, the council will be working on prioritizing goals and larger projects. We invite you to share your observations with us as we work through this process.

Thank you to Aki's BreadHaus and Cub Foods for their donations of bread and cookies to our weekly Lenten soup suppers. We are so appreciative that their delicious food enhances our dinners and makes it just a little easier for the volunteers to put on this dinner for others. We invite you to join these Lenten dinners. In addition to fellowship within our church, we have invited other members in our community to join us and in particular, reached out to past regular community dinner participants.

### Join Gustavus Adolphus at Luther Park Danbury This Summer

As we've been announcing, there are several opportunities for camping at Luther Park in Danbury, Wisconsin this summer:

- **Camp Getaway for Gustavus Families** – Friday, July 19 through Sunday, July 21. Several GA families are already planning to attend.
- **Camper Week for Gustavus** including three options for students in 1st through 12th grade on dates from July 21 through 26.



If these dates do not work out for your family, visit the camp's website for other options. Register for programs at camp online at:

[www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com). Click on "register." GA is pleased to announce that we will offer scholarships to campers from our

congregation. We will subsidize one-half of whatever tier you choose for your camp this summer!

### Recent Baptism

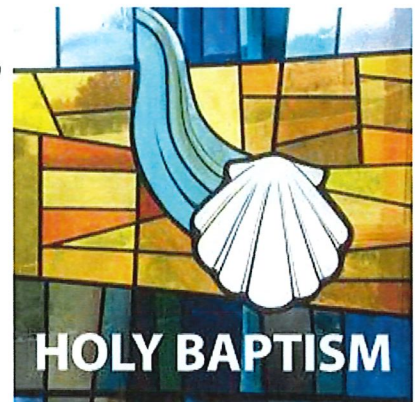
*On Sunday, February 11, we joyfully received Nova Marie Peterson officially into the family of Christ and the family of Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism!*

*Nova is a child of Charissa and Erik Peterson and the sibling of Ada.*

*She was born in Minneapolis on May 12, 2019.*

*Nova's sponsors were Kristen and Dane Peterson.*

*We pray God's richest blessings on Nova, her family, and her sponsors.*



# Treasurer's Report/January Financials

Hello!

We are enjoying the blessing of the Lenten season!  
Thank you for being present in worship.

The finance committee is thankful for the leadership of outgoing treasurer Kristin Tangen. Thanks for all the expertise and joy you bring.

Here is the financial report for last month. You will notice that our giving is down a bit as compared to last year at this time.

We are so very thankful for the gifts of time and money that are contributed to our church here on the corner of 27th and Johnson. We work to be wise stewards of these resources.

|           | Jan<br>2024 YTD<br>Actual | Jan<br>2024 YTD<br>Budget |  | Jan<br>2023 YTD<br>Actual |  | Jan<br>2024 vs 2023<br>YTD Actual |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Income    | \$18,902.18               | \$29,127.07               |  | \$21,669.05               |  | -\$2,766.87                       |
| Expense   | \$32,035.88               | \$29,127.07               |  | \$30,678.39               |  | \$1,357.49                        |
| Inc - Exp | <b>-\$13,133.70</b>       | \$0.00                    |  | <b>-\$9,009.34</b>        |  | -\$4,124.36                       |

God's blessings to you all in the month ahead.

Lynn Lurvey  
Treasurer  
llurvey@gmail.com



# Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Minneapolis ... March 2024

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue | Wed  | Thu   | Fri                          | Sat                                 |
|--|---|-----|--|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 25   | 26  | 27  | 28   | 29  | 1                            | 2                                   |
| 9:30am - Worship<br>10:45am - Confirmation Class<br>10:45am - Sunday School/Frolic                       | 1pm - Grief Group   | 5   | 10am - Coffee Hour<br>5:45pm - Contemp. Group<br>5:45pm - GA Choristers<br>6pm - Soup Supper<br>6:15pm - Gustavus Bells<br>7pm - Evening Prayer<br>7:30pm - GA Choir | 9:30am - Quilters   |                              | 8am - Men's Breakfast               |
| 3  | 4   | 5   | 6  | 7   | 8                            | 9                                   |
| Daylight Saving Time Starts<br>9:30am - Worship<br>10:45am - Adult Ed.<br>10:45am - Sunday School/Frolic | 1pm - Grief Group<br>6pm - Property Comm.<br>6:30pm - Social Ministry Comm. | 12  | 10am - Coffee Hour<br>5:45pm - Contemp. Group<br>5:45pm - GA Choristers<br>6pm - Soup Supper<br>6:15pm - Gustavus Bells<br>7pm - Evening Prayer<br>7:30pm - GA Choir | 5pm - Cong. Life Comm.<br>6pm - Finance Comm.<br>6:30pm - Bible & Brews |                              |                                     |
| 10   | 11  | 12  | 13   | 14  | 15                           | 16                                  |
| 9:30am - Worship<br>10:45am - Confirmation Class<br>10:45am - Sunday School/Frolic                       | 1pm - Grief Group   | 19  | 10am - Coffee Hour<br>5:45pm - GA Choristers<br>6pm - Soup Supper<br>6:15pm - Gustavus Bells<br>7pm - Evening Prayer<br>7:30pm - GA Choir                            | 6pm - Church Council  |                              | 10am - Vigil Choir rehearsal        |
| 17   | 18  | 19  | 20   | 21  | 22                           | 23                                  |
| Palm/Passion Sunday<br>9:30am - Worship<br>10:45am - Sunday School/Frolic                                | 1pm - Grief Group   | 26  | 10am - Coffee Hour<br>11am - Meals on Wheels Delivery<br>6pm - Contemp. Group<br>6:30pm - Gustavus Bells<br>7:30pm - GA Choir  | Maundy Thursday<br>7pm - Worship  | Good Friday<br>7pm - Worship | Holy Saturday<br>7pm - Easter Vigil |
| 24   | 25  | 26  | 27   | 28  | 29                           | 30                                  |
| Easter Sunday<br>9:30am - Worship  |   | 2   |  |   |                              |                                     |
| 31   | 1   | 2   | 3  | 4   | 5                            | 6                                   |

A publication of

# Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SPRING FORWARD  
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Daylight Saving  
Time starts  
Sunday, March 10,  
at 2:00 a.m.

## Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Fax Number: 612-789-1334

Bldg. Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs. – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Website: [www.gachurchmpls.org](http://www.gachurchmpls.org)

### Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

#### Church Staff ...

**Pastor Ian Coen-Frei**, Minister of Word & Sacrament (Ext. 10)  
pastorian@gachurchmpls.org  
For Pastoral Care: 612-888-3701

**Deacon Phil Holzman**, Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)  
(Worship & Music, Parish Administration)  
philh@gachurchmpls.org  
Cell Phone: 320-304-1774 (for calls/texts)

**Zachary Copa**, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)  
zachc@gachurchmpls.org

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

**Analisa Hillman**, Church Custodian



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

#### Ways You Can Support GA Church (besides bringing your offerings on Sunday morning to worship):

1) Mail your offering to GA:  
1509 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418



2) Our church offers online giving and text-to-give. They're easy to use and secure! You can give a gift of support online at [www.gachurchmpls.org/donate](http://www.gachurchmpls.org/donate) or give via text message by texting the amount you would like to give to (612) 887-1797.

3) Email our church's Finance Manager, Zach Copa, if you are interested in learning how to contribute stock donations.

4) Point your smartphone at the QR code above!

#### Gustavus Adolphus Church Council:

Jenny Arneson, President

Matthew Streed, Vice-President

Kristin Tangen, Secretary

Lynn Lurvey, Treasurer



#### At-Large Members:

Wendy Bradshaw

Lori Nordling

Bryant Kumlin

Kathy Schuette