



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

8:30 A.M.

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and the blessed virgin Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in the holy communion – with high delight – "we proclaim the Lord's death."

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Five

The paraments are blue today and will be for the four Sundays of Advent. The color suggests hope.

✠ GATHERING ✠

The Assembly is invited to gather in quiet meditation.

ACCLAMATION

Text: Michael Morgan

Music: William Stevens

O love of God, beyond all bound of life and earth and space;
with warmth the coldest heart surround, and tenderness embrace.

Let every symbol, every sound be tokens of your grace.

OPENING VOLUNTARY Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace we have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
our sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

GATHERING HYMN 244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG

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

And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI, EMMANUEL

O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: Amen.

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 80:1-7



¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph [|] like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- [|] on the cherubim.
²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, [|] and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and [|] come to help us.
³Restore [|] us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.
⁴O LORD [|] God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your [|] people pray?
⁵You have fed them with the [|] bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of [|] tears to drink.
⁶You have made us the derision [|] of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh [|] us to scorn.
⁷Restore us, O [|] God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.

SECOND READING Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’ (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).” When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Sung by the choir:

Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Repeat alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-55

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke.



In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.



We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Wollner

SERMON

Pastor Wollner

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 251 My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

KINGSFOLD

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each portion of the prayers conclude:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say "Peace be with you" or similar words.

Please be considerate of those who may be reluctant to shake hands in this flu season.

We sit.

✠ MEAL ✠

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM There Is No Rose

Graham J. Ellis

There is no rose of such virtue As is the rose that bare Jesu:

Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space:

Res miranda. [A wonderful thing.]

By that rose we may well see There be one God in persons three:

Pares forma. [Of the same form.]

Then leave we all this worldly mirth, And follow we this joyous birth;

Transeamus. [Let us go {even to Bethlehem}.]

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pre - sence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God,
maker of all things.**

**Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.**

**Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

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.

The image shows a musical score for 'GREAT THANKSGIVING' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and ties.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en 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.

The image shows a musical score for 'SANCTUS' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff has two measures: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:'. The second staff has two measures: 'Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'. The fifth staff has two measures: 'Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and ties.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de-liv-er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the
glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

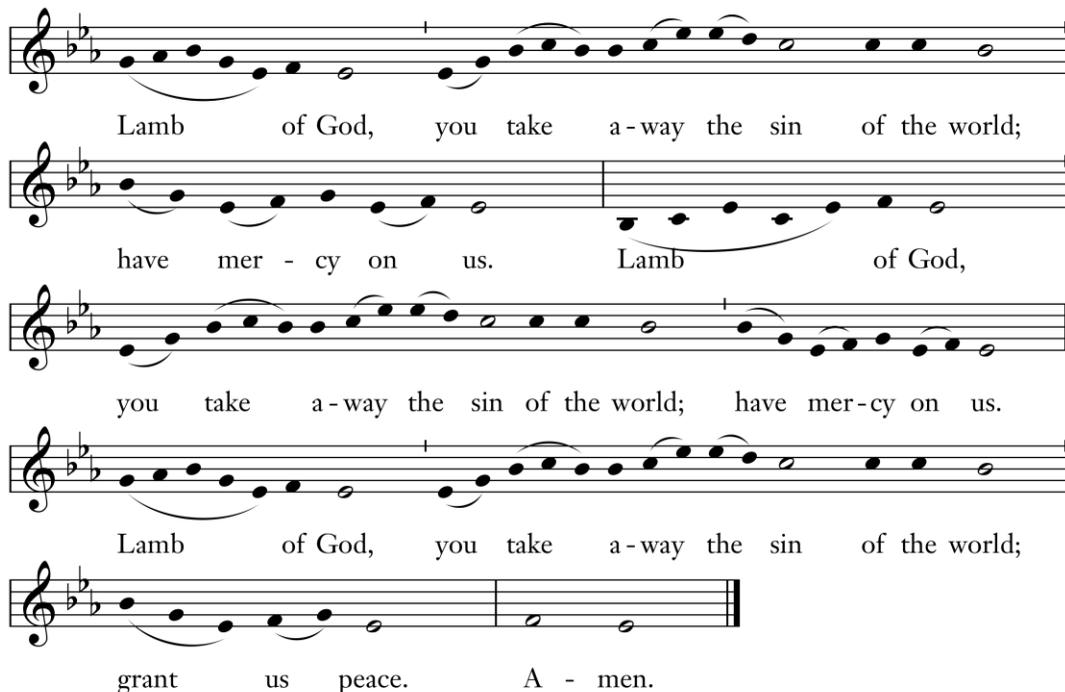
The presiding minister lifts the bread and cup and says

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

The assembly responds

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace. A - men.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Today we will be communing by intinction. Receive the bread and dip it in the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available on the organ side of the church. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who have never communed and would like to are encouraged to talk to a pastor. All who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN 272 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks
that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son.
By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING



The Lord bless you ... and ✠ give you peace. **A - men.**

The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.

SENDING HYMN 256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People

FREU DICH SEHR

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Craig Phillips

Soli Deo Gloria

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Providing Service Today

Bulletin Cover Artist

William Sanders

Acolytes

8:30 Mason Paschold and Walker Paschold

11:00 Ryan Hicks and Ethan Olsen

Crucifers

8:30 Daniel Nolting

11:00 Jacob Andrews

Liturgist

8:30 Nanette Shutt

Lay Reader

8:30 Carol Thornton

Communion Assistants

8:30 Barbara Merced and Nanette Shutt

Nursery

8:30 Elisa Fernbach

SS TBD

11:00 Jill Fowler

Usbers

8:30 Chris Almerini, Susan Doran,
Alex Paschold and Roger Riggs

11:00 Clarence Dixon, Carrol Epting,
Kevin Lynch and Phil Martin

Visitors Welcoming Table & Greeters

8:30 Jane Maxey

11:00 Keith Kookon/Peggy Sturgis

Sunday Morning Fellowship

TBD

Oblation Bearers

8:30 Zeller Family

Assisting Ministers

8:30 Kate Frucht

Preaching and Presiding

8:30 Pastor Wollner

Providing Service Next Sunday

Bulletin Cover Artist

Ronnie Comer

Acolytes

8:30 TBD

11:00 TBD

Crucifers

8:30 TBD

11:00 TBD

Lay Readers

8:30 John Bandle

11:00 Daniele Olsen

Communion Assistants

8:30 Dina Almerini and Shari Dominguez

11:00 Edith and Jim Eubanks

Nursery

8:30 Kevin Kookon

11:00 Elisa Fernbach

Usbers

8:30 Chris Almerini, Susan Doran,
Alex Paschold and Roger Riggs

11:00 Clarence Dixon, Carrol Epting,
Kevin Lynch and Phil Martin

Visitors Welcoming Table & Greeters

8:30 Bobbi Baker and Joyce Holton

11:00 Claire Ohanessian

Sunday Morning Fellowship

TBD

Oblation Bearers

8:30 TBD

11:00 Pat and Sue Holland

Assisting Ministers

8:30 TBD

11:00 TBD

Preaching

Pastor Carter

Presiding

Pastor Wollner

Announcements

WELCOME all who enter the Lord's house this day! We invite you to fill out the Friendship Register found on each pew. If you are visiting Augsburg, please stop by the Visitor Welcoming Table after today's service to pick up a welcome package. The visitor's table is located at the bottom of the ramp leading to the lobby.

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Stella and Fred Hasecke and Bernice and H. W. (Chris) Vaughan, by Keith and Lydia Vaughan.

This week we keep in prayer Mr. Kerns Freeze, 7383 Ridge Crest Trail, Lewisville, NC 27023. Please send Kerns a note.

We look forward to the festival and season of Christmas by preparing through the season of Advent. All are welcome to worship at Augsburg. Our services for the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season are below.

Monday, Dec. 24—Christmas Eve

5:00p: Christmas Eve Family Service

7:30p & 11:00p: Holy Communion with Candlelight

Sunday, Jan. 6—Epiphany of Our Lord

8:30a & 11:00a: Holy Communion

5:30p Epiphany Chili Cook-off

6:30p Epiphany Vespers

Tuesday, Dec. 25—Christmas Day

10:30a: Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec. 30—Christmas I

8:30a & 11:00a: Holy Communion

The Efirid L. and Maria F. Hine Fund committee will meet for its Winter Quarter meeting on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. All requests for financial grants should be directed to The Hine Fund and should be in the church office no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, January 16. The general purpose and intent of the Hine Fund is to “put into effect a ministry of Christian mercy and concern in meeting human needs as the Church thinks Jesus Christ Himself would have them met.” Agendas will be ready for members to pick up in the Work Room on Sunday, January 20th. Please call or email Kris Andrews if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Offering Envelopes: The 2019 Offering Envelope packets (filed in alphabetical order) are available on tables in the lobby outside the Gathering Room. It will be practicing good stewardship if you can pick up your envelopes and save the Church the expense of mailing. If you do not find an Envelope Packet with your name and would like to have envelopes, please contact Joyce Holton at 336-722-8144.

Are you a Thrivent Financial Member? Did you know that each year every member has TWO ACTION TEAMS that can be used to DO GOOD in the community? As part of an Action Team, you are given a \$250 Community Impact Card to use as seed money to assist with a service activity of educational event. This money is for the purpose of making an impact and doing good! If you are a Thrivent Member who has not yet used your Action Team(s), Augsburg's Youthrans and GreeNest need your help! Youthrans, our first through fifth grade group, are hoping to do a service project in February which will benefit GreeNest. We will use the money to make cleaning packs, which are given to the GreeNest clients. Each cleaning pack includes ten items (paper towels, toilet paper, cleaning cloth, sponges, comet cleaner, spray cleaner, dish-washing liquid, bucket, broom, and trash bags) and each of the GreeNest clients get one of the packs after shopping for furnishings for their new home. If this is you, and you want to be part of this Action Team, please contact Leigh Anna Voigt (LeighAnna@alcws.org) or call the church office (336-722-8144).

The Charity Reserve Fund is used to assist people in the community especially working through Crisis Control Ministry). This important fund has helped hundreds of people since 1954 when it was created. The Fund is replenished each year by gifts received by in special envelopes stamped, **Easter, Thanksgiving** and **Christmas** in your envelope packet, together with designated gifts throughout the year by members of the congregation. Contributions received in the special envelopes will be credited to the Charity Reserve Fund and used to assist those in need in the community.

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is the confidential discretionary fund used by the Pastors to assist those in need, both members and non-members. These funds are administered by the Pastors (at their discretion) to address needful situations. Contributions to either or both of these funds may be made throughout the year. Please make checks payable to: Augsburg Lutheran Church and note on the memo line "**Charity Reserve**" of "**Pastor's Discretionary Fund.**"

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips disciples to provide confidential, one-to-one emotional and spiritual care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. If you—or someone you know—could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please talk with one of our Pastors or Stephen Leaders.

Overflow Shelter Needs: Thank you for your generous response in filling the vacancies to meet the needs of those in our Overflow Shelter.

We need volunteers for these positions from December 24 – January 2:

December 24:	Partial Overnight Volunteer – 8:00 pm – 12:00 pm
December 28:	Overnight Volunteer – 8:00 pm – 6:30 am
December 29:	Guest Reception, Overnight Volunteer
December 31:	Guest Reception
January 2	Dinner for 30 – 7:15-9 pm

Additional details on the duties of these positions are listed on signup.com. Sign-up directly at <http://signup.com/go/AugsburgOverflow2018>, or contact Elizabeth Chéron (336-971-5472, eg.cheron@gmail.com), John Collins (336-408-1519, jchcollins@gmail.com) or Emily Norris (336-971-4897, harkinsemily@gmail.com) if you have questions or need assistance. Please help us out in any way you can.

Readings for next week: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52.

Worship attendance for services last week: 134 at 8:30; 203 at 11:00; 23 visitors.

Calendar for December 23–December 30

23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)

9:45a Fellowship Breakfast
(Family Life Center)

10:00a Sunday School

11:00a Advent Lessons and Carols Service
(Sanctuary)

24 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED

5:00p Christmas Eve Family Service
(Sanctuary)

7:30p Service of Holy Communion with
Candlelight
(Sanctuary)

11:00p Festival Service of Holy Communion with
Candlelight
(Sanctuary)

25 Tuesday

OFFICE CLOSED

10:30a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)

26 Wednesday

OFFICE CLOSED

30 First Sunday of Christmas

8:30a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)

9:45a Fellowship Breakfast
(Family Life Center)

10:00a Sunday School

11:00a Service of Holy Communion
(Sanctuary)

On Call: Pastor Lori Carter
336-414-2838
12/25-12/31



AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Emily Norris, Vicar, Dir. of Student and Social Ministries, Seminarian

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Director

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Adam Waldo, Organ Intern

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Michaelene Wirth, Parish Secretary

Reggie Jackson, Sexton

Stephanie Hickman, Sexton

Carl Davis, Substitute Sexton

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation