

Augustana Lutheran Church

2100 New Hampshire Avenue. N.W. Washington. D.C.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 2, 2007

TEN-THIRTY A.M.

We welcome all friends and visitors this morning to Augustana Lutheran Church, a congregation "Reconciled in Christ" that has been racially diverse since 1954. Please sign the guest register in the narthex and fill out the Attendance Registration booklet located in the pews. We invite you to join us for hospitality following the Celebration.

A nursery is available for children up to five years old; see an usher for information. After receiving Holy Eucharist, children meet their Sunday School teachers at the Truman Door and move to their classes in Rooms 303a and 303b.

THE PREPARATION AND ENTRANCE RITE

Aria Prepare Thyself, Zion (from the *Christmas Oratorio*) Johann Sebastian Bach

Prepare thyself Zion, in sweet expectation; the purest, the fairest soon comes to his bride.
You must show Him that your heart, with love o'er-flowing, welcomes the Bridegroom
who brings your salvation.

The Congregation stands as the bells are rung.

The Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, the God of goodness and lovingkindness, whose Son was sent to save us and whose Spirit is poured out on us and renews us. **Amen**

As people called out of darkness, let us confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of steadfastness and love, **we confess that we love the works of darkness more than your light. We have sought to satisfy our deepest longings through material things of creation rather than through you, our Creator. We are quick to judge others, yet we fail to see our own failings. We ignore the cries of the poor and grow weary of working for justice. Restore us, O God; let your face shine on us, that we may be saved. Amen**

Hear the glad tidings of God! The Word was made flesh and lived among us. Clothed in our humanity, Jesus Christ is not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters and claims us as beloved children of God through our baptism. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored to wholeness; in him we are free to serve God and our neighbor without fear. **Amen**

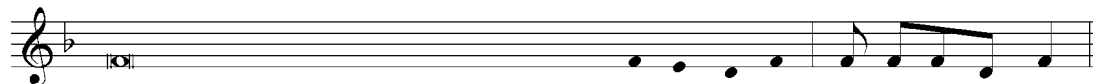
Entrance Hymn, No. 245

Creator of the Stars of Night

Stanza 1 sung by the Choir.

Fauxbourdon setting by Guillaume Dufay (early 15th century) follows stanza 3.

Apostolic Greeting



*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,*

*be with you all. **And al - so with you.***

Kyrie

Sung by the Choir.

Kyrie Cunctipotens genitor Deus

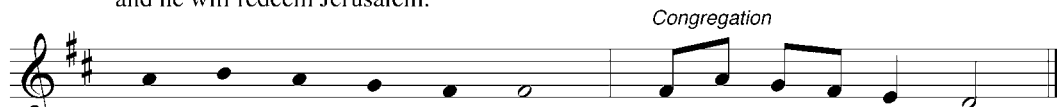
Mode II

Advent Responsory



*Re-joyce, O daugh-ter of Zi-on, **and ex-ult, O daugh-ter of Je-ru-sa-lem!***

Behold! The Lord shall come,
and in that day there shall be a great light,
and the mountains shall bring forth sweetness,
and the hills shall flow with milk and honey,
for a great Prophet is coming,
and he will redeem Jerusalem.



*The Lord, our com - ing King, **has - ten to a - dore Him.***

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



*The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.** Let us pray ... **A - men.***

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. **Amen**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Before the Gospel is read:



After the Gospel is read:



At the Returning Procession

**O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Sermon

The Congregation stands.

Hymn of the Day, No. 260

The King Shall Come

Sending of a Departing Member

Alison Martin

Rite of the Affirmation of Baptism – page 234

Neil Danberg
Ron DiGregorio
Randell Laughlin
Tracy Limmer
David McMahan
Bruce Miller

Prayers

Each petition concludes with one of the following responses:

God of mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us bless the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sharing of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Chorale, at the Offering Sleepers, Wake! (from Cantata 140) Johann Sebastian Bach

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing,
She eager wakes to greet the day.
Comes her Lord from heaven all-glorious, almighty, noble, true, victorious,
Her daystar dawns with brightest ray.
Now come, thou blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Hosianna!
We follow, all, the joyful call to join Him in the banquet hall.

Now let every tongue adore Thee, let saints and angels sing before Thee,
With harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal, where, joining angel choirs immortal,
We gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard such glorious things,
Eternal joy, io, io! Exult, in dulci jubilo!

The Congregation stands.

Offertory Hymn, No. 259 Fling Wide the Door
Stanza 1.

Offertory Verse and Prayer

Truly, the Lord's salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

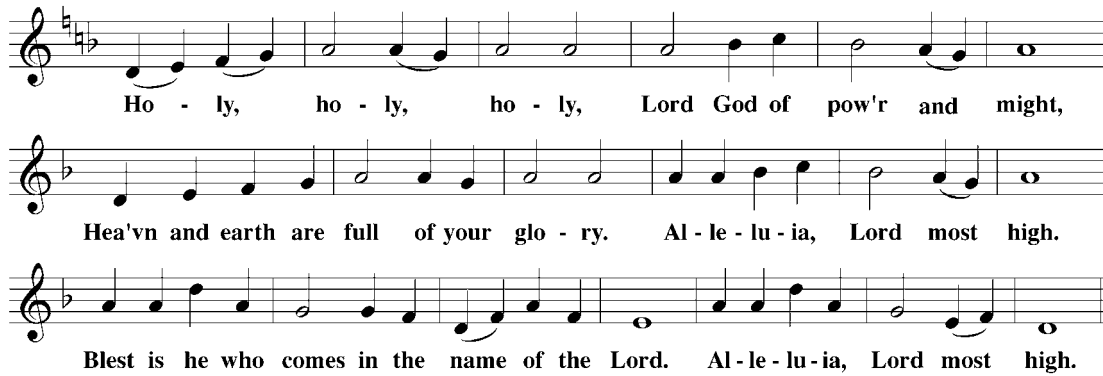


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

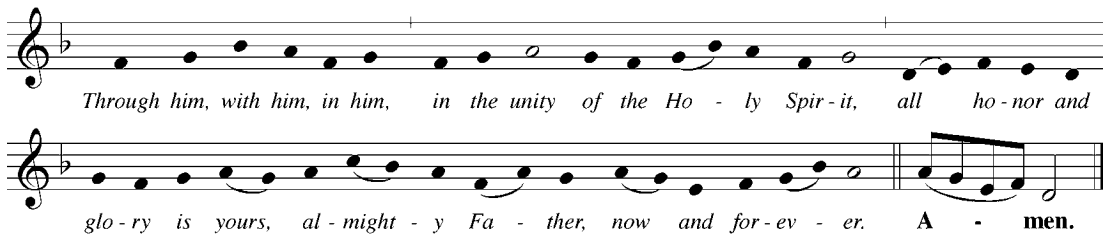
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus



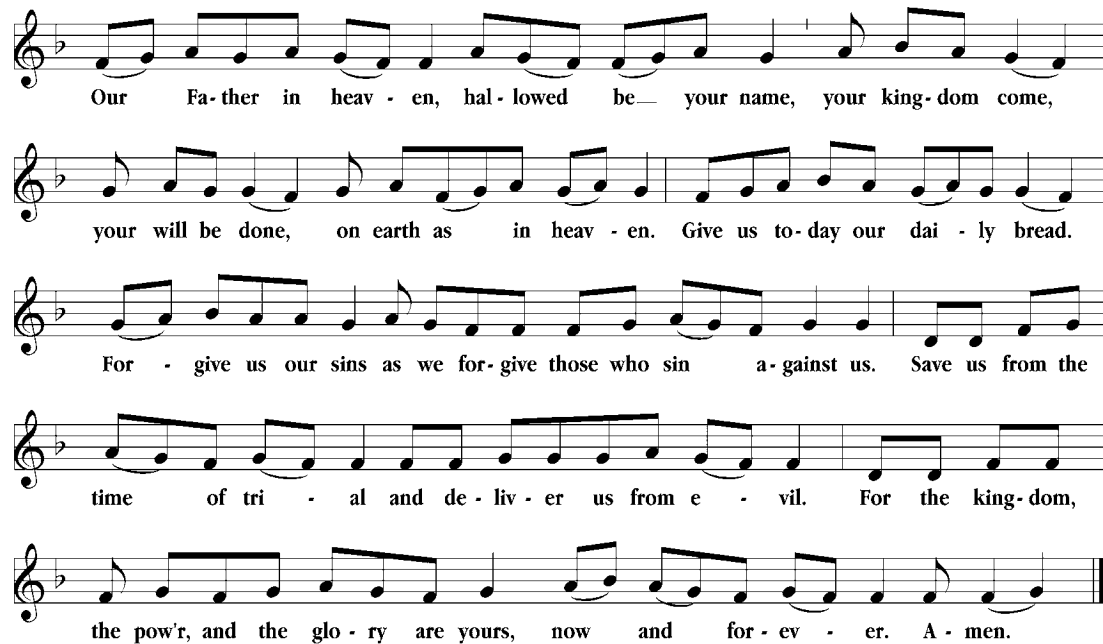
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of pow'r and might,
Hea'vn and earth are full of your glo - ry. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high.

Eucharistic Prayer and Doxology



*Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all ho - nor and
glo - ry is yours, al - might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men.*

The Lord's Prayer



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.

Agnus Dei

The Dona nobis pacem ("Grant us Thy peace") is sung in canon: first by the Choir, then the Pulpit side, then the Lectern side.



Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa-cem, do-na no - bis pa - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa-cem, do - na no - bis pa - - - cem.

Do - na no - bis pa-cem, do - na no - bis pa - - - cem.

The Distribution of the Blessed Sacrament

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Non-communicants are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Aria – Et exultavit (from the *Magnificat*)

Johann Sebastian. Bach

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Chorale – Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (from Cantata 147)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, Love most bright;

Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light.

Word of God our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned.

Striving still to Truth unknown, soaring, dying, round Thy throne.

THE POST-COMMUNION

The Congregation stands.

Eucharistic Blessing

Nunc dimittis, No. 201

Post-Communion Prayer

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Benediction

Hymn, No. 239

Hark, the Glad Sound

*The congregation turns to face the entrance of the church as the Procession passes.***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God!**Voluntary**

Suite III in D Major – Gigue

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Music of the Liturgy – The “O Antiphons” sung at the Gospel Procession date from the ninth century and were chanted, one each day, at Vespers before and after the Magnificat from December 17 to 23. Each antiphon opens with an ‘O,’ addressing the Messiah with one of his scriptural titles, and closes with a petition appropriate to the title. During the twelfth century these antiphons were collected into Latin verse and in the nineteenth century translated and compiled into the hymn, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”

The Cantatas of J. S. Bach – Like many Lutheran musicians of his day, Bach was required to compose and perform a cantata, accompanied by orchestra, for virtually every Sunday of the Church Year. Although he is thought to have written five complete cycles of cantatas, only about half of that music survives today. The three extant cantatas for the First Sunday of Advent (Nos. 36, 61, and 62) contain, among their various movements, six settings of Luther’s Advent hymn, “Savior of the Nations, Come” – ranging in scope from hymnbook-style presentations to elaborate polyphonic settings with instrumental interludes between the chorale phrases. We have collected these movements and provided English texts to form a Chorale Cantata for today’s service.

Servants at God’s Altar

Celebrant and Preacher	Norman Theiss
Deacon I	George Krafthofer
Deacon II	Rich Gillam
Lector	Nicole Ruman Skinner
Organist and Choirmaster	Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
The Parish Choir	
Vocal Soloists	Katherine Osborne, <i>Soprano</i> Betsy Miller, <i>Alto</i>
Instrumentalists	Harriet Vorona, Lisa Cridge, <i>Violin</i> Karine Rousseau, <i>Viola</i> Deborah Brudvig, <i>Cello</i> Ed Malaga, <i>Contrabass</i> Meg Owens, James Moseley, <i>Oboe</i> Dilyana Kirove, <i>Bassoon</i>

	Sonja Kahler, <i>Organ</i>
Crucifer	Paul Beddoe
Bookbearer	Chantelle Agbro
Torchbearers	Carolyn Gist, Monique Agbro
Ushers	Wayne Maffett, Eileen Crawford
Altar Guild	Alice Anderson, Salome Burton Marilynn Olson
Tellers	Michael Olson, Salome Burton Ron Mueller
Hospitality Hour Hosts	Lynn Fisher-Fox, Alan Fox, Brian Danaher

Parish Concerns

In our prayers, let us include the following:

+ **Members:** Aaron Bonds, Pearl Cox, Celia Davenport, Herman Davis, Sr, Dorothy Gladney, Jim Heinemeier; Renee Ivery, Bill Reid, Don Werner.

+ **Friends and Family:** Bill Barrows (Richter); Jeff Becker (Brian Gaston); Jeffrey Berry (Bob & Alice Anderson); Connie Boorer (Hunter); Edith Bowers (Bowers); Judith Bremner (Bradley); Melissa & Kevin Brown (Larisch); Judy Cashner (Cashner); The Cococzzella Family (Wassum) Teresa Cross (Knauff); Mindy Davis (Isbell); Ray “Bud” Erickson (Kennedy-Nash); Robert Kyle Evans (Schipp); Lyle Forness (Forness); Patricia Franks (Knauff); Pat Frohman (Hunter); Betty Grady (Werner); Leona Harper (Knauff); Mary Elizabeth Jacobs (Berube); Denise Kellam (Bucci); Sara Kepple (Richter); John Larson (Kahler-Larson); Randell Laughlin (Theiss); Sylvia Lauttamus (Lauttamus); Ann Lockwood (Werner); Frank & Celeste Lotz (Knauff); Sally Markle (Markle-Elder); Ken Merritt (Hunter); Bruno Muzzi (Markle-Elder); Chris Nelson (Burch-Nelson); Fernando Otero (Pizza); Marion Papacosta (Roth-Renne); Susan Papp (Lenhart/Ray); Rachelle Portner (Hart); Mary Ann Richardson (Kennedy-Nash); Veronica Richardson (Knauff); Norma Shirey (Hart); Iris and Juan Sosa (Leath); Deborah Tang (Burton); Caleb Richter-Tate (Richter); Nancy Telford (Richter); Richard Tepel (Schipp); Marion Wagley (Capps); Joan Wassum (Wassum); Nellikan Wernicke (Baerwald); Gay and John Wiant (Larisch); Pamela Wilson (Markle-Elder); Joleita Yurchak (Roth-Renne).

+ **In Christian Sympathy** with Ingrid Margrave of her brother-in-law, Elmer Margrave in Daytona Beach, Florida on Wednesday, November 21, 2007.

+ **God Speed and best wishes** for Alison Martin, who will be leaving our Augustana family to move to Oregon.

+ **In Christian Joy and welcome to Augustana’s six new members received today:** Neil Danberg, Ron DiGregorio, Randell Laughlin, Tracy Limmer, David McMahan and Bruce Miller.

Please greet our new members at the hospitality hour.

+ **The Augustana Call Committee:** Ruth Sorenson, Chair, Josephine Allen, Brian Danaher, Robert (Chip) Fenton, LeeAnn Hart, Tommie Robinson, Jr., and Rebecca Roth, *ex officio*.

Names remain on the prayer list for four weeks and may be renewed by notifying the office.

Gifts to the Glory of God: Today's Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Nicole, David and Bobby Skinner in honor of Katie Skinner's fourth birthday.

Join the Mortgage Madness Rush! Advent is here, and with the beginning of a new church year, renewal of our Mortgage Madness Campaign. Thanks to the generosity of members and friends – including \$5000 donated in recent weeks in memory of Ardelle Burton – we surpassed our goal of covering our monthly mortgage payments this past year and will be able to begin paying down the principal on our mortgage (more on that later). Now we need to match our generous giving of the past year by reaching and again surpassing our goal of raising \$120,000 to cover a year's mortgage payments. Already two generous donors have agreed each to cover one month's payment of \$10,000, so we're on our way. Any amount – small or large – can be contributed, clearly designated for Accessibility. Some possible benchmarks: \$333 = one day; \$2,500 = one week; \$5,000 = two weeks; and \$7,500 = three weeks. Contributed last week: \$667.00

-- Today – Advent One --

We begin the Advent season and open the new Church Year this morning with the cantata, “Savior of the Nations, Come” by J. S. Bach. The choir is joined by soloists and accompanied by an ensemble of violins, viola, cello, bass, oboes, bassoon, and organ. We offer this special music as a way for all us to prepare for the coming of our Lord.

Adult Forum: 9:15 a.m. – Library -- "Repentance, Faith, Holiness, and Love."

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon – The Peaceful Kingdom

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: After receiving Communion, the children exit via the Truman Door for their Classrooms – Rooms 303a and 303b.

Food donations for our holiday baskets and the Food Pantry are greatly appreciated and will be received throughout the month of December. (See Pink Insert for shopping list)

Gifts of Hope – Social Hall during the Hospitality Hour

Equal Exchange Coffee, Tea, Chocolate in the Social Hall during the Hospitality Hour

Christmas Flowers and Greens: Donations being accepted by Worship and Music Committee during the Hospitality Hour. (See Blue Insert for 2007 Donation Form)

All Committee Meet – Noon

Christian Education Committee – Library

Nominating Committee – Room 118

Property Committee – Room 301

Social Ministry Committee – Will Not Meet Today – Will meet next week

Stewardship Committee – Room 302

Worship and Music Committee – Choir Room

Listening: Practicing Simple Presence meeting – Library – 1:00 pm

-- This Week --

Monday, December 3rd: Call Committee Meeting with Bishop Graham – 7:30 p.m. – Library

Thursday, December 6th: Choir rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room

Friday, December 7th: Taizé Prayer & Labyrinth Walk – Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 South Arlington Ridge Road, Arlington, VA 22202.

-- Next Sunday, December 9, 2007 – Advent Two --

Adult Forum: 9:15 a.m. -- Library

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon – Mary and the Angel

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Lessons: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Hospitality Hosts: Irene and Jim Heinemeier

Join the Augustana Choir and fellow Augustana members for a Carol Sing at the National Lutheran Home following our hospitality hour. We encourage all members to meet and greet the residents of the National Lutheran home and enjoy caroling with Dr. Mitts and our choir.

- Upcoming Events and Misc. Announcements -



During the Sundays of Advent, Adult Forum will feature a special Bible study, "Repentance, Faith, Holiness, and Love." The series will examine the special meaning of Advent as a time of quiet waiting, self-reflection, and devotion in anticipation of the coming of Christ. Each week will focus on a special theme that will illuminate the simplicity and harmony of the season (in

contrast to the hectic busy-ness of the pre-Christmas period) and provide us with a renewed appreciation for this time of preparation. Adult Forum meets at 9:15 a.m. in the library.

Help Wanted: Augustana Lutheran Church is looking for a new Treasurer. Brian Shannon is stepping down as Treasurer after serving in that role for three years. The position will start in January 2008. The position is primarily check writing and input on the Finance Committee. Anyone interested can contact Brian Shannon (202) 364-4425.

Sunday, December 16th: Mark your calendar and plan to attend Augustana's Lucia Fest on December 16th at 5:00 p.m. A beautifully meditative Vespers service precedes the children's program. An Augustana tradition for more than 45 years, the Swedish tradition is a celebration for all to enjoy. All Augustana youth are invited to participate as Nissen, Star Boys, Lucia Queen and her court, banner bearers and more! As we gather in the spectacularly decorated Social Hall for a reception of Swedish inspired treats, the children continue the festive spirit as they invite all attending to enjoy the Lucycat buns!! For more information contact Ruth Sorenson at rutharne@gmail.com Volunteers for treats – always welcome!!

Gifts of Hope – Sunday, December 2nd, 9th, and 16th: As is our annual tradition, we will once again this holiday season offer members of Augustana the opportunity to select some unique Christmas gifts – gifts that provide for daily needs, gifts that build for the future, and gifts that bring joy. Among the beneficiaries this year are N Street Village, National Lutheran Home, Community Family Life Services, Fellowship Square Foundation, Lutheran Churches in Namibia, the Lutheran Church in El Salvador, Lutheran Social Services, Transitional Housing Corporation, Southeast Ministry, Mar-Lu-Ridge and the Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Gifts range greatly and include such items as a trip to the beauty shop, a basket of books, bus tokens, resettlement kits, a university scholarship, a week of summer camp, bed liners, ice cream treats and many others.

We have a special opportunity to support the construction of a permanent building for a kindergarten in northern Namibia. This is the home area of Augustana's own Iipumbu family. They have requested support from Augustana for this worthy effort. Currently, the kindergarten now meets in a tent under a tree. The class of kids is growing and they need a permanent building. Your contribution will support the purchase of windows, doors, and cement blocks. There are so many ways to make a difference with Gifts of Hope!

Please see Grace Morgan during the hospitality hour to make your selections. This is a wonderful way to get started on your holiday shopping.

December 2, 2007

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

INTRODUCTION

Of one thing we can be certain: our fragile, mortal lives will come to an end. We know neither the day nor the hour. Yet with our hearts enlightened by faith, we know that Christ--our life and our resurrection--is already with us in his word, his baptismal promise, his body and blood, his community of faith. We have been grasped and held for all time with Christ's steadfast love. In these gifts of grace, the people of God rejoice. Indeed, if there is any urgency, it concerns our mission in this fragile, broken world that yearns for light, life, and salvation.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In 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.

³Many 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.

⁴He 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.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

SECOND READING:

Romans 13:11-14

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; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But 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. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."



Mission Statement of Augustana Lutheran Church

“It is the purpose of Augustana Lutheran Church to engage as many persons as will share its confession of faith in a fellowship of worship, learning, witness and service that the Word of God in Jesus Christ may become effective in their lives together and individually and relate effectively in Christian concern and love to the geographic community within which the Church is located.”

Augustana Lutheran Church

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(202) 234-5312 – Voicemail – (202) 234-5724 – FAX

<http://www.Augustanadc.org>

Office@Augustanadc.info (email)

The Rev. Norman C. Theiss, Interim Pastor

Dr. J. Thomas Mitts, Organist and Choir Director

William R. Riggs, Office Administrator

Marcial Pacheco, Building Maintenance Supervisor

Deborah Young, Nursery Attendant

2007 Congregational Council

Larry Anthony, Secretary – Judi Bucci –

Ben Cutler – Irene Heinemeier – Matt Larson

John McKirgan – Patricia Richter –

Rebecca Roth, Vice President

Barbara Solt – Arne Sorenson

Tom VandenBosch

Parents: A nursery is available for children up to five years old.

See an usher for directions

Parking is available at the Reeves Center – 14th & U Streets

Please enter on U Street. From 10 am – 4 pm on Sundays

First Come, First Served

