

Augustana Lutheran Church

2100 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT OFFICE OF SOLEMN VESPERS

DECEMBER 17, 2006

SIX-THIRTY O'CLOCK PM

The Evening Prayer of the Church invokes the atmosphere of Eastern Orthodox liturgical practice. The Silences offer opportunity for reflection on the psalms and lesson. The use of incense represents the sacrifice of prayer, symbolically ascending to heaven as well as pervading the senses.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

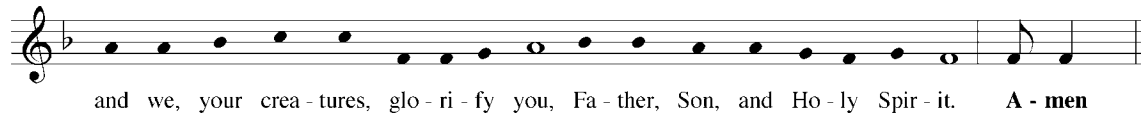
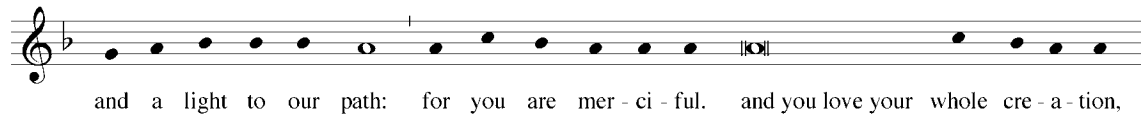
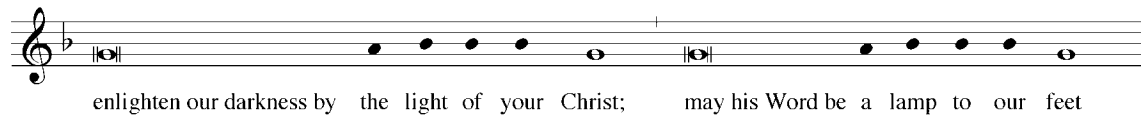
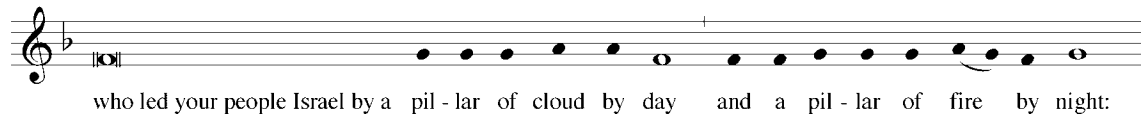
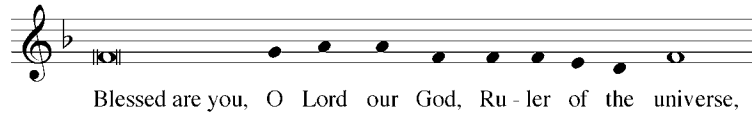
Opening Procession

The Congregation stands.



Hymn of Light, No. 229

Thanksgiving for Light



The Congregation is seated. The service continues on page 312 at the front of the hymnal.

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 141

Silence and Prayer

Psalm 97:1a, 8-9, 11-12

Sung by the Choir.

Silence and Prayer

Lesson

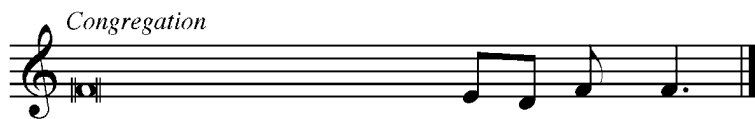
John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Silence and Response



Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.



Whoever follows me will never walk in dark-ness."

The Congregation stands.

Magnificat – Canticle of the Turning, No. 723

Stanzas sung by the Soloist; Refrain sung by All.

Litany – page 316 at the front of the hymnal

The Lord's Prayer

The Congregation is seated.

Anthem

Creator of the Stars of Night

Plainsong

The Congregation stands. The service continues on page 319 at the front of the hymnal.

Benedicamus and Benediction

Hymn, No. 239

Hark, the Glad Sound!

THE SANTA LUCIA FESTIVAL



Tomtenissar and Tomtenissor

Traditional Swedish carol with flute

Nu är det Juligen

This Little Light of Mine

Så Mork är Nattan

Cecil-Bercil Anestig

Lucia Song, at the Procession

Sung in Swedish

Santa Lucia, radiant apparition, spread in our dark homes your beauty's brilliance. Now is Lucia day, it now can be heard in every gathering: Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

In darkest wintertime appearing so light and gentle, whispering of Christmas peace, Santa Lucia. In memory, how fair you are, feeling of Christmas you bring. Because of this we love you: Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

The night moves with heavy steps around farm and cottage, around the earth that the sun forgot the shadows brood. Then in our dark house enters with candles lit: Santa Lucia! Santa Lucia!

Santa Lucia Legend

Augustana Youth

Fanfare – Prepare the Royal Highway

Bereden Väg för Herran

Saint Stephen's Song

Sung by the Starboys in Swedish

Stephen was a stablehand, we gladly show thanks, he washes his five colts, all because of the bright star. Now dawn can yet be seen, the stars in heaven glitter.

Now is Christmas in our homes, we gladly show thanks, Christmas tree and Christmas lights, all because of the bright star. No dawn can yet be seen, the stars in heaven glitter.

Poem

Pauline Hancock

Song

Nu Tändas Tusen Juleljus

Sung in Swedish

Now thousand Christmas lights are lit on Earth's dark sphere and thousand, thousand shine also on heaven's deep firmament.

And over town and land this night, travels Christmas' happy news, that born is Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and God.

In every heart, poor and dark, you send a ray so gentle, a ray of light of God's love is blessed Christmastime.

Lucia Recessional

You are cordially invited to honor our

Lucia Queen, Julia Reed

and her attendants at a gala reception in

the Social Hall following the service.

Lucy Kats will be served.

Join us as we celebrate the coming of the Christ Child:

Monday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Service at 10:00 p.m.
Lessons & Carols, Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, December 25th
Christmas Day Service at 10:30 a.m.
“Come as you are” Celebration with Holy Eucharist
for children of all ages

Servants at God’s Altar

Liturgist The Rev. Norm Theiss
Lector Irene Heinemeier

Thurifer Douglas Anderson
Organist and Choirmaster Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
The Parish Choir
Cantors Don Werner, Ruth Ann Reshan
Ushers Alan Sutherland



Participants in the Lucia Pageant

Lucia Queen
Julia Reed

Starboys
Tomtenissar and Tomtenissor
Attendants and Members of Court
The Children of Augustana

*The annual Lucia fest and Pageant are made possible by the collective effort of many people.
In addition to those who participate in the Pageant,
there are many who work behind the scenes.
To all those who make this evening an enjoyable one, we extend our appreciation.*