

Gloria



Glo - ry be to God on high, peace on earth, good will to all.
O Lord God, O Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther:
Thou a - lone art Ho - ly Lord, Je - sus Christ, the Most High,



Bless - ing, thanks and praise to Thee, Heav'n - ly King, al - might - y God.
Thou who tak - est sins a - way, Par - don us, re ceive our prayer.
With the Spir - it glo - ri - fy God the Fa ther. A - men.



Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,



Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



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

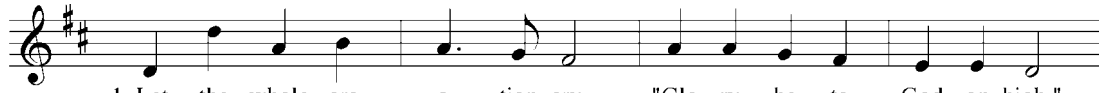
Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

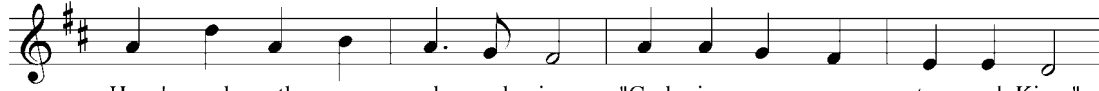
First Lesson

Isaiah 63:7-9

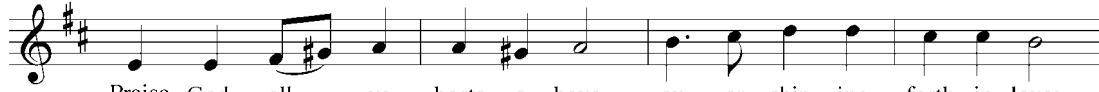
Psalm 148



1. Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry be to God on high."
2. Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them man - i - fold;



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "God is our e - ter - nal King."
join with chil - dren's songs of praise, wor - ship God through length of days.



Praise God, all ye hosts a - bove, ev - er shin - ing forth in love;
From the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, up - lift your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice!
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Second Lesson

Hebrews 2:10-18

Gradual Hymn, No. 288 – Stanzas 1-2

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

The Congregation stands.

Holy Gospel

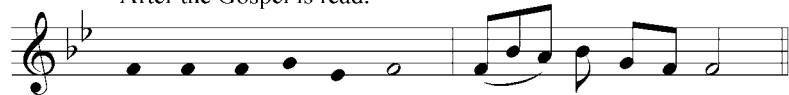
Matthew 2:13-23

The Gospel is announced:



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ___ chapter. Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel is read:



The Gos - pel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn No. 288 – Stanza 3

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Sermon

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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

Each petition concludes with one of the following responses:

God of grace and truth: **Hear our prayer..**

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

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sharing of Peace

Anthem

The Coventry Carol

English, arr. Martin Shaw

The Congregation stands.

Offertory Hymn, No. 275

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

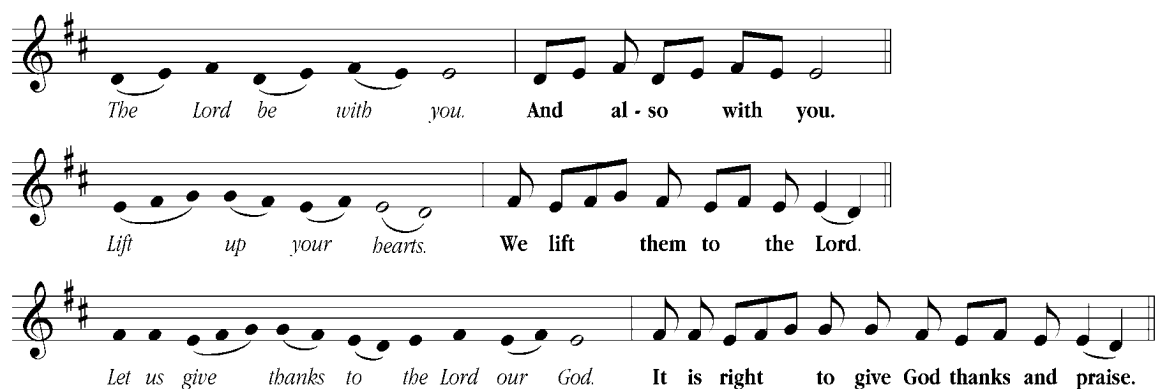
Stanzas 1 and 4.

Offertory Verse and Prayer

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, and the
glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

God of wonder, **we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and
mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know
the riches of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 God thanks and praise.

Preface and Sanctus

It is in-deed right and sal - u - tar - y... we praise your name and join their un-end - ing hymn:

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

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:



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.



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.



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



The Lord's Prayer

Five staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: '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

Sung by the Choir.

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

Anthem

The Moon Shines Bright

English, arr. John Stainer

Hymn, No. 284

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

THE POST-COMMUNION

The Congregation stands.

Eucharistic Blessing

Nunc dimittis

Lord, bid your servant go in peace, your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.
This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.

Post-Communion Prayer

Merciful God, renew us by your Holy Spirit, poured out richly in this meal,
and renew all creation with your loving kindness until all the ends of the
earth rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen

Benediction

Hymn, No. 292

Love Has Come

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

Dismissal

Go in peace.
Your light has come.
Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Gerald Near

Servants at God's Altar

Celebrant and Preacher	Norman Theiss
Deacon I	Patricia Richter
Deacon II	Kelly Bowers
Lector	Jim Heinemeier
Organist and Choirmaster	J. Thomas Mitts
The Parish Choir	
Crucifer	TBA
Thurifer	TBA
Bookbearer	TBA
Torchbearers	TBA

Ushers	Alan Sutherland, Eileen Crawford, Wayne Maffett
Altar Guild	Alice Anderson, Salome Burton, Marilynn Olson
Tellers	John McKirgan, Ruth Hunter Tom VandenBosch
Hospitality Hosts	Betsy Knauff

Parish Concerns

In our prayers, let us include the following:

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

+ **Friends and Family:** Bill Barrows (Richter); Jeffrey Berry (Bob & Alice Anderson); Connie Boorer (Hunter); Edith Bowers (Bowers); Judith Bremner (Bradley); Melissa & Kevin Brown (Larisch); Judy Cashner (Cashner); The Cocozzella 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); Ann Lockwood (Werner); Frank & Celeste Lotz (Knauff); 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); Dave & Chris Sharp (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); Cay and John Wiant (Larisch); Pamela Wilson (Markle-Elder); Joleita Yurchak (Roth-Renne).

+ **In Christian Sympathy** with family and friends, of Deborah Tang especially Salome Burton. Ms. Tang died on Christmas Day.

+ **In Christian Joy** with our members Korey Berg and Esther Rege who will be married at Augustana on December 31st. Congratulations and best wishes to the newly married couple.

+ **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, Katie and Bobby Skinner in celebration of Grandmother Barb Ruman's birthday. The chart for 2008 Gifts to the Glory of God has now been posted on the bulletin outside the office. Please sign up.

Thank you to the congregation for your generosity in supporting our Augustana-Santa Maria pantry and the Christmas food baskets for the needy. After Thanksgiving, our pantry was empty, but you responded by providing everything from apple sauce to yams, baked beans to toothpaste, and everything else but the kitchen sink. We were able to give food to eighteen (18!) families and friends of Augustana and Santa Maria this year! Many thanks to Christmas elves: Brian Danaher, Celia Davenport, Judy Floy, Sharon Kaya, Marcial Pacheco, Patricia Richter, Bill Riggs and Norm Theiss.

Augustana's Social Ministries Committee extends its thanks for your support of our sales of "Fair Trade" coffee, tea, chocolate, and nuts. The sales were very strong through the month of December, with proceeds benefiting Lutheran World Relief efforts. Please tell Eric Luttamus, Sara Markle-Elder and Eddie Van Aken how much we appreciate their marketing skills! Have you bought your new Augustana bistro-style coffee mug yet?

Update on Gifts of Hope: Again this year members of Augustana overwhelmingly supported the 2008 Gifts of Hope Project. We were able to send a check in the amount of **\$4,850.00** to the Metropolitan DC Synod in support of the various programs. Twenty-seven (27) different projects were given to by our members. Just a couple of examples, we gave twenty nutritious meals through Fellowship Square Foundation, eighteen baskets of books were donated to the Southeast Ministry, and fifteen donations were made for Bread and Milk for Children in El Salvador. Additionally, this year Augustana had a special congregational Gifts of Hope choice, which was the support of building a new school building in Namibia. This project sponsored by former Augustana member Immanuel Iithete and his family was given an amazing amount of **\$2,127.00** a check in support of the school will be sent to Mr. Iithete. **Thank you to all who made this a marvelous year for Gifts of Hope.**

2008 Offering Envelopes are available for all members and friends this morning in the Narthex. Please take a minute to pick up your envelopes. All envelopes not picked up after January 6th, will have to be mailed to our members. The cost of each mailing is over \$4.00. Your help and cooperation in getting these envelopes distributed will be appreciated.

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: \$4,622.00

Many thanks to all who have pledged to Augustana's 2008 Mission Plan. As of December 9, 49 member units had pledged a total of \$177,448.96. Weekly pledges range from \$2.00 to \$325.00, resulting in an average weekly pledge of \$69.64. If you have not yet pledged, please return your pledge card and time & talent form ASAP in the Sunday offering or mail to the church office. **We need your commitment.**

Please complete your 2007 pledge by year's end. We count on 2007 pledges to balance our budget. Additional gifts help us to meet unanticipated needs.

Please note: The Augustana Church office will close at 3:00 pm on Monday, December 31st. To be sure that your gifts are credited to 2007 payments *must* be received or postmarked by December 31st. **To ensure the deductibility of your gifts to Augustana, please do not file your 2007 tax returns until you have received your year-end statement.** The Internal Revenue Service warns that you may lose the deduction for some donations if your file your tax returns before receiving written acknowledgement of your charitable contributions. Year-end statements that comply with all tax law requirements will be mailed by our Financial Secretary Jon Quam before the end of January.

-- Today –The First Sunday of Christmas --

Adult Forum: will not meet today
Sunday School: will not meet today
Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

-- This Week --

Monday, December 31st: Church Offices close at 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 1st: Church Offices closed
Thursday, January 3rd: Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. – Choir Room
Saturday, January 5th: Augustana Volunteers assist with the distribution of food at Martha's Table. If you can help, please contact Amy Yergey at 301/294-9185.



-- Next Sunday, January 6, 2008 – The Epiphany of Our Lord --

Adult Forum: 9:15 a.m. – Library – “Living the Good News: Epiphany Joy”

Sunday School will not meet – See announcement about Day of Three Kings below.

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Hospitality Hosts: Sonvy Waidler, John McKirgan, Eileen Crawford

Fair Trade First Sunday: Sales of coffee, tea, chocolate and mugs will resume on a monthly basis.

Day of Three Kings – Tres Reyes: Children of Iglesia Santa Maria and Augustana have been invited to attend hospitality time for special fun.

- Upcoming Events and Misc. Announcements -

Gifts for the Christ Child: Our annual recognition of the needy will kick off next week and last throughout the Epiphany season. Please think about what baby supplies, equipment, and other amenities you can donate to a new family starting out in difficult circumstances. We plan to donate to families at Transitional Housing Corporation (THC), a faith-based, District-based, non-profit that provides housing and comprehensive support services to homeless and at-risk families so that they can make transformational changes in their lives. More information to come next week!

Sunday School will resume January 13th January 6th will be our Three Kings Day celebration during Hospitality Hour.

Monday, January 14th – Wednesday, January 16th – Synod Prayer Resources Group’s Winter Retreat (See Yellow Insert)

Sunday, January 27th: Augustana Annual Meeting following services. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

February 8th and 9th -- Mark your calendar for Augustana's 2008 retreat! --

Augustana's next congregational retreat is scheduled for February 8th and 9th (the first weekend in Lent) at the Singmaster Center on the campus of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. We will be exploring the theme of wilderness as a symbol of the Lenten journey. Further information and details will be forthcoming in the Sunday bulletins and the January newsletter. (See Lavender Insert)



December 30, 2007

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

INTRODUCTION

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said,

"Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely";
and he became their savior ⁹in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10–18

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

¹³And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.



GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13–23

Matthew relates the slaughter of babies in Bethlehem as one example of evil in the world. Jesus has been born into this world to manifest God's presence and save his people from their sins.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead. ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."



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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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