

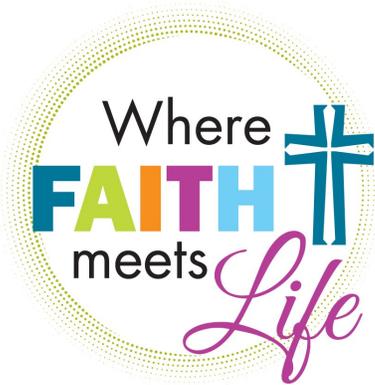
# Welcome to worship at **Augustana** Lutheran Church

**April 15, 2018, 11:00 am**

**Liturgical Season: Easter**

*What does this mean?*

The church celebrates Easter for fifty days. We call Sundays during this time Sundays of Easter, as the church truly rejoices in Christ's resurrection during this entire time. Easter lasts until Pentecost, and includes The Ascension of Our Lord, which marks the day Christ ascended bodily into heaven. We keep our paraments white and our praises bold, giving thanks for the new life we receive because Jesus conquered death.



**Today's Theme: Calling**

**Jesus calls all kinds of people, people we may least expect, including ourselves,  
to do God's work in this world.**

**Opening Song** *Everyday* Joel Houston

**Announcements**

**Temple Talk** Targeted Violence Preparedness Tim Leslie  
Dakota County Sheriff

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**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God

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**Praise Music** *Love the Lord* Lincoln Brewster

*Lead Me, Lord* Elizabeth Goodine/  
Wayne Goodine

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## WORD

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God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song

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*We encounter God in the word.  
That encounter can take various  
forms in our worship. God's word  
comes to us through the pattern of  
the lectionary and church year.  
God's word is proclaimed in preach-  
ing and singing. We can see God's  
word in art and architecture  
throughout the church. Scripture  
tells us Jesus is God's Word made  
human.*

### Lesson

Acts 9:1-19a

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Today in worship, be attentive to all the different ways you encounter the word of God. Listen for a particular moment when you hear God's word most clearly for your life. When you hear that message, write yourself a note on your bulletin, in your smartphone, on an offering envelope, someplace that will serve as a reminder throughout your week.*

### Sermon Questions for Reflection

Which of the two characters in today's story can you relate to the most and why?

Do you have a conversion story? Have you ever shared it with someone?

Why was Ananias reluctant to do what God asked him to do in our story for today?

What would happen if God called you by name and you responded like Ananias and said, "Here I am Lord." How might this change your life? How might God use you to do God's work in the world?

### Anthem

*He's Always Been Faithful*

arr. Sara Groves

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.**

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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### RESPONSE AND MEAL

We respond to the Word, and God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

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### The Prayers

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer**

### Words of Institution

*We welcome you to Holy Communion. We extend the hand of Christian fellowship and invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior to participate as His guest at His table. Communion will be by intinction, meaning that we will hand you a wafer and ask that you dip it into the wine. We have non-wheat wafers available; simply notify the pastor when you come forward. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to receive a blessing. Please indicate your participation in Communion on the Connection Card in the bulletin. If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, please notify an usher and a pastor will come to you.*

### Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Communion Distribution/Offering**      *Your Name*      Baloché/Packam

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### SENDING

The Holy Spirit sends us into the world

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### Benediction

Worship Leader:

Amen, Amen!

I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives!

**Congregation:**

**Amen, Amen!**

**Let my song join the one that never ends**

**Because He lives,**

**Because He Lives!**

**Closing Song**      *Everyday*      Joel Houston

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*The benediction leaves us with one last good word, a promise of God's presence and sustenance. In the sending, we challenge each other to go out into the world and live those blessings in our words and actions. You are blessed to be a blessing.*

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### SERVING TODAY

Pastor Mark Aune

Pastor Megan Torgerson

Intern Kiara Jorgenson

Music Director: Lisa Griffin

Band Members: Marcae Bitzer, Jodi Tripp, Dave Hofgren, Matt McIntyre, Nathan Fryett

Media Team: Scott Maleska  
Wayne Worth

Lay Readers: Michelle Henry

Following worship we invite you to stop at the Information Center. It is staffed with individuals eager to answer any questions you may have. You are welcome to pick up our monthly newsletter, Augustana Life, at the Information Kiosk in the Narthex. It is also available online at [www.augustana.com](http://www.augustana.com), click on RESOURCES. Augustana uses the Narrative Lectionary as a basis for our weekly Bible readings. Next week we will read Acts 16:16-34.

**Augustana**  
Lutheran Church

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