

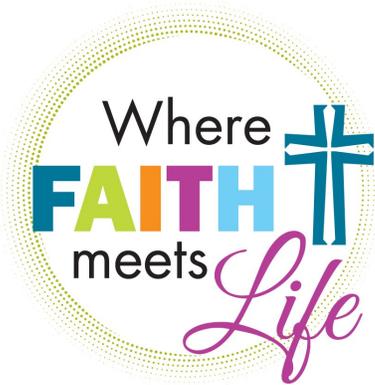
Welcome to worship at **Augustana** Lutheran Church

April 15, 2018, 8:30 & 9:45 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.



We're glad you're worshipping with us today! As you enter worship please honor the holiness and prayerfulness of the Sanctuary. We love having children in worship! If your child needs a break, our nursery is staffed during the 9:45 am service. Large print bulletins and listening assistance devices are available from the ushers.

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.

Prelude *I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger* arr. Tammy Waldrop
Alleluia Bells

Announcements

Temple Talk Targeted Violence Preparedness Tim Leslie
Dakota County Sheriff

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as His people

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness ELW pg. 94

Opening Hymn *The Day of Resurrection* ELW #361
st. 1,2,3

Greeting

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.

Kyrie ELW pg. 138

Hymn of Praise *This Is the Feast* ELW pg. 140

The Hymn of Praise (which begins with "This is the feast...") is a modern canticle using text drawn from the Book of Revelation (Rev. 5: 9, 12, 13; Rev. 7:10, 12; Rev. 19:4, 6-9) joining Pass-over and Easter, with a glimpse of the end times and Christ's second coming. It is sung during the 7 weeks of the Easter Season because this text focuses on the Easter victory of the "Lamb who was slain..."

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we praise your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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 preaching and singing. We can see God's word in art and architecture throughout the Sanctuary and church. Scripture tells us Jesus is God's Word made human.

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.

WORD

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song

Anthem (8:30)

Guide Us, Lord
Chorister Choir

arr. Mark Patterson

(9:45)

At the Name of Jesus
Senior Choir

Lloyd Larson

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.

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?

Hymn of the Day

In Christ Called to Baptize

ELW #575

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.

RESPONSE

A time to respond to God with our gifts and prayers

Offering

“Adagio” from *Sonata in G Minor*
Beth Blackledge, flute

J.S. Bach

Offertory Response

(8:30)
(9:45)

Let the Vineyards
Create in Me

ELW #182
ELW #186

The Prayers

After each portion of the prayers:
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Words of Institution (8:30)

The Meal portion of the liturgy begins with two elements: the offering and setting the table. The text of the offertory song focuses on either our grateful response to the gifts of God and/or God’s grace to be received in Holy Communion. Generally, we use the text from Psalm 51:10-12 (“Create in me. . .”) to offer our hearts to God, fully aware that we need God’s mercy to restore our hearts to receive salvation. When we celebrate Holy Communion we use “Let the vineyards” to focus on God’s grace given to us through the bread and wine.

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.

Distribution of Holy Communion (8:30)

Distribution Music (8:30)

With High Delight

arr. Ernst Pepping

Communion Prayer (8:30)

Radiant God, in this meal we have been joined together with you and all your saints. May your Word sustain and fill us, that we may be your holy people, giving us the vision to follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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!

SENDING

The Holy Spirit sends us into the world

Benediction

The blessing of almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, give you vision and courage, now and forever. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Hear God's call.

Thanks be to God

Closing Hymn

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW # 389
st. 1,3-5

Postlude

Christ Is Alive!

arr. Wayne Kerr

† † †

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Mark Aune

Pastor Megan Torgerson

Intern Kiara Jorgenson

Dr. Kristina Langlois, Organist

Kathy Andrews, Senior Choir Director

Kim Zemple, Chorister Choir Director

Janet Metcalfe, Bell Choir Director

Lay Readers: 8:30 Martha Barsness

9:45 Jonathan Wagner

Acolytes: 9:45 Grace Wellbrock

Jack Chamberlain

Following worship we invite you to stop at the Information Center. It is staffed with individuals eager to answer your questions.

You are welcome to pick up our monthly newsletter, Augustana Life, at the Information Kiosk in the Narthex. It is also available online at 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.

Today's Scripture is taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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Lutheran Church

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