

Augustana Lutheran Church

102 Jonathan Blvd. N., Chaska, Minnesota 55318
Worship: 9:30 AM with Bible Class following the service

General Prayer

Advent 4

December 18, 2011

Volume 8, Number 4

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The Gloria Patri chanted by the Pastor

Hymns:

70 *Hosanna to the Living Lord*

63 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

65 *When Sinners See Their Lost Condition*

62 *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

A Prophet from among Their Brethren

Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

The Presence of the Lord Gives Joy

Gospel

John 1:19-28

The Testimony of Johns

Sermon

John 1:19-28

Pastor Diers

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS in the name of Jesus Christ! Augustana Lutheran Church confesses and practices the full truth of God's Word, a heritage passed down to us by Luther, and confirmed in the public confessions of our church. We believe that the Bible in all its parts is inspired by the Holy Spirit, error-free, and the only source of divine revelation and absolute truth. If you have any questions about such Bible doctrine, or about our congregation, please direct them to Pastor Diers.

O heavenly Father, who hast made all things in heaven and earth to serve thy will and to witness to thy glory and goodness, we give thee our humble and joyful thanks for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for the salvation thou hast provided for all men in him.

With contrite hearts we turn to thee, O God. We acknowledge our transgressions and confess that we have failed to do the good which we ought to have done, and that we have done the evil which we ought not to have done. Awaken us to our need of daily repentance and renewal. Grant us the remission of all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ and his merits, that we may have that peace which passes all understanding. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by thy Holy Spirit. Sanctify the words of our lips by the indwelling of Christ our Lord. Perfect in purity and holiness the works of our hands by obedience to thy Word.

And now, in the assurance that thou art nigh to all who call upon thee in truth, we pray for all men everywhere. Let thy Spirit prevail in every home and school, in every shop and store, and in every kind of labor or industry. Show forth thy honor and glory to the nations of the earth; overthrow all who would hinder the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Support and preserve all who are persecuted for his Name's sake. Be with the homeless, the fatherless, the comfortless, and help them in their affliction to trust in thee, sending them such deliverance as shall turn their hearts and bring them to a confession of that Name which is above every name, Jesus Christ.

Make thy face to shine upon the wounded in spirit, the sick in mind, and the distressed in heart. Accompany all who are away from home in any service or calling with thy light and love. Send thy aid and comfort to the captives, the desolate, and all who are in peril of life or soul. Be gracious onto the sick and the aged, those who anguish, the dying and those who mourn their passing; lift up thy countenance upon them and give them the perfect peace of thy holy child Jesus.

We pray, O heavenly Father, that we might receive by faith and with thanksgiving, the gift that no words can describe, Jesus Christ our Lord. Make

our hearts his dwelling place, that we may know the joy of his presence, the blessing of following in his steps, and the glory of that crown which he has promised to all who are his in steadfastness of faith and life. In his Name. Amen.

Augustana Lutheran Church

Pastor Martin Diers

Pastor Bruce King

*Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets
Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone*

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 2011

Announcements

Our Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner follows after the divine service.

Saturday: Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm. Following the service, all are invited to the Dave and Linda Diers home for food and fellowship.

Next Sunday: Christmas Day, Christmas Festival Worship at 9:30 am



Augustana Lutheran Church

<http://augustana.us>

The Ministry of the Word

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 18:15-19

The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear, according to all you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die.’ And the LORD said to me: ‘What they have spoken is good. ‘I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. ‘And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him.

EPISTLE LESSON Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL LESSON and SERMON TEXT John 1:19-28

Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?” He said: “I am ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the LORD,”’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. And they asked him,

saying, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. “It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.” These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.