



# Ascension Lutheran Church

4th Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 20, 2020

## PRELUDE

Hark! The Glad Sound (*Michael Burkhardt*)

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MUSICAL OFFERING

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*v. 1, 5, 7*)

ELW 257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

**PRAYER**

P: Let us pray... Lord God, A fourth candle burns on our Advent wreath, first—a sign of hope, second—a sign of peace, third—a sign of joy—now a message of love. God of love come to us again this Advent. May your love live within us, burning as a light in our lives. Amen.

C: **Amen.**

**MUSICAL OFFERING****How Many Kings** (*Germain/Martel*)

Follow the star to a place unexpected  
 Would you believe after all we've projected  
 A child in a manger  
 Lowly and small the weakest of all  
 Unlikeliest hero wrapped in His mother's shawl  
 Just a child  
 Is this who we've waited for 'cause

How many kings stepped down from their thrones  
 How many lords have abandoned their homes  
 How many greats have become the least for me  
 And how many gods have poured out their hearts  
 To romance a world that is torn all apart  
 How many fathers gave up their sons for me

Bringing out gifts for the newborn Savior  
 All that we have whether costly or meek  
 Because we believe  
 Gold for His honor and frankincense for His pleasure  
 And myrrh for the cross He'll suffer  
 Do you believe  
 Is this who we've waited for

Only one did that for me ooh, all for me ah ah ah  
 All for me all for you (4X)

How many kings stepped down from their thrones  
 How many lords have abandoned their homes  
 How many greats have become the least  
 How many gods have poured out their hearts  
 To romance a world that is torn all apart  
 How many fathers gave up their sons for me

Only one did that for me oh, all for me all for you

**GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

P: The Holy Gospel for this day comes from the book of St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL READING** (*adapted from Holden Evening Prayer*)**Luke 1: 26-38**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON****Pastor Chris**

**MUSICAL OFFERING****Face of God** (Phil Wickham)

Underneath the starry sky  
A mother holds a child tonight  
All is calm and all is bright  
She sings to Him a lullaby

She looks upon the great I Am  
The gift of Heaven in her hands  
Born to save the sons of earth  
He was born to give them second birth (*Chorus*)  
The face of God

**Gloria, I hear the angels singing**  
**Gloria, All of the heavens ringing**  
**Gloria, The Savior of the world is in her arms**  
(She's staring at the face of God)  
Staring at the face of God

**PRAYERS & MUSIC****Face of God** (Phil Wickham)

*Please sing after each petition:*

**Gloria, I hear the angels singing**  
**Gloria, All of the heavens ringing**  
**Gloria, The Savior of the world is in her arms**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION****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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

A reminder that when you receive the bread and wine you may say to yourself or others in your home: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

**MUSICAL MEDITATION****What Child Is This?** (arr. Ben Janzow)**BENEDICTION**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**MUSICAL OFFERING****Joy to the World** (v. 1, 2)**ELW 267**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**SENDING**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## FAITH CONNECTION

*Join us as we connect as a church in new ways.*

### Donate Today or Give By Text or Online

- Text 262-214-3681 with the amount to donate
- Online: [tinyurl.com/DonateAscension](https://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension)

**Children's Christmas Program:** Missing Ascension Christmas events? Join us on our website, Facebook, or YouTube on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 10 a.m. for a virtual expression of the annual Children's Christmas Program. Children in BLAST will read the Christmas story, sing Christmas hymns, and "appear" in costumes to fill the nativity. We invite you to gather your family together to watch, sing along, and be reminded that nothing, not even a pandemic, will stop God from showing us how much we are loved.

**Last Sunday of Advent:** Join us for our regular video worship beginning at 8 a.m. our website, Facebook, or YouTube on Sunday, Dec. 20.

**A Christmas Eve Experience:** Join the community of Ascension outside in the Memorial Gardens on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. for a simple celebration of the Christmas story at the birth of our Savior. We will sing by candlelight, and hear the Christmas story (in English and Spanish). We expect to be finished by 5:25 p.m. No chairs needed -- we will be standing. Safety measures (masks and 6 ft. distancing) are required. RSVP online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCworshipRSVP> or to the church office.

**Christmas Worship:** Christmas Eve worship will be posted at noon our website or YouTube and at 5 p.m. on Facebook. Christmas Day worship will be posted at 8 a.m. website, Facebook, and YouTube.

**Last Chance to Order Coffee for Christmas:** Email Donna Aschenbrenner, [wra@wi.rr.com](mailto:wra@wi.rr.com) to order your Christmas gifts of the new Makumira Holiday Blend (\$19/bag); a Christmas gift sampler pack of coffees; the high quality Peaberry coffee; or flavored or regular coffees. Regular/decaf coffee for a 12 oz bag is \$10. Peaberry coffee for a 12 oz. bag is \$15.

### COLLECTIONS & COMMUNITY CARE

**Children's Coat Collection:** Hawthorne Elementary School is one of our newest partners. A large number of the students at the school are low income. The school is in need of new or gently used jackets and boots. The children are 4K through 5th grade. Place your donation in the barrels in the Donation Center.

**Food Pantry:** Target is offering a way to vote for how they donate money to non-profits. If you are a Target Circle Member and make purchases, you receive votes for local nonprofits. The more votes a nonprofit receives, the more funds are donated to them. Now through Dec. 31, you can vote for the Food Pantry of Waukesha County whenever you shop at Target. See the Target website for more info.

### AMEN Christmas Gathering & Long Underwear

**Collection:** AMEN is asking for new men's and women's long underwear donations to support local shelters this Christmas season. Donations should be dropped off at Raised Grain Brewery 5:30-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec 22. Join us for some Christmas cheer and fellowship. RGB has agreed to let us have a bin near the entrance, or curbside if you don't want to come inside. If you're unable to attend or can't drive, someone will be happy to pick up your donation or donations may be dropped off at church prior to Dec. 22 when the building is open. Please contact Steve Boyer with questions.

**The Blessing Box** is being filled several times a week. We are especially in need of foods to make a meal. Examples: cereal, instant oatmeal, canned pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, cleaning supplies, etc. Place your donations directly in the BB or drop off at church during office hours.

**Community Outreach:** Please follow Ascension, Ascension Mission Outreach, and Ministerio Latino de Ascension Waukesha on Facebook. "Like" "Love", Comment or share posts to help promote Ascension's ministries in the community. While we can't do our normal outreach, we can spread the word via electronic media and reach a broad population.

### Submit a Prayer

Submit a prayer request online [ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers](https://ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers), by email to [Tamie@ascensionelca.org](mailto:Tamie@ascensionelca.org), or phone message to the church office. Please pray:

### Comfort

With Susan Koefler for the family and friends of Susan Boettcher, who died this past weekend.

### Healing

Natalie Mustapich, covid  
Sandy Sadowski, fractured pelvis  
Sheri Greger, upcoming wrist surgery on the 21st  
Steve Spieker's brother Tim, diagnosed with an infection in his heart, COPD and preparing for his foot to be amputated

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