



Ascension Lutheran Church

3rd Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, January 10, 2021

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

You Are Holy (Prince of Peace) Imboden/Rhoton

You are holy (echo), You are mighty (echo)
You are worthy (echo), Worthy of praise (echo)
I will follow (echo), I will listen (echo)
I will love you (echo), All of my days (echo)

You are Lord of lords, You are King of kings
You are mighty God, Lord of everything
You're the living God, You're my saving grace
You will reign forever, ancient of days
You're my Prince of Peace
And I will live my life for you

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A reading from Romans: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

A reading from Revelation: Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

We give you thanks, Holy God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Baptized and Set Free (v. 1, 3)

ELW 453



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
 end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
 pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

PRAYER

P: Let us pray...O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

ELW 4



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.




Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
 you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.
 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONAlleluia Verse

ELW 4



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING**Mark 1:4-11**

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Unconditional Affirmation

Pastor Tony

MUSICAL OFFERING

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters (v. 1, 3)

ELW 445



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
 Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
 To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
 God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
 We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
 one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
 By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

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.

PRAYERS**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

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**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

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

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*)

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.**

CLOSING SONG**Let it Rise** (*Holland Davis*)

Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us
 Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us
 Let the praises of the King, rise among us
 Let it rise

Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us
 Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us
 Let the joy of the King, rise among us
 Let it rise

Oh-oh-oh, let it rise

SENDING

P: People of God—Be at peace, God is with you. Have courage. You are loved.

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

Offering Envelopes

2021 offering envelopes are available for those who use them. You can pick them up at church Monday-Thursday, 10a-3p and Friday, 10a-noon. We will mail whatever isn't picked up.

New Year, New Commitment

If you haven't yet turned in your 2021 pledge card, you still have time. Please drop off or mail to church soon.

Safe Disposal of Christmas Lights

Creation Care can help you dispose of old Christmas lights in a safe way. Visit <https://www.holidayleds.com/free-light-recycling> to see how you can send (or drop off) your lights to the Holiday LEDs recycling program in Sussex and receive a coupon for \$ off your next LED purchase! Or bring them in to Ascension during the month of January and we will do the work for you! A labeled box will be in the doorway of the front entrance of church. Simply drop them off!

Children's Coat Collection

We're collecting new or gently-used jackets and boots for Hawthorne Elementary School, one of our newest partners. A large number of the students at the school are low income. The children are 4K through 5th grade. Place your donation in the barrels in the Donation Center.

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 Ascensión 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, by email to Tamie@ascensionelca.org, or phone message to the church office. Please pray:

Comfort

- For Harold and Arlene Kelsey and family at the death of Harold's brother, Richard Kelsey
- For Carol Houston and family at the death of Jerry Van Kempen, Carol's brother. Prayers for his children, Brian and Carrie, and for his grandchildren.

Healing

- Brian Reagles, following surgery
- With Barb and Steve VanVoorhis for their friend Ron, whose parents have covid and whose father is in the ICU
- With Barb and Steve VanVoorhis for their friend Jo-Ann whose father, Vincent, was diagnosed with terminal cancer
- Gail Simon, surgery entailing possible removal of 1/2 of her lung
- Lin Wollschlager's upcoming birthday and prayers for continued healing due to complications from diabetes

On our website, ascensionelca.org

- Read the monthly newsletter. January 2021 has been published.
- Watch or re-watch worship and sermons.
- Read blog postings with updated information about church activities.
- Donate online to continue to help us pay the bills and support our ministries. Many of our community and international partners are hurting because of the ongoing pandemic.

Follow us on Facebook

- Join other Ascension friends on Sunday morning at 8 a.m. to watch worship together, virtually. Read the e-alert and announcements about activities.
- Read inspirational messages from staff.
- Find out what's happening at Ascension.

Ascension
Lutheran Church

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