



# Ascension Lutheran Church

4th Sunday After the Epiphany

Sunday, January 31, 2021

## WELCOME/INTRODUCTION

### PRELUDE

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty** (*setting by John Behnke*)

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### MUSICAL OFFERING

**God Who Saves** (*Sam Knock*)

The light of the world shining in love  
Taking the fall upon Your shoulders  
You shattered the dark as You rose to life again

**You are the way, the truth and the life  
Your mercy has overcome our failings  
The battle is won Jesus in love You reign**

**You're the God who saves  
You're the hope of all  
Reaching out Your hand  
As your people call (2x)**

Our savior has come let Your will be done  
Your kingdom on earth as in the heavens  
Our freedom is found Lord in no other name (*Chorus*)

### PRAYER

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

### CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Rise, Shine, You People! (v. 1, 3, 4)

ELW 665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
 he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
 your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
 wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
 world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

## GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28

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

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

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

Pastor Chris

## MUSICAL OFFERING

I Love to Tell the Story (v. 1, 3)

ELW 661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

## PRAYERS &amp; MUSIC

Reckless Love ()

*Please sing after each petition:* **Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God**  
**Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine**  
**I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still, You give Yourself away**  
**Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God, yeah**

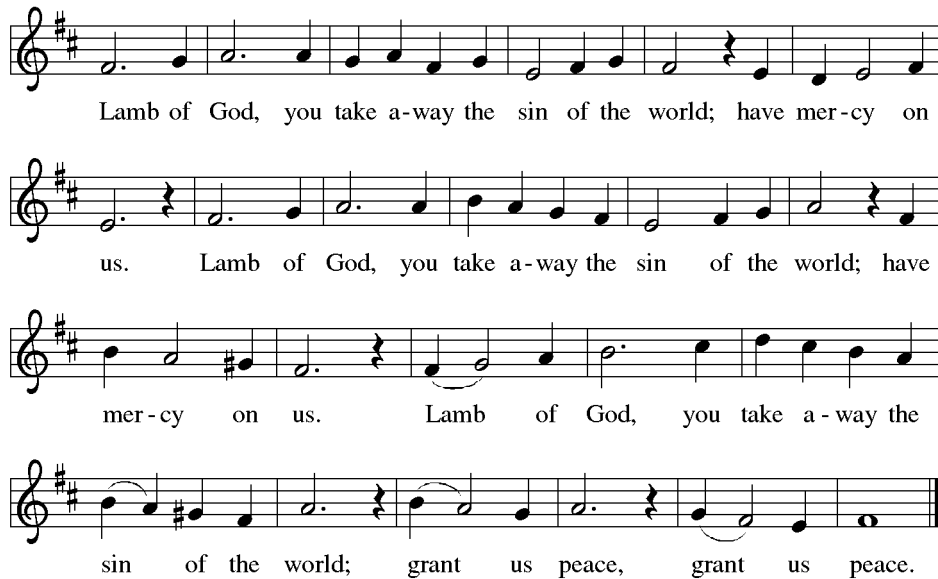
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

**LAMB OF GOD**


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**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****Goodness of God** (*Ben Fielding*)

I love You Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head  
I will sing of the goodness of God

**All my life You have been faithful**  
**All my life You have been so so good**  
**With every breath that I am able**  
**I will sing of the goodness of God**

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire  
In darkest night, You are close like no other  
I've known You as a father  
I've known You as a friend  
I have lived in the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
With my life laid down  
I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me (*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.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING

Arise! Your Light Has Come (v. 1, 2, 4)

ELW 314

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

## SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Build Your Kingdom Here (Chris Llewellyn)

Come set Your rule and reign  
 In our hearts again  
 Increase in us we pray  
 Unveil why we're made  
 Come set our hearts ablaze with hope  
 Like wildfire in our very souls  
 Holy Spirit come invade us now  
 We are Your church  
 We need Your power in us

Build Your kingdom here  
 Let the darkness fear  
 Show Your mighty hand  
 Heal our streets and land  
 Set Your church on fire  
 Win this nation back

## 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)

### 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.

### Church Office Hours

The church office will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon on Friday starting next week. Masks and social distancing are required.

### Small Group Meetings

Beginning next week, we're re-opening to allow Ascension small groups to meet in-person here, following covid safety requirements. If you're a small group leader, contact Amy Gilgenbach, [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org), for more information and/or to make reservations. The list of the requirements is available on our website.

### Adult Education

Pastor Chris is offering a six-week study of *Get Your Life Back: Everyday Practices for a World Gone Mad* by John Eldridge. We will begin on Monday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m. Please contact Pastor Chris to sign-up.

### CRASH Event

Sunday, Feb. 14, CRASH resume its monthly in-person events with private showing of the movie *Wonder Woman 1984*. Space is limited so CRASH families should watch for an email to sign-up.

### JOLT Resumes

JOLT resumes its small group gatherings using the same groupings from the fall. If something has changed in your schedule or you are wanting to move to virtual or in-person, please confirm that switch with Pastor Tony. The next gatherings are at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 10 and 11.

**Outreach for Hope & ELCA World Hunger Food Drive on Super Bowl Sunday Feb. 7.** The Packer season may have ended, but hunger knows no season. Food insecurity is on the rise due to COVID-19. How can we all help?!? Get on the TEAM to reduce food insecurity and help defeat a real enemy - hunger in our community! Bring food to one of Ascension's projects: Waukesha Food Pantry, Blessing Box, or Cross Food Pantry or donate money to synod which will be divided 50% for local OFH congregations food support and 50% for ELCA World Hunger.

**Blessing Bags:** We are putting together another delivery of Blessing Bags for the homeless men that pick up their take-out breakfast and lunch at the Hope Center. The Blessing Bags will greatly help them have some of their very basic needs met.

### 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

For Molly Niklasch and Amanda Payne at the death of their cousin's 8-week-old baby, Teddy. Prayers of comfort for the Niklasch and Payne families and for Teddy's parents, Bryn and Brad.

#### Thanksgiving

For the recent birth of Jake Robert Argall to Trevor and Nicolette Argall.

### On our website, [ascensionelca.org](https://ascensionelca.org)

- Read the monthly newsletter.
- Register online for next week's worship.
- 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.
- Submit a prayer request <https://ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers>.

