



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m., Sunday, November 27, 2022

Worship Leadership Today

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Edwin Aparicio, *Pastoral Intern*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Associate Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Mikael Wagner, *acolyte*

Julie Kinunen, *communion*

Bill Klippel, *usher*

Julie Kinunen, *Altar Guild*

Paul Wehmeier, *communion*

Dennis Mohr, *usher*

Kathy Johnson, *choir accompanist*

Kurt Werner, *media*

Scot Werner, *usher*

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on “Wachet Auf”, J.S. Bach

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come Now, Savior of the Nations

Michael Burkhardt

**Pastor Chris,
Scott Greger**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

P: 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.

P: Most merciful God,

c: **we confess that we are captive 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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

GREETING AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: We wait for light, in the midst of darkness.

C: **We long for brightness, but we walk in gloom.**

P: As we prepare to greet the Light,

C: **Let our blinded eyes be opened.**

P: For Christ is the light,

C: **To those who sit in darkness.**

P: This day we light the Candle of Hope. This candle symbolizes the promise of God to send a Savior to the world to save us from our sins.

KYRIE

p. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the Highest

p. 148

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:26-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Tony

HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Comfort: For Karen Shulfer at the death of her sister

Healing: Becky Murray

God's Care: With the Maass' for Paul's father Gerhald in his final days battling cancer

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
arr. Lloyd Larson

**Pastor Chris,
Scott Greger**

Donate With Your Smartphone

*Or use the Vanco Giving app or
online at tinyurl.com/DonateAscension*



OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter (v. 3)

ELW 294

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

All those believing in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection are welcome to receive communion at this table of grace. We offer both bread and wine for holy communion. Gluten-free wafers are available.

LAMB OF GOD

p. 154

HYMNS

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW 488

Wait for the Lord

ELW 262

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW 254

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Ascension 2022 A Year in Review



Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), please fill-out this form and place in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office.

Thank you for helping make the sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

In celebration of the birth of Jesus

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of

Donated in memory of

Donor: _____

Donation amount \$ _____

Please return the completed form along with your check to the church office by **Dec. 5**. You may also pay on our website and mark it *"Poinsettia."*



ASCENSION

Together We Rise

Children Are God's Gift: We are a noisy church. We are happy to celebrate the sounds of children during worship. You are welcome to step into the lobby with your child for a break if needed.

Pew Pads: Please fill-out the blue pew pad and pass it to your neighbor. You might make a new friend.

Welcome to Advent Soup Supper & Worship: Join us Wednesday, Nov. 30, for soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 6:45 p.m. We need about 12 people to make soup and 4-5 to provide bread. If you can help, let Amy Gilgenbach, admin@ascensionelca.org, know.

Deck the Halls of Ascension: Help us prepare the church campus for the season of Advent and Christmas, on Saturday, Dec. 3, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Journey to Bethlehem: On Dec. 4, BLAST will have activities as they the Journey to Bethlehem. BLAST families, please bring canned food items for those in need this season as part of our journey. You will place your gift/donation near the manger just like the Wise Men did.

Thrilled to Thrive: Did you receive your 2023 stewardship letter and pledge card? Please return your pledge card to church by year's end.

The Good Samaritan Fund began from an idea more than 35 years ago by long-time Ascension member Dorothy Heale. The Good Sam fund continues to provide opportunity for the pastors of Ascension to tend members who might be struggling at any time during the year with a financial gift of grace, with no need to repay the gift. Throughout the year, as members feel moved, you can contribute to the fund. You get credit on your giving statement and the pastors have the opportunity to tend to the needs of members of our church community as well as those who might find their way to our doors. Any amount helps to extend God's love and grace into the hands of someone in need.

Acolytes Needed: We need acolytes for the Advent Concert Worship on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m. and on Christmas Eve at 5, and 9 p.m. If you are planning on attending one of those services, please let the church office know which service your JOLT student can acolyte. We also need an acolyte for Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

Worship Support Schedule and Calendar: Turn to the back page to find out when you next serve and more of Ascension's upcoming events.

To Donate



*Or use the Vanco
Giving app or
online at
[tinyurl.com/
DonateAscension](https://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension)*

Poinsettias: Help us decorate the sanctuary at Christmas. See the form on the preceding page.

Pathways to Mental Wellness: Pastor Chris invites you to talk about our future mental wellness gatherings at a meeting on Monday, Nov. 28, 6:30 p.m. Please join us to discuss what will best meet the needs and concerns that have been lifted up over the past year as we wrestle with our shared fears, anxiety, covid fatigue, and trauma. Questions? Contact Pastor Chris.

Amen Christmas Gathering and Long Underwear Drive: Ascension men are invited to Tally's Tap, S31W24661 Sunset Dr., on Monday, Dec. 12, at 5:30 p.m. for Amen's Christmas gathering. Buffet dinner/cash bar. Bring your long underwear donation for Waukesha homeless shelters or leave it in the bin in the church's Donation Center. All sizes of men's long underwear are needed.

Blessing Box: Place *non-perishable* food items directly in the box or if the box is full, place them in the marked bins in the Donation Center. If fresh produce or meat is donated, we must dispose of it since it is not safe if not kept at the proper temperature. We are emphasizing basic food items to make a meal or parts of a meal and cannot accept fresh produce or bakery items.

Mt. Meru Holiday Selections: Mt. Meru has developed a special blend, *Christmas Traditions*, that combines 100% Mt. Meru premium Arabica coffee beans, enhanced with the rich flavors of cinnamon, nutmeg, and vanilla, a hint of chocolate and other selected spices. The new blend is \$15 and is offered in regular coffee, whole bean or drip grind. Mt. Meru also offers a Holiday Sampler pack for \$18 featuring Butter Pecan, Chocolate Raspberry, Regular, French Vanilla, Hazelnut and Peaberry coffee. Email your orders to Amy Gilgenbach admin@ascensionlca.org or use the order form in the cabinet. Orders placed today will be available on Tuesday.

Sing We Now of Christmas: The Jubilate Chorale presents *Sing We Now of Christmas* on Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield, and on Sunday, Dec. 4, 4 p.m., at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Oconomowoc. Tickets are available from Ascension members Scott Greger and Vicki Taylor, or at jubilatechorale.org.

Las Posadas is Saturday, Dec. 17, at 4:30 p.m. We will be sharing parts of the song the next couple of weeks so you can fully participate. Learn more Spanish online, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCspanish>.

Posada 1

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Joseph: | En el nombre del cielo Os pido Pues no puedo andar Ya mi esposa amada | <i>In the name of heaven I ask you for shelter for my beloved wife can go no farther</i> |
| Innkeeper: | Aqui no es meson Segan adelante Yo no puedo abrir No sea algun tunante | <i>This is not an inn Get on with you I cannot open the door You might be a criminal</i> |
| Todas (all) | Ya se va Maria Muy desconsolada Por que en esta casa No le dan posada | <i>Mary is leaving Very disconsolate Because in this house they do not give her lodging</i> |

Upcoming Worship Support Schedule

See the complete schedule online <https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport>

| Sunday, Dec. 4 | 8:30 | 10:45 |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Acolytes | Elsa Kinunen | Hailey Pociask |
| Altar Guild | Gary Bauer | Cindy Finn, Kristine Wells |
| Communion | Sharon Coralline, Elaine Kilgore | Diane and Rick Dowling, Cathy Rapp |
| Media | Adam Boales | Joe Morgenroth |
| Ushers | Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Brian Novotny | Kathy and Mike Tomcheck |

CALENDAR

See the full calendar and a list of events on our website, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/>.

Sun Nov 27

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

7pm AA WH

Mon Nov 28

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

6:30pm Mental Wellness HR

Tue Nov 29

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible HR

6pm Handbells S

7:15pm Choir S

Wed Nov 30

6pm Advent Soup Supper EH

6:45pm Advent Worship S

7pm AA WH

Thu Dec 1

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

Fri Dec 2

1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Dec 3

9:30am Deck the Halls

Sun Dec 4

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Journey to Bethlehem

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

5:30pm CRASH Christmas

7pm AA WH

Mon Dec 5

10am The Book of Joy HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

6:30pm The Book of Joy HR

Tue Dec 6

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible HR

6:30pm Mission Outreach

Wed Dec 7

11:30am Staff meeting

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

Key

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| EH | East Hall |
| HR | Hearth rm |
| MG | Memorial Gardens |
| S | Sanctuary |
| SG | Spiritual Growth |
| WH | West Hall |
| CR | Conference rm |
| <i>Italics</i> | <i>Virtual or offsite</i> |

Wed Dec 7 cont.

7:30pm Choir S

Thu Dec 8

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

Sat Dec 10

6pm Advent Concert Worship

Sun Dec 11

9:30am Advent Concert Worship

10:30am Brunch

7pm AA WH

