



# ASCENSION

*Lutheran Church*

## **Second Sunday of Advent**

8:30 a.m., Sunday, December 4, 2022

### **Worship Leadership Today**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Associate Pastor*

Edwin Aparicio, *Pastoral Intern*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Elsa Kinunen, *acolyte*

Gary Bauer, *Altar Guild*

Kathy Johnson, *choir accompanist*

Sharon Coralline, Elaine Kilgore, *communion*

Adam Boales, *media*

Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, *ushers*

Brian Novotny, *usher*

## **PRELUDE**

### **Savior of the Nations, Come**

*settings by Dietrich Buxtehude, Paul Manz*

## **WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **OPENING HYMN**

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

**ELW 249**

## **GREETING**

**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.**

## **KYRIE**

**p. 147**

## **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE**

**P:** We wait for light,

**C:** **In the midst of darkness.**

**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 Peace. This candle symbolizes the revelation of God's promised Son, the Prince of Peace.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

### **Glory to God in the Highest**

**p. 148**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### 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 3rd chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

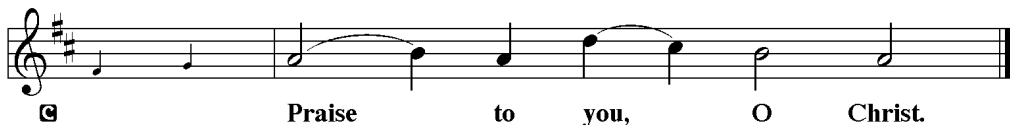
## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



SERMON

In Those Days...

Pastor Chris

HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

## 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 OF THE PEOPLE

**Healing:** Betterae Riekkoff, hospitalized  
Jennifer Roeland, following surgery  
Marvin Goetter, recent colon cancer diagnosis  
Al Wollschlager, beginning radiation treatment for prostate cancer  
Sheri Greger's father, recovering from hip surgery  
Sheri Greger's Great Aunt Wilma, hospitalized following a heart attack

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

*Lost in the Night, Kyle Haugen*

Ascension Choir

OFFERTORY

*In the Bleak Midwinter (v. 3)*

ELW 294

**Donate With Your Smartphone**

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



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray ... Merciful Father,

C: **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 152

## 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

**Savior of the Nations, Come**

ELW 263

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

ELW 272

**Blessed Be the God of Israel**

ELW 250

## COMMUNION BLESSING

**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 HYMN**

**My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness**

**ELW 251**

**SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers,** *setting by David Lasky*



**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. A changing table is in the women's bathroom in the lobby.

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

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

**Baptized:** We welcome Otis Robert Akins in baptism today. Otis' parents are Jill and Peter Akins. Big sister is Violet. Sponsors are Phillip Akins and Valerie Petersen.

**Journey to Bethlehem:** Today, BLAST will have activities as they the Journey to Bethlehem. Please place your food gift/donation near the manger just like the Wise Men did.

**CRASH Christmas:** CRASH meets today at 5:30 p.m. for their annual Christmas event. Appetizers, dinner, dessert and \$10 most creative gift exchange. RSVP to Pastor Chris.

**Advent Concert Worship:** Join us for worship on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 11, at 9:30 a.m. Ascension's musicians will offer *Emmanuel - God with Us*. Following worship, we will have a potluck brunch. Bring a dish to pass and invite a friend.

**Las Posadas:** Come and join the journey of José and María. It will take place on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is invited! If you have children and they want to be in costume for the experience, choose the costume in this link, <https://tinyurl.com/CostumeSignUpALC>. After our journey, we will have dinner, music (mariachi) and a piñata. We hope to see you!

**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:** The Good Sam fund provides our pastors the opportunity to tend members who might be struggling with a financial gift of grace, with no need for repayment. You can contribute to the fund throughout the year. Any amount helps to extend God's love and grace into the hands of someone in need.

## To Donate



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

**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. 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.

**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.

**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@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org) or use the order form in the cabinet. Orders placed today will be available on Tuesday.

**Christmas Light Recycling:** Do you have Christmas lights that are burned out? Instead of throwing them into the garbage where they will end up in a landfill and leach dangerous chemicals, bring them to the box in the Donation Center and our Creation Care Team will recycle them in the proper way.

**ELCA Good Gifts:** This holiday season, help us provide good gifts throughout the world with the ELCA's Good Gift program. Choose an ornament from the window and turn your gift in with your offering. At the end of the year, we will send the donations to the ELCA.

**Learn Spanish With Us:** In preparation for Christmas, learn the Spanish words and meaning for Away in a Manger (Jesús en pesebre). Learn more Spanish online, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCspanish>.

**Jesús en pesebre sin cuña, nació  
Su tierna cabeza en heno durmió  
Los astras brillando, prestaban tu luz  
El niño dormido, pequeño Jesús**

*Jesus in a manger was born with no crib  
His tender head in hay slept  
The shining stars lending their light  
To the sleeping child, little Jesus*

**Mission Outreach News:** Mission Outreach Committee will meet at the Wehmeiers at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 6. Be sure to respond to Shirley's Sign-Up Genius to RSVP.

**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.

**Sing We Now of Christmas:** The Jubilate Chorale presents *Sing We Now of Christmas* today at 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](http://jubilatechorale.org).

**Newsletter:** Read the December newsletter online, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

## Upcoming Worship Support Schedule

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

	Saturday, Dec. 10, 6 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 11, 9:30 a.m.
<b>Acolytes</b>	Max Stigler, 1 needed	Hailey Pociask
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Gary Bauer	Marge Schroeder
<b>Communion</b>	4 needed	Marge & Todd Schroeder, Sue Mathews
<b>Media</b>		Buck Houston
<b>Ushers</b>	2 needed	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier

## CALENDAR

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

### 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 Christmas

### Wed Dec 7

11:30am Staff meeting

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

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

### Mon Dec 12

#### 5:30am Anunciación (Latino Ministries) EH

6:15am Annunciation Breakfast (Latino Ministries) WH

5:30pm AMEN Christmas

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

### Tue Dec 13

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

7pm Holloway Group

### Wed Dec 14

7pm AA WH

### Thu Dec 15

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

### 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>

### Fri Dec 16

10am Private event EH

1pm Hansen Group HR

### Sat Dec 17

9am BLAST Christmas Rehearsal

4:30pm Las Posadas

### Sun Dec 18

#### 8:30am Worship S

#### 10:45am Worship w/ BLAST

#### Christmas Program S

7pm AA WH

### Mon Dec 19

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR