



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Advent

10:45 a.m., Sunday, December 4, 2022

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Associate Pastor*

Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

Hailey Pociask, *acolyte*

Cindy Finn, Kristine Wells, *Altar Guild*

Diane and Rick Dowling, *communion*

Cathy Rapp, *communion*

Joe Morgenroth, *media*

Kathy and Mike Tomchek, *ushers*

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

Before the world was made
Before You spoke it to be
You were the King of kings
Yes, You were, yes, You were
And now You're reigning still
Enthroned above all things
Angels and saints cry out
We join them as we sing

Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever
Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever

Glory to God

Creator God, You gave
Me breath so I could praise
Your great and matchless name
All my days, all my days
So let my whole life be
A blazing offering
A life that shouts and sings
The greatness of our King (*Chorus*)

Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours
Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours, we sing
(*Chorus*)

GREETING AND 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.

SONG

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

One star burns in the darkness
Shines with the promise, Emmanuel
One child born in the stillness
Living within us, Emmanuel

**We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
Singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me**

One voice speaks for the voiceless
Hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel
One love brings us together
Now and forever, Emmanuel **(Chorus)**

Do not be afraid
His love is strong enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way
His love is strong enough to lead us *(repeat)*
(Chorus)

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

SONG

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

**Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely, altogether
worthy, altogether wonderful to me**

King of all days
So highly exalted
Glorious in Heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor **(Chorus)**

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: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

In Those Days...

Pastor Chris

SONG

Adore

You stepped down from heaven
Humbly You came
God of all creation, here with us
In a starlit manger Emmanuel
Light of the world here to save

Wise men bring their treasures
Shepherds bow low
Angel voices sing, of peace on earth
What have I to offer to heaven's King
I will bring my life my love my all (*Chorus*)

**Adore, Come let us adore
O come let us adore Him
The Lord
Worship Christ the Lord
Let all that is within us adore**

SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR OTIS ROBERT AKINS

P: Praise and thanksgiving be to our God our maker, source of all blessing. In life, in death, we trust in God's most holy name. Here at this font, we hear God's promise. Here, in the presence of water and God's Word, moments of life-changing grace enter into the world.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: Phillip and Valerie, do you present Otis Robert Akins for the sacrament of holy baptism?
Sponsors: We/I do.

P: Jill and Peter, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Otis Robert baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring Otis Robert to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people; bring him to worship to hear the Word of God and to share in holy communion; teach him the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments; place in his hands the Bible, the living Word; and tend him in faith and prayer, so that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Otis grow in the Christian faith and life?

C: We do.

P: Phillip and Valerie, God has led you to this moment. You have been invited to tend this miracle of life in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church. Do you promise to encourage Otis: to walk alongside him as he grows in his faith and in his relationship with God?

Sponsors: We do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Otis and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do.

A: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce the devil, his empty promises and all the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I do.

P: With all the faithful who came before us we dare to confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth. You are the fountain of resurrection. Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again. At this font, holy God, we praise you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Otis Robert Akins, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please sing:

1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: Let us pray. God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through the gift of baptism. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Otis Robert: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C: **Amen.**

P: Otis Robert, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify our God in heaven. Brothers and sisters, please welcome our new brother Otis into the family of God.

PRAYERS

Please say, "Hear our prayer" and sing the following refrain after each petition.

**Adore, Come let us adore
O come let us adore Him
The Lord, worship Christ the Lord
Let all that is within us adore**

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

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and your heart is kind
For all your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find
(Chorus)

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
(Chorus)

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.

SOLO

I Speak Jesus

Ben Janzow

SONGS

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation, of water, earth, and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle, Glory to the Lord on high

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy
The universe declares your majesty, You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth**

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light
When I stumble into darkness, I will call your name at night *(Chorus)*

It Is You

As we lift up our hands, will You meet us here
As we call on Your name, will You meet us here
We have come to this place, to worship You
God of mercy and grace, it is You we adore
It is You praises are for, only You
The heavens declare, it is You, it is You

**Holy, holy is our God Almighty
Holy, holy is His name alone (2x)**

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

SONG

Every Day

**Every day, it's You I live for
Every day, I'll follow after You
Every day, I'll walk with You, my Lord**

Every day, Lord I'll learn to stand upon Your word
And I pray that I might come to know You more
You will guide me in every single step I take
Every day I can be Your light unto the world

SENDING



ASCENSION

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 next 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 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 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.

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

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 Wor-
ship

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

Mon Dec 12 cont.
 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

Fri Dec 16
 10am Private event EH
 1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Dec 17
 9am BLAST Christmas Re-
 hearsal
 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

Tue Dec 20
7am AMEN zoom
 9:30am Women's Bible CR

Wed Dec 21
 12pm Young at Heart WH
 6pm Handbells S
 7pm AA WH
 7:30pm Choir S

Thu Dec 22
 10am Al Anon CR

<u>Key</u>	
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth rm
MG	Memorial Gardens
S	Sanctuary
SG	Spiritual Growth
WH	West Hall
YR	Youth rm
<i>Italics Virtual or offsite</i>	

Sat Dec 24
3pm Christmas Eve Worship
S
5pm Christmas Eve Worship
S
7pm Nochebuena EH
9pm Christmas Eve Worship
S

Sun Dec 25
10am Christmas Worship S
 7pm AA WH

Mon Dec 26
Office closed
 6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

Tue Dec 27
7am AMEN zoom
 9:30am Women's Bible CR
 7pm Holloway Group HR

Wed Dec 28
 7pm AA WH

Thu Dec 29
 10am Al Anon CR

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.
Acolytes	Max Stigler, 1 needed	Hailey Pociask
Altar Guild	Gary Bauer	Marge Schroeder
Communion	Rick & Diane Dowling, 2 needed	Marge & Todd Schroeder, Sue Mathews
Media		Buck Houston
Ushers	2 needed	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier



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. 6**. You may also pay on our website and mark it "Poinsettia."

1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI 53188 262-547-8518 ascensionelca.org

