



# ASCENSION

*Lutheran Church*

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m., Sunday, December 18, 2022

### Worship Leadership Today

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Edwin Aparicio, *Pastoral Intern*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Associate Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Jim and Kathy Hahn, *Altar Guild*

Kathy Johnson, *pianist*

Jim Hahn, Ron Marien, Steve Spieker, *communion*

Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, *ushers*

Brian Novotny, *media*

Jeff Rohrer, *usher*

### PRELUDE

### **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

*settings by Paul Manz, Lynn Petersen*

### WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

### **Hark, the Glad Sound!**

**ELW 239**

### 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.**

### 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 love. This candle represents the love of Christ, who is the light of the world.

### HYMN OF PRAISE

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

**p. 148**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

L: The light shines in the darkness...

C: And the darkness has not overcome it.

## THE ANNUNCIATION Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38

Solo

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God. I live to do your will."

## THE MAGNIFICAT



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my  
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re-joic-es in you. You have looked with love on your  
lift - ed the hum-ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won-drous things, and left the wealth-y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind-ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the  
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom-ised to



weak and low-ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!  
Sar - ah and A - bra-ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

**SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR ELIJAH EDISON ESCOBEDO**

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: Dan and Eric, do you present Elijah Edison Escobedo for the sacrament of holy baptism?  
Sponsors: We/I do.

P: Stefanie and Victor, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Elijah Edison baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring Elijah Edison 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 Elijah grow in the Christian faith and life?

**C: We do.**

P: Dan and Eric, 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 Elijah: 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 Elijah 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: Elijah Edison Escobedo, 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 Elijah Edison: 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: Elijah Edison, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

P: 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 Elijah into the family of God.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Comfort:** For Al Wollschlager and family at the death of Lin Wollschlager  
For Rick James and family at the unexpected death of his sister, Janice  
For Kay Steinmetz and family at the death of her father, Jim Middleton  
For Maddie Goetter's friends Nick & Dana, who lost their infant daughter Lila  
For Iva Richards and family at the death of her sister, Faye

**God's Care:** For Maddie Goetter's cousin Berdie, in hospice with stage four lung cancer

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**  
*Polish Carol, arr. Christopher Ruck*

**Ryan Birner**

**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

### PROPER PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p. 153

### 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**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**p. 154**

### **HYMNS**

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

**ELW 631**

**Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah**

**ELW 240**

**Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

**ELW 254**

## **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**

**O Come, All Ye Faithful** (*v. 1-3*)

**ELW 283**

### **SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

**Go Tell It on the Mountain**, *arr. Molly Ijames*



# 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.

**Baptized:** We welcome Elijah Edison Escobedo in baptism today. Elijah's parents are Stefanie and Victor Escobedo. Sponsors are Dan Baumann and Eric Breska.

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

**Worship Help Needed:** Acolytes are needed at 5p & 9p on Dec. 24 and one on Dec. 25. Communion assistants are needed on Dec. 24 at 3p and 5p. If you or your family can help, please let Tamie in the office know.

**Mt. Meru Holiday Selections:** Stop at the coffee station to do some Christmas shopping. There are a variety of flavors available as well as gift sets. If your item isn't available, you can order on the form or email your orders to Amy Gilgenbach [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org). Payment envelopes are in the Meru cabinet.

**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.

**Christmas Day Meal:** If anyone would like to receive a hot meal on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, please contact Christina Kline with the Salvation Army, 262-506-8405, so they can add you to the list and schedule.

**Young at Heart 55+:** Join Young at Heart for a Christmas potluck and gathering on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at noon. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy some fellowship.

**Christmas Worship Schedule:**

Christmas Eve (English): 3p, 5p & 9p, Sat., Dec. 24  
(communion & candlelight at all services)  
Nochebuena (Español): 7p, Saturday, Dec. 24  
Christmas Day (English) 10a, Sunday, Dec. 25

# CALENDAR

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

**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

**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

**Sat Dec 24**

**3pm Christmas Eve Worship**

**5pm Christmas Eve Worship**

**7pm Nochebuena EH**

**9pm Christmas Eve Worship**

**Sun Dec 25**

**10am Christmas Day Worship**

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

**Sun Jan 1**

**10am Worship S**

**10:45am Adoración en español EH**

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>

