



# Christmas Eve Worship

Ascension Lutheran Church  
Saturday, December 24, 2022  
9 p.m.

### Welcome!

We pray God's blessing on your worship this day. Please introduce yourself to one of the pastors after service. Please see an usher or worship leader for large-print bulletins.

### 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 to give your child a chance to stretch their legs.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Go Tell It on the Mountain**

**Ben Janzow, Pastor Chris**

## WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

### What Child Is This?

**ELW 296**

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you;  
hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

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## PRAYER

## SONG

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

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

## Adore

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)*

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness —on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SONG

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
and, gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king,  
and peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but, in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
oh, come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Immanuel!

## GOSPEL READING

**Luke 2:1-14**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## GOSPEL RESPONSE

**When Love Was Born**

**Ben Janzow**

## SERMON

**Pastor Chris**

## HYMN

**Joy to the World**

**ELW 267**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## 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**

*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**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **OFFERING**

#### **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*)

## **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 and grape juice are available.

**SOLO**

**Noel**

**Ben Janzow**

**SONG**

**Away in a Manger**

**ELW 277**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head  
The stars in the sky, looked down where he lay  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

**SOLO**

**Face of God**

**Ben Janzow**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

**CANDLELIGHT CAROL**

**Silent Night, Holy Night**

**ELW 281**

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night. Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah,  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**DUET**

**O Holy Night**

**Ben Janzow, Pastor Chris**

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING**



# Poinsettia Donations



## **In Honor of**

Kathleen Fischer by Kathy Lord  
Lenore Mueller by Patti Mueller  
Ascension church family by Ron Marien  
Our new church family by the Miller family

## **In Memory of**

Abe Greenman by the Greenman family  
Annette Formo and Deborah Formo by Vernon Formo  
Barbara J. Steinke by Don Steinke  
Bryce Blaschko by Dick and Sharon Boward  
Chuck Ades by the Anspach family  
Eddie, Lori and Abe by Nancy Haker  
Edwin and Elnor Wendorf by Bonnie Siegel  
Ema, Joe, Joan and Meghan by Cathy and Mike Rapp  
Family members by Arlene Davis  
Gene Boelter by Verna Bauer  
Gerald Fischer and John Lord by Kathy Lord  
Gerald Marth by the Marth and Johnson families  
Gert Ullsperger by Marsha and Rick James  
Howard D. Anderson by Sara Leatherwood  
Jack Rapp by Mary Rapp and Peter Passante  
Jan Frowein by Dianne and Rick Frowein  
Jim Comp and Jay Wendt by Mary Ellen Comp  
Ma Baumann and Tita Escobedo by Stefanie Escobedo  
Nancy Gallo, Rich and Joanne Wielebski by the Gallo family  
Nicholas Inzeo by Nancy Inzeo  
Pat Lee by the Payne family  
Richard Mueller by Patti Mueller  
Ron Payne by the Payne family  
Sandy Eggers by Paul Eggers  
Shirley A. Mohr by Dennis Mohr  
Sydney and Grandma Karen by the Metzger-Reinders family  
The Herber family by Ann M. Marlow  
Vicki Marien by Ron Marien

## **In Celebration of the Birth of Jesus**

Akins family  
Nada Draeger  
Catherine Dugdale  
Celeste Gantert  
Jim and Kathy Hahn  
Beth and Tom Hoffmann  
Sara Leatherwood  
Kathy Lord  
Don and Kathy Malchow  
Marth and Johnson families  
Becky Pepper  
Jennifer Roeland  
Marge and Todd Schroeder

## **To the Glory of God**

Anspach family  
Celeste Gantert  
Kathy Lord  
Marth and Johnson families  
Gilbert and Sally Wagner  
Carol Ziarniak

## **Acción de Gracias /**

### **Thanksgiving**

Alejandra Castro  
Familia Aparicio Castillo  
Familia Saravia Quintanilla  
Familia Hernandez  
Familia Aparicio Villegas



# ASCENSION

*Lutheran Church*

## **Worship Leadership Today**

The Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

The Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Associate Pastor*

Edwin Aparicio, *Pastoral Intern*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolytes:** Anna Marien

**Altar Guild:** Julie Kinunen

**Communion:** Diane and Rick Dowling

## **Christmas Schedule**

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

3, 5 and 9 p.m. worship, sanctuary

7 p.m. Spanish worship, East Hall

Christmas Day, Dec. 25: 10 a.m., sanctuary

First Sunday of Christmas, Jan. 1: 10 a.m. worship, sanctuary

**Year-End Donation:** Please consider a year-end donation to help us finish strong. You can donate during the offering, on our website [ascensionelca.org](http://ascensionelca.org) or with the QR code.

**Mt. Meru Holiday Coffee Sampler:** Consider Mt. Meru coffee for your last-minute gifts. Purchase directly from the self-serve coffee cabinet (leave the money in the office) or email to the church office, [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org), for pick up.

**Office Closed:** The church office will be closed Dec. 26 and 30.

### **To Donate**



1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI 53188 262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](http://ascensionelca.org)

