



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

Baptism of Our Lord

8:30 a.m., Sunday, January 8, 2023

Worship Leadership Today

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Max Stigler, *acolyte*

Marge Schroeder, *Altar Guild*

Marge and Todd Schroeder, *communion*

Paul Wehmeier, *communion*

Buck Houston, *media*

Sheri Greger, *reader*

Kathy Johnson, *service musician*

Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, *ushers*

Paul Wehmeier, *usher*

PRELUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory / Angels We Have Heard on High
Smart / Traditional French Carol, arr. Lee

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

The Bells of Christmas (*v. 1-4*)

ELW 298

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

Assistant: *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,


to Verses

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

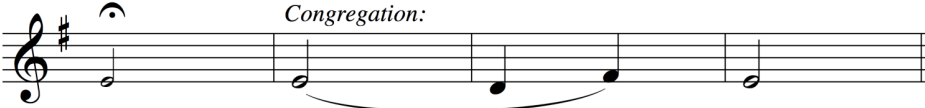
Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O


Congregation:




God. A - - - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE


Congregation:




Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,




all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



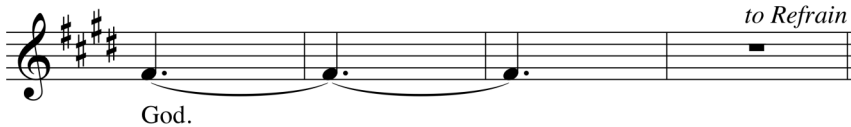
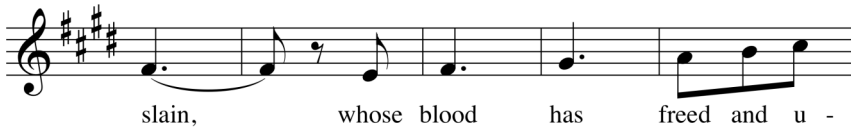
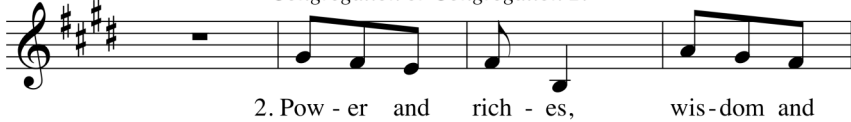
to the God of life and love and



free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -



er - - - more!

Verse 1*Congregation or Congregation 1:***Verse 2***Congregation or Congregation 2:***Verse 3***Congregation:*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, 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 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

HYMN

Baptized and Set Free

ELW 453

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: Pete Baumann, upcoming surgery
Marvin Goetter, upcoming surgery
Don Steinke, upcoming cardiac testing
Jose Escobedo, following a heart attack

Comfort: For Bishop Paul Erickson at the death of his mother,
Eva

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

For Unto Us A Child Is Born
Handel, arr. Tornquist

To Donate



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

Presider: *Congregation:*



The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; Heav-en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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 white grape juice are available.

LAMB OF GOD



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

HYMNS

Come to the Table

ELW 481

Here is Bread

ELW 483

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Lord God, you call your servants into the world to follow where you lead. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Day by day, guide us and give us what is needed, friends to cheer our way, and a clear vision to which you call us. By your Holy Spirit, be present in our journeys, that we may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

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

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World / Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Handel / Beethoven, arr. Lee



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.

Offering Envelopes & Pledging: 2023 Offering Envelopes are delayed. We'll let you know as soon as we get them in. In the meantime, if you give cash, use an envelope from the pew and put your name on it. If you donate by check, we'll pull the donor information from the check. You can also donate online, <http://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension>. Also, don't forget to turn in your pledge card. You may also send in your pledge easily online, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCpledge>.

"With" Book Study: Beginning Monday Jan. 9, Pastor Chris will be leading a study on the book, “With: Reimagining the Way You Relate to God” by Skye Jethani. RSVP to PC or the church office which time you would like to attend, Monday, 10am or 6:30pm, and if you will need a book. Books are \$13.

Back in Session! BLAST & CRASH resume Sunday, Jan. 8. JOLT resumes Thursday, Jan. 12.

Hawthorne School Partnership: We are again collecting new or very gently used coats, boots, hats and waterproof mittens for Hawthorne School. Outdoor play is encouraged unless it is super cold and many children do not have the proper outdoor clothing. Place donations in the Donation Center.

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



Saturday, Feb. 4

NO REGRETS **MEN'S CONFERENCE**
30th ANNIVERSARY

Presented by



No Regrets 2023 Livestreamed at Ascension: Saturday, Feb. 4, 8am to 1:30pm. Reserve the date. Register online, <https://tinyurl.com/AMEN2023>, or with the QR code to the right. Password AMEN.

Register now!
Password: AMEN



Tutoring: English classes and tutoring begins on January 14. We work with preschoolers through adults. We work with young children to be school ready and school age children to assist in homework /classroom needs and to improve spoken and written skills. We work with adults who are English Language learners and need specific help in learning both spoken and written English. We also assist in preparation for the written drivers' test and for the citizenship test. Please contact Shirley Wehmeier, shwehmeier@gmail.com, if you are interested in helping with students or if you know of someone who may benefit from this program.

Habitat for Humanity: Ascension Build Day with Habitat is Wednesday, Jan. 25. We will need a max of five volunteers. Please volunteer. We are excited to get back to serving our community in this important mission. Contact Nick Wagner, nwagner703@yahoo.com.

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 properly.

Church Staff Schedules: Over the next two weeks, we have a number of staff out of the office/unavailable: Brenda Lytle, Vicki Taylor, Edwin Aparicio, and Pastor Tony Acompañado. If you need something urgently, contact the church office directly.

CALENDAR

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

Sun Jan 8

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

12pm Los Reyes Magos lunch

6pm CRASH YR

7pm AA WH

Mon Jan 9

10am "With" Book Study HR

6:30pm "With" Book Study HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Jan 10

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

7pm Holloway Group HR

Wed Jan 11

7pm AA WH

Thu Jan 12

10am Al Anon CR

6pm JOLT

Fri Jan 13

1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Jan 14

9am Jubilate Rehearsal S

10am Tutoring

Sun Jan 15

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

7pm AA WH

Mon Jan 16

10a "With" Book Study HR

6:30p "With" Book Study HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Jan 17

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

7pm Church council HR

Wed Jan 18

12pm Young at Heart WH

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:30pm Choir S

Thu Jan 19

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

6pm JOLT

Sat Jan 21

10am Tutoring

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