



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

Second Sunday After Epiphany
10:45 a.m., Sunday, January 15, 2023

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*
Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

Anna Marien, *acolyte*
Jay and Robin Gallo, *Altar Guild*
Becky Hastings, Melody Maass, *communion*

Sue Mathews, Kathy Riutta, *communion*
Joe Morgenroth, *media*
Mike Rapp, *usher*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Holy God, you have called us to be holy; even as you are holy.

C: **We confess that we have not lived the disciples' life to which you have called us.**

P: We have ignored our pledge to take up your cross and follow in joyful obedience.

C: **We have become more conformed to the world, than transformed by you.**

P: We have relaxed our principles and justified our personal pleasure.

C: **Forgive our unfaithfulness to you, our wandering away.**

P: People of God hear these words of forgiveness: in the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SONGS

Because of Your Love

As we come into Your presence
We remember every blessing
That You've poured out so freely from above
Lifting gratitude and praises
For compassion so amazing
Lord we've come to give You thanks for all
You've done

Because of Your love, we're forgiven
Because of Your love, our hearts are clean
We lift You up, with songs of freedom
Forever we're changed, because of your love

The New Song We Sing

You are the God who reconciles
The wayward heart through Christ
The old has gone, the new has come
We are reconciled by love
We are reconciled by love

**And this is the new song we sing
To the King of Heaven
This is the new song we bring
After all You've given
We stand before You redeemed
As your children
This is the new song we sing**

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

SONG

Hosanna

I see the King of glory coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes
I see His love and mercy washing over all our sin
The people sing, the people sing

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest**

I see a generation rising up to take their place
With selfless faith, with selfless faith
I see a new revival stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees, we're on our knees (*Chorus*)

GOSPEL READING

John 1:29-42

[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples

heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

SONG

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in, oh His love for me
Who the Son sets free oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am

Free at last, He has ransomed me, His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me, Yes He died for me

**Who the Son sets free oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am
In my Father's house there's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am**

I am chosen, not forsaken, I am who You say I am
You are for me, not against me, I am who You say I am
I am chosen, not forsaken, I am who You say I am
You are for me, not against me
I am who You say I am, I am who You say I am (*Chorus*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please say, “Hear our prayer” and sing the above refrain after each petition.

Healing: Carol Ziarniak, surgery
Renée Klotz, hospitalized
Wendy Ward for her nephew, Henry, hospitalized with RSV
Jo Buth, hysterectomy for uterine cancer

God’s Care: For Fred Keller admitted to hospice with heart and liver failure

Comfort: For Cara Boyer and family at the death of her mother, Rosalie
For Carol Ziarniak at the death of her sister, Joyce

Thanksgiving: For the life and love of Lin Wollschlager on her birthday, Jan. 11

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

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



One Thing Remains

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant through the trial and the change
One thing remains, one thing remains

**Your love never fails, never gives up
Never runs out on me (3x)
Your love ...**

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never, ever, have to be afraid
One thing remains, one thing remains (*Chorus*)

In death, in life, I'm confident and
Covered by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid, there's nothing that can separate
My heart from Your great love (*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

Goodness of God

Ben Janzow

SONGS

Breathe

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe
Your Holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread
Your very word, spoken to me

**And I, I'm desperate for You
And I, I'm lost without You**

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe
Your Holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread
Your very word, spoken to me (*Chorus*)

Forever Reign

You are good, You are good when there's nothing good in me
You are love, You are love on display for all to see
You are light, You are light when the darkness closes in
You are hope, You are hope, You have covered all my sin

Oh, I'm running to Your arms, I'm running to Your arms
The riches of Your love will always be enough
Nothing compares to Your embrace
Light of the world forever reign

You are peace, You are peace when my fear is crippling
You are true, You are true even in my wandering
You are joy, You are joy, You're the reason that I sing
You are life, You are life, in You death has lost its sting (*Chorus*)

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

SONG

Grace

Called and chosen when I was far away
You brought me into your family
Free and forgiven, my guilt is washed away
Your loving kindness is life to me

'Cause it's grace, there's nothing I can do
To make You love me more
To make You love me less than You do
And by faith I'm standing on this stone
Of Christ and Christ alone
Your righteousness is all that I need
'Cause it's grace

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

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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.

Worship Help: We're always looking for volunteers to help during worship. If you're looking to get more involved at Ascension, please contact Tamie Greenwood, tamie@ascensionelca.org, about how you can help. See the tasks and schedule online, <https://tinyurl.com/worshisupport>.

Offering Envelopes & Pledging: 2023 Offering Envelopes are delayed. 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>.

Young at Heart (55+): Join us Wednesday, Jan. 18, at noon for a potluck lunch, fellowship and games. Bring a dish to pass if you’re able.

Pathway to Mental Wellness Event: Join us Sunday, Jan. 29 at 12 p.m. for a potluck lunch and to hear a presentation from the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) on “The Pathway to Understanding.” The presentation will offer a personal perspective of mental health conditions, providing an opportunity to hear open and honest perspectives on a highly-misunderstood topic.

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

AMEN Ministries

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

Register now!
Password: AMEN



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.

Hawthorne School Partnership: We are collecting new or very gently used coats, boots, hats and waterproof mittens for Hawthorne School. Outdoor play is encouraged and many children do not have the proper outdoor clothing. Place donations in the yellow bin in the narthex.

Winter Farmers' Market: Save the Date for the Winter Farmers' Market on March 12. Watch for details in the upcoming newsletters. Please plan to be part of a day to help local farmers and to enjoy the healthy food available.

Livestreaming: We offer livestreaming of our indoor, English worship services on our YouTube channel, <https://youtube.com/theascensionlutheran>, so you can join us virtually.

January News: Read pastoral perspectives, ministry news and more on our website, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>. Check out our Reflections Blog, featuring newsletter articles and other posts, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/reflections/>.

CALENDAR

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

Sun Jan 15

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

7pm AA WH

Mon Jan 16

10am Book Study HR

6:30pm 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

Sun Jan 22

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

6pm CRASH CR

7pm AA WH

Mon Jan 23

10am Book Study HR

6:30pm Book Study HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Jan 24

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

7pm Holloway Group HR

Wed Jan 25

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:30pm Choir S

Thu Jan 26

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

6pm JOLT

Sat Jan 28

10am Tutoring

Sun Jan 29

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Adoración EH

10:45am Worship S

12pm Mental Wellness Event



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