



1st Sunday of Lent
10:45 a.m., Sunday, February 26, 2023

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Associate Pastor*

Acolyte: Aidan Poling

Altar Guild: Kathy and Mike Tomchek

Communion: Sue Mathews, Cathy Rapp

Media: Joe Morgenroth

Ushers: Kathy and Mike Tomchek

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH WITNESS

Beth Hoffmann

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son †, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

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)**

God Is Able

God is able, He will never fail
He is almighty God
Greater than all we seek
Greater than all we ask
He has done great things

**Lifted up, He defeated the grave
Raised to life, our God is able
In His name, we overcome
For the Lord, our God is faithful**

God is with us, God is on our side
He will make a way, far above all we know
Far above all we hope
He has done great things (*Chorus*)

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

SONG

Step by Step

Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You
Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You

I will seek You in the morning
I will learn to walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me
I will follow You all of my days

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the

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Lord your God to the test.’ ” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Tony

SONG

Friend of God

Who am I that You are mindful of me	I am a friend of God
That You hear me, when I call	I am a friend of God
Is it true that You are thinking of me	I am a friend of God
How You love me, it’s amazing	He calls me friend

PRAYERS

Please say, “Hear our prayer” after each petition.

Comfort: For Kathy Johnson at the death of her father, Frank

Healing: Dorene Rudd, recovering from covid and double pneumonia

Jacque, Steve Boyer's sister, broken hip

With the Boyers for Richard, hospitalized, and for Leonard, tests and surgery

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Not for a Moment (After All)

You were reaching through the storm
Walking on the water
Even when I could not see
In the middle of it all
When I thought You were a thousand miles
away
Not for a moment did You forsake me
Not for a moment did You forsake me

You were singing in the dark
Whispering Your promise
Even when I could not hear
I was held in Your arms
Carried for a thousand miles to show
Not for a moment did You forsake me
Not for a moment did You forsake me
(Chorus)

After all You are constant
After all You are only good
After all You are sovereign
Not for a moment will You forsake me
Not for a moment will You forsake me



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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.

SONGS

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*)

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*)

I Love You, Lord

I love You Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship You, Oh my soul rejoice
Take joy my King, in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

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 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

Say, Say

Say, say, say you believe it
Sing for the whole world to hear it
We know and we declare that
Jesus is King (2x)

I believe (echo)
Your kingdom come (echo)
Son of God (echo)
King of love (echo) (2x)

SENDING

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: In the name of Christ. Amen.



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.

March Newsletter: The March newsletter is now available on our website, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

Starting Point for Membership: Interested in joining Ascension? We'll hold two informal sessions for people to get to know more about our church, on March 5 and March 19, between services. RSVP online <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers> or by phone or email (262-547-8518, admin@ascensionelca.org) to let us know you're interested.

Offering Envelopes: They're finally here! If you use them, check in the narthex for yours.

CRASH: CRASH meets tonight at 6 p.m.

GriefShare: If you or a loved one have suffered loss and would like some help and support, this may be the program for you. This group will provide help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Led by Pastor Tony, the program will begin on Tuesday, March 28, from 6-8p. Youth Room. Please fill-out the sign-up information online <https://tinyurl.com/GriefAscension> or by call to the church office, 262-547-8518.

Bunco! A group is forming to play Bunco at Ascension. Play begins Wednesday, March 22, at 1 p.m. Please contact Arlene Davis, 262-542-9119, or Beth Hoffmann, 262-542-7447, if interested.

Winter Farmer's Market: The Winter Farmer's Market on March 12 is a great opportunity to invite a friend to Ascension. Who can you invite to share in the market and experience Ascension's welcoming atmosphere? The market is free but there is a charge for the brunch. Tickets are available after services or online at <https://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension>. Tickets for the brunch are \$12/adults, \$8/senior, \$5/kid (4-10, under 4 free). \$30 maximum per family. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles. Go to the Sign-Up Genius to see how you can help, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCwmvol>.

Tutoring: We are in urgent need of someone to work with one of our middle school boys. We are also looking for people willing to sub as needed. We will give you guidance and support in how best to work with the students. Contact Shirley Wehmeier, shwehmeier@gmail.com

To Donate

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



Love Your Church, Love Your World: We're celebrating *Love Your Church/Love Your World*. We invite you to choose a heart from the windows of the narthex/lobby to purchase items or defray the cost of items already purchased.

ELCA Lutheran Disaster Relief: Donate online at <https://www.elca.org/> to help the people of Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes and aftershocks.

Dry or Packaged Items Only for the Blessing Box: Due to ongoing problems with cans and bottles exploding in the cold weather, we are limiting the donations for the Blessing Box to dried or packaged products. Please do not put cans or bottles in until further notice.

Outreach for Hope Lenten Devotions “God Sightings: Seeing God’s Movement in Our Day”
 For the 40 days of Lent (Mondays through Saturdays), there will be video devotions by the ministry partners, ministry supporters and staff. It is hoped that this series will inspire you to reflect on the gifts of partnership and accompaniment and how they may impact our faith walk at Ascension. See their website <https://outreachforhope.org/> for details on the varied ways you can access the devotions.

Upcoming Worship Support Schedule		
<i>See the complete schedule online https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</i>		
Sunday, March 5	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Maggie Miller	Hailey Pociask
Altar Guild	Gary Bauer	Cindy Finn, Kristine Wells
Communion	Elaine Kilgore, Jennifer Werner	Melody and Paul Maass
Media	Adam Boales	Cheryl Anspach
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner	Mark Pichler

Calendar next page.

Are You Visiting?

Date of Visit: _____

Time of Worship: _____

Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

How did God invite you here?

How can we share the life of Ascension with you?

- Newsletter: e-mail or U.S. Mail?
- BLAST (ages 3-5th gr.)
- JOLT (confirmation, 6-8th gr.)
- CRASH (high school)
- Bible study (small groups)
- Choirs or other music ministries
- Serving others (local/global options)
- Starting Point class (membership)

Please place in the offering plate.



CALENDAR

Calendar <https://ascensionelca.org/events/>

Sun Feb 26

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

10:45am Misa EH

10:45am Worship S

6pm CRASH CR

7pm AA WH

Mon Feb 27

6:30pm AA Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

7pm Jubilate S

Tue Feb 28

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible
CR

6pm Handbells S

7pm Holloway Group
HR

7:15pm Choir S

Wed Mar 1

11:30am Staff meeting
HR

6pm Soup supper EH

6:45pm Worship S

7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 2

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

6pm JOLT

Fri Mar 3

1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Mar 4

8:30am Leadership event

9am Tutoring

Sun Mar 5

8:30am Worship S

9:50am BLAST

Sun Mar 5 cont.

10am Starting Point HR

10:45am Misa EH

10:45am Worship S

12pm Private Event WH

7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 6

6:30pm AA Sm Group
WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Mar 7

9:30am Women's Bible
CR

6pm Handbells S

6:30pm Mission Out-
reach HR

7:15pm Choir S

Wed Mar 8

6pm Soup supper EH &
Kit

6:45pm Worship S

7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 9

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

Sat Mar 11

9am Jubilate Rehearsal S

9am Tutoring

1pm Market setup WH

Key

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth rm
MG	Memorial Gardens
N	Narthex
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>