



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

2nd Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m., March 5, 2023

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Associate Pastor*

Edwin Aparicio, *Pastoral Intern*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolyte: Maggie Miller

Altar Guild: Gary Bauer

Choir Accompanist: Kathy Johnson

Communion: Elaine Kilgore, Jennifer Werner

Media: Adam Boales

Ushers: Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr,
Scot Werner

PRELUDE

Erhalt uns Herr bei deinem Wort

(Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word), *Dietrich Buxtehude*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

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

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

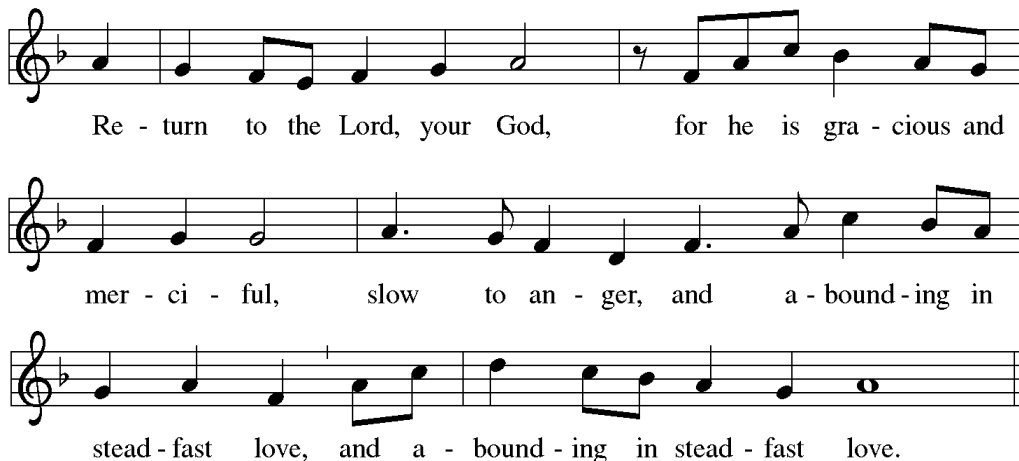
P: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

LENTEN VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

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

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

GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Tony

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW 765

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

Comfort: With the Boyers for the family and friends of Richard Sharp at his death

God's Care: For Mark and Peter Passante, mental health and financial challenges

Healing: For Sheri Greger's mom, Kathy, recovery following double knee replacement

Thanksgiving: With the Boales family for Emily's 6th birthday and Jonathan's 8th birthday

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Just as I Am, *arr. Howard Helvey*

Ascension Choir

OFFERTORY

Where Charity and Love Prevail (v. 2)

ELW 359

With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.

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

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PROPER PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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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 white grape juice are available.

LAMB OF GOD

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HYMNS

Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW 781

Baptized and Set Free

ELW 453

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW 773

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 God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW 632

SENDING

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Psalm 19: The Heavens Declare, *Benedetto Marcello*



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.

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/>.

Lily Donations: Sign-up on the form on the back page to donate a lily for the sanctuary on Easter.

Wednesday Soup Suppers & Worship: Through March 29, we will have soup suppers at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 6:45 p.m. We will be looking for soup and bread. Please sign-up on the board in the narthex.

Offering Envelopes: For those who use them, offering envelopes are ready for pick-up. If you'd like offering envelopes, please contact the church office, tamie@ascensionelca.org.

Endowment Fund Requests: The Endowment Committee is now accepting requests for distribution of funds to support and enhance the ministries, missions, and physical premises of Ascension apart from the annual budget. Requests must be submitted by March 31 to be considered. Requests can be made by email to a member of the Endowment Committee: Jim Hahn, jwhahn@milwpc.com; Ric Simon, ricsimon@yahoo.com, or Jessica Jahner, jessicajahner@gmail.com, or to Pastor Chris.

Starting Point for Membership: Interested in joining Ascension? We'll hold two sessions for people to get to know more about our church, today and March 19, between services. RSVP online <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers> or talk to Pastor Chris.

BLAST Easter Egg Hunt Donations: BLAST families will be participating in an Easter egg hunt followed by lunch on Sunday, April 2. To help us prepare, we are looking for donations of individually wrapped candies small enough to fit in an Easter egg. Some great ideas would be chocolate miniatures or Kisses, Starbursts, etc. Please place donations in the baskets in the narthex by March 19.

JOLT & CRASH: CRASH will meet tonight at 6 p.m. and JOLT will meet on Thursday, March 16. (No JOLT on March 9.)

Children's Choir: In March, children's choir will meet Thursdays, March 9, 16 and 23 from 5 to 5:40 p.m. On Sunday, March 19, they will sing at 10:45 Spanish & English worship. There is no choir on March 30 for Spring Break.

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



Winter Farmers' Market March 12: Please purchase your tickets today for the Farmer's Market Brunch. We need to know how many people to expect. Tickets for the brunch are available from the table in the narthex and cost \$12/adults, \$8/senior, \$5/kid (4-10, under 4 free). \$30 maximum per family. Volunteers are also needed. Please visit the table in the narthex to see how you can help or sign-up online, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCwmvol>.

GriefShare: If you or a loved one have suffered loss and would like some help and support, this may be the program for you. Led by Pastor Tony, the program will be held on Tuesdays beginning on Tuesday, March 28, from 6-8 p.m. in the Conference Room. Please sign-up online or by call to the church office, 262-547-8518.

Tutoring: We are still in need of people to substitute. You will receive guidance and resources to use with the students. Contact Shirley Wehmeier shwehmeier@gmail.com if you can help.

Become a Homeowner With Habitat for Humanity: Habitat Waukesha is looking for families who are interested in becoming a homeowner. Sweat equity becomes the down payment. Applications are available on their website, <https://www.habitatwaukesha.org/>.

Blessing Box & the Food Pantry: Food benefits have been reduced for many families starting in March as the additional benefits given by the government during the pandemic have ended. Our donations can make a difference. Please remember to pick up a few items from the grocery store and put them in the marked bins in the Donation Center.

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.

Calendar on the back page.

Upcoming Worship Support Schedule		
<i>See the complete schedule online https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</i>		
Sunday, March 12	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Elsa Kinunen	Cole Reinfeldt
Altar Guild	Julie Kinunen	Jane Collins, Sue Mathews
Communion	Julie Kinunen, Todd Schroeder	Jane Collins, Sue Mathews
Media	Brian Novotny	Andrew Marien
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Al Wollschlager	2 needed!

Easter Lily Donations

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for our sanctuary, please fill-out this form and place in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. Lilies are \$15 each.



Donor(s)

Donation amount \$ _____

This donation is given (*please check*):

In celebration of the resurrection of Jesus

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of:

Donated in memory of:

Thank you for helping make the sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

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

Sun Mar 5

8:30am Worship S
 9:50am BLAST
 10am Starting Point HR
10:45am Misa EH
10:45am Worship S
 6pm CRASH
 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 HR
 7:15pm Choir S

Wed Mar 8

6pm Soup supper EH
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 N
 HR

Sun Mar 12

8am Winter Farmer's
 Market N WH HR
8:30am Worship S
**10:45am Misa en espa-
 ñol EH**
10:45am Worship S
 12pm Private Event 106
 7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 13

6:30pm AA Sm Group
 WH
 6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Mar 14

9:30am Women's Bible
 CR
 5pm Cloverleaf WH
 6pm Handbells S
 7pm Holloway Group HR
 7:30pm Choir S

Wed Mar 15

12pm Young at Heart
 WH
 6pm Soup supper EH
6:45pm Worship S
 7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 16

9:30am TGIT HR
 10am Al Anon CR
 5pm Children's Choir
 6pm JOLT

Fri Mar 17

1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Mar 18

9am Choir S
 9am Tutoring
 12pm Handbells S
 12:30pm Knit Wits HR
 1pm Private event 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>