



16th Sunday After Pentecost
8:30 a.m., September 17, 2023

Worship Leadership

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*
Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*
Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Altar Guild: Gary Bauer
Choir Accompanist: Kathy Johnson
Communion: Carol and Steve Spieker, Paul Wehmeier
Greeters: Sharon Coralline, Elaine Kilgore
Media: Buck Houston
Ushers: Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Al Wollschlager

PRELUDE

In Thee Is Gladness, *Michael Burkhardt*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 \dagger , and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

ELW 865

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

p. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

p. 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?




You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

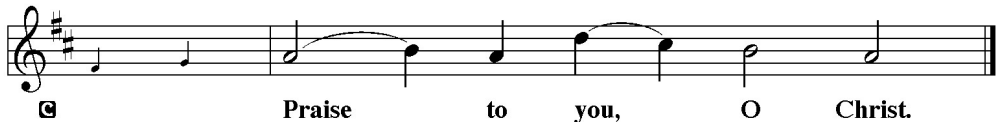
GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



SERMON

Pastor Tony

HYMN

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

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: Deb Izu, covid

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

The Gift of Love, arr. Hopson
American Folk Tune

Ascension Choir

	<p style="text-align: center;">Many Ways to Give</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>QR code</i>• <i>Vanco Giving app on your smartphone</i>• <i>Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount</i>• <i>Check or cash (with or without envelope.)</i>
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OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

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

p. 154

HYMNS

Come, Let Us Eat

ELW 491

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

ELW 605

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and forever.

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**In Thee Is Gladness****ELW 867****SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE**Rondeau, *John-Joseph Mouret***



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.

Pew Pads: Please fill-out the blue pew pad and pass it to your neighbor. You might make a new friend.

Greeters: We're looking for people who can help on Sunday mornings and greet people. Please contact Jan Zastrow, janzastrow29@gmail.com, if you'd like to volunteer.

Children's Choir Resumes: Children's choir for grades K-6 begins on Thursday, Sept. 21, 5 to 5:40 p.m. Children are welcome to join in at any time during the year. Contact Vicki Taylor, vicki@ascensionelca.org, to sign up.

Choir and Handbells: Ascension Choirs resumed rehearsals last week. The Ascension Ringers Handbell choir meets from 6-7:10 p.m., and the Ascension Choir rehearses from 7:15-8:15. Contact Vicki Taylor, vicki@ascensionelca.org, to join!

Worship at Green Meadows Farm: Join us on Sunday, Oct. 1, for worship on the farm. Come join us for worship beginning at 10:45 a.m., enjoy a potluck lunch (sandwiches, chips, and water are provided), and spend the rest of your day enjoying the farm. Cost is \$15 per person (under 2 free). RSVP online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCFarm23>. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert to share (bring your own utensils). No electricity or coolers are available so plan accordingly.

BLAST Registration: The first BLAST class is today starting at 9:45 am. Please register online <https://tinyurl.com/BLAST23-24>.

CRASH: CRASH will meet today after the second service for orientation and lunch. See you!

Adult Ed: Join Pastor Tony on Mondays, at either 10 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. to study *Grace* by Max Lucado starting Sept. 18. Register online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCAdultEd> or contact Pastor Tony. Books are \$10 and can be obtained from Pastor Tony with prior notice.

JOLT Resumes: On Thursday, Sept. 21, 6-7 p.m. students entering grades 6-8 along with a parent/guardian meet for JOLT Registration and Information Night.

It's Here! Check out our new donation page! <https://tinyurl.com/SupportALC>.

GriefShare: If you or someone you love is struggling after a death of a loved one we invite you to consider finding help and encouragement through Ascension's grief support ministry, Grief-Share. GriefShare is led by Pastor Tony and meets Tuesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Sign-up online <https://tinyurl.com/GriefAscension> or contact Pastor Tony, tony@ascensionelca.org or 262-547-8518.

Get Connected: Do you get Ascension's e-alerts? If not, sign-up and never miss another event or announcement. Sign-up online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCealert> or contact the church office.

Young at Heart (55+) Outing: Young at Heart is going to the Schauer Arts Center by motor-coach on Friday, Oct. 27, to see *One Night in Memphis*, a concert tribute to legendary Sun Records recording artists Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley. Dinner at the Mineshaft after the show will also be included. The total cost is only \$75! We will be signing people up and collecting money today at church. The last day to turn in money is Wednesday, Sept. 20, at our Young at Heart potluck.

Outreach for Hope Ride-Walk-Run: Check out Ascension's team page, <https://tinyurl.com/ASCteamOFH>, for the Outreach for Hope Family Ride Run Walk, scheduled for Sept. 30. Want to join us in Dousman, Grafton, Kenosha or Milwaukee on Sept. 30? See the Outreach for Hope website, ofhrrw.org, to learn more about the event and to register. You may also view the display in the narthex or speak to team captain Beth Hoffmann.

NAMI Walks Oct. 7: Take a stand and walk for mental health for all. NAMI Walks 2023 represents a powerful chance to publicly declare your commitment to mental health awareness, education, support, and for ending the stigma. Sign-up on the display in the narthex or visit namiwalks.org to register. Please tell Teri Quam, tquam61@gmail.com, if you are going.

Welcome Home Sunday: Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this special day a grand success. We thank the committee who worked tirelessly, the kitchen coordinators and volunteers, and those who donated food and the prizes for the bingo games. Newer members and long time members worked side by side prepping food, setting up, taking down while friendships formed. Thanks especially to Pastors Tony and Edwin for going into the dunk tank. It made the day so much more fun!

Membership: Interested in joining Ascension? Please indicate your interest by filling-out this online form <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers> or contacting the church office, 262-547-8518. We will have a brief, information session on Sunday, Oct. 15, at 9:50 a.m. to let you know about Ascension and answer any questions.

September Newsletter: The September newsletter is online, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

Upcoming Worship Support Schedule		
<i>See the complete schedule online https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</i>		
Sunday, Sept. 24	8:30am	10:45am
Acolytes	Aidan Miller	Joshua Gunderson
Altar Guild	Marge Schroeder	Kathy and Mike Tomchek
Communion	Elaine Kilgore, Becky Pepper, Marge and Todd Schroeder	Mary Ellen Comp, Melody and Paul Maass
Greeters	Nancy Cahen, Jim Koestner	Iva Richards, Becky Hastings
Media	Kurt Werner	Joe Morgenroth
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Brian Novotny	Kathy and Mike Tomchek

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 Sep 17

8:30am Worship S

9:45am BLAST

10:45am Misa EH

10:45am Worship S

12pm CRASH WH

7pm AA WH

Mon Sep 18

10am Book Study HR

6:30pm AA Small Group

WH

6:30pm Book Study HR

Tues Sep 19

7a AMEN Z

9:30am Women's Bible

CR

6pm GriefShare CR

7pm Council HR

Wed Sep 20

12pm YAH WH

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Sep 21

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al-Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

MR

6pm JOLT EH

Sat Sep 23

9am Jubilate S

12:30pm KnitFest WH

Sun Sep 24

8:30am Worship S

9:45am BLAST

10:45am Worship S

10:45am Misa EH

7pm AA WH

Mon Sep 25

10am Book Study HR

6:30pm AA Small Group

WH

6:30pm Book Study HR

Tues Sep 26

7am AMEN Z

9:30am Women's Bible

CR

6pm GriefShare CR

7pm Holloway Group HR

Wed Sep 27

1pm Bunco WH

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Sep 28

10am Al-Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir

MR

6pm JOLT EH

Key

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth rm
MG	Memorial Gardens
N	Narthex
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall

Italics Virtual or offsite



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