



26th Sunday after Pentecost
10:45 a.m., November 17, 2024

Worship Leadership

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

Acolyte: Bly Dringenburg
Altar Guild: Jay and Robin Gallo
Communion: Diane and Rick Dowling
Communion: Jeff Froh
Media: Cheryl Anspach
Usher: Mike Rapp

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / BLESSING OF THE HATS

SONG

Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You
We turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You
We long for you

When we see You we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away
Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You
We turn to you
In Your kingdom broken lives are made new
You make us new (*Chorus*)

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SONG

This Is Our God

Remember those walls that we called sin and shame
They were like prisons that we couldn't escape
But He came and He died and He rose
Those walls are rubble now

Remember those giants we called death and grave
They were like mountains that stood in our way
But He came and He died and He rose
Those giants are dead now

This is our God, this is who He is, He loves us
This is our God, this is what He does, He saves us
He bore the cross, beat the grave
Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God, King Jesus

Remember that fear that took our breath away
Faith so weak that we could barely pray
But He heard every word every whisper

Now those altars in the wilderness
Tell the story of His faithfulness
Never once did He fail and He never will
(Chorus)

Who pulled me out of that pit
He did, He did
Who paid for all of our sin
Nobody but Jesus
Who pulled me out of that pit
He did, He did
Who paid for all of our sin
Nobody but Jesus **(Chorus)**

He bore the cross, beat the grave
Let heaven and earth proclaim
This is our God, King Jesus

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

SONG

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Christ alone, cornerstone
Weak made strong, in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
(Chorus)

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:11-32

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer

worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

SONG

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, all will see
How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead three in one, the Father, Spirit and Son
The lion and the lamb, the lion and the lamb (*Chorus*)

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RITE OF CONFIRMATION

P: I present the following students who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Kellen Robert Johnson

Mira Marie Schaefer

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray...Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Confirmands: I do.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Confirmands: I do.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Confirmands: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

To live among God's faithful people,

To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

To serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and

To strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Confirmands may kneel. The pastors pray for God's blessing over each confirmand.

P: People of God, do you promise to support this sister and brother and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P: Let us pray: Holy God, we give you thanks for this day. For the gift of faith from your open hands. For the hope you offer to each of us and to all the world. For the life, death, and resurrection of your Son, Jesus and the promise of eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS

Please say, "Hear our prayer" and sing the following refrain after each petition.

**How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, all will see
How great, how great is our God**

Healing: With the Maass' for their infant grandson George, upcoming kidney surgery

Comfort: For the Murray family at the death of Becky

OFFERING

Build My Life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

**Jesus, the name above every other name
Jesus, the only one who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, We live for You**

**Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and
Show me who you are and fill me with Your heart
and lead me in Your love to those around me (Repeat)**

And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken
And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken

Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and
Show me who you are and fill me with Your heart
and lead me in Your love to those around me

Ways to Give



- *Vanco Giving app*
- *Online at [ti-nyurl.com/SupportALC](https://ti.nyurl.com/SupportALC)*
- *Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount*

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

Good Good Father

SONGS

Stronger

There's love that came for us
Humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and sinfulness
You rose again victorious

**You are stronger, You are stronger
Sin is broken, You have saved me
It is written, Christ has risen
Jesus You are Lord of all (2x)**

Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through the fire
There's truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me

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)**

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.

SONG

God Is on the Move

Anytime a heart turns from darkness to light
Anytime temptation comes and someone stands to fight
Anytime somebody lives to serve and not be served
I know, I know, I know, I know

God is on the move, on the move, hallelujah
God is on the move in many mighty ways
God is on the move, on the move, hallelujah
God is on the move on the move today

Anytime in weakness someone falls upon their knees
Or dares to speak the truth that sets us free
Anytime the choice is made to stand upon the Word
I know, I know, I know, I know (*Chorus*)

I see a generation standing on the Truth
In each and every nation God is on the move (*Chorus*)

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Support Schedule https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport		
Nov. 24	8:30a	10:45a
Acolytes	Aidan Miller	Ryan Rees
Altar Guild	Julie Kinunen	Kathy and Mike Tomchek
Communion	Julie Kinunen, Becky Pepper	Mary Ellen Comp, Mike Tomchek, Gary Wipperman
Greeters	Bob and Jan Zastrow	n/a
Media	Buck Houston	Anna Marien
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier	Mark Pichler

God Is on the Move: Cliff Williams | Ian Eskelin | Mikey Howard | Tony Wood © 2015 Curb Congregation Songs, Tony Wood Songs, Aevinesaint Music, Love Journey Music, Moms Like Us Too, Promotion and Relegation Music. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 90978

Faith Statements

Kellen Robert Johnson

Deuteronomy 4:29

“You will look for the Lord your God, and if you search for him with all your heart, you will find him.”

In my life Jesus is someone who shows me how to put others first. He helps me see that other people's feelings matter. He is someone who inspires me to be the best I can be every day. Jesus is someone who I know watches over people.

Some experiences I have had with my family and church that have influenced what I believe are things I see on our road trips and hikes. They just remind me how amazing our Earth is. Some of the things at church that have influenced what I believe are when we pray, it makes me feel better.

Some people that have been influential and encouraging on my faith journey are my mom and dad. They help get me to church and they help me understand the importance of faith. I also know that they will always support me on this journey no matter which path I take. They always listen whenever I have questions and they always answer them or guide me in the right direction to figure it out for myself.

Some ways I will continue to grow in my faith as a Christian is being kind and helping others in everyday life. I will always put others first and show people that their opinions and feelings matter. I will not make anyone feel like they don't fit in.

I see myself serving Jesus in everyday life by showing kindness to people. I also see myself serving Jesus by respecting others and listening to what they have to say. I will also help people who need it or ask for it. I will show others why being kind to people and helping people is so important.

Mira Marie Schaefer

John 14:1-4

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms. If that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

I see Jesus as a source of guidance, strength, and love, a role model for living a righteous life, and someone who provides comfort and hope in challenging times. I feel that he has always been a reason in the back of my mind to keep pursuing through life and hard moments that it carries. He is the foundation of my life, and he is the reason I have hope and strive to be a better person every day.

Growing up, my family emphasized the importance of faith. We attended church on Sundays and often had small discussions about Bible stories and moral teachings. These moments helped give me a better sense of community and the value of living a Christian life. Participating in youth group activities like jolt and crash has also been beneficial to take time to learn more about the importance of faith and taking time to study the Bible.

The most encouraging and influential people in my faith journey would probably be my family, pastors and friends. They have all been important figures in my life, and they have all helped me learn the importance of faith in action, the value of community, and the power of prayer. And, these people continue to inspire me to support and encourage others in their faith journeys as they did for me. I would never have made it this far in my life without the encouragement and support of these people who have guided me through every step of my life.

To grow as a Christian, I intend to continue a daily routine by setting aside dedicated time each day for personal prayer and reflection. I also plan to participate in church youth groups like crash to learn from others and continue to learn more about the church. I also intend to continue to help those in need, whether through volunteering with local charities or participating in mission trips. From what I’ve learned to this point, serving others is a powerful way to show my faith and demonstrate Christ’s love.

I believe I have served Jesus well in my everyday life, even through the small things. I see it starting with how I interact with others on a daily basis. I try to be my best everyday, and strive for qualities such as kindness, patience, and compassion in my relationships, whether it’s at home, at school, or really anywhere. I believe that small acts of kindness can be powerful, so I make an effort to lend a helping hand to neighbors, support friends and family in need, or simply offer a listening ear to someone who is going through a tough time. Additionally, I volunteer with school events like key club, which I joined because I believe it is beneficial to help those who are less fortunate, and I find that my service not only benefits others but improves my own faith journey as well.



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. There are also Busy Bags available in the lobby.

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

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be held today between services to elect 2025 council, approve the budget, and hear from church leaders about 2024.

2025 Commitment Cards: If you have not yet turned in your 2025 commitment card or entered your commitment online, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCpledge>, please consider doing so before the end of November. Even if you are unsure as to the total financial offering you would share to tell the story of God's love in the world, your signature on a card and your commitment to support the ministry and mission of Ascension is a faithful commitment in responding to all that God has done and is doing in your life and through our church.

2025 Online Giving: We understand that several of you have inquired about increasing your monthly electronic offering and have found the website difficult to navigate. In truth, our giving platform does not make it easy to change a recurring monthly offering. If it is easier to do so, please feel free to call or email Joan Birner, jbirner1@wi.rr.com, Ascension's Financial Secretary and she can facilitate a change in your monthly online giving.

JOLT: JOLT meets Thursday, Nov. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Please note the later time!

CRASH Kringle Sale: Please consider purchasing kringles from our CRASH students as they begin fundraising for this summer's service trip to the Appalachian region of Kentucky. Kringle pickup will be Dec. 8.

Angel Tree: Visit the Angel Tree in the lobby and choose an angel to donate gift cards for the Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha to be given to parents for children's gifts and for toys for Ascension's Toddler Town.

Healing Hearts With Chili: Help! Ascension will be serving a chili supper for the Healing Hearts Waukesha program participants on Monday, Nov. 25. See the Sign-Up Genius, <https://tinyurl.com/HHChili2024>, to find out how you can support families going through a time of loss or other struggles.

Long Underwear Collection: AMEN is collecting mens/womens long underwear for local shelters. Place donations in the yellow bin in the narthex.

Ways to Give



- *Vanco Giving app*
- *Online at tinyurl.com/SupportALC*
- *Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount*

Serving the Servers: As a special Thanksgiving project, Mission Outreach will be holding a cookie bake on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and then delivering the cookies and thank you notes to the local police and fire stations. Please sign-up online, <https://tinyurl.com/ServingNov2024>, to show how thankful we are for those who protect and serve us.

Bingo Night for the Women of Ascension: Join us on Friday, Dec. 6, 6 to 8 p.m. for a night out with the ladies! Bring a \$10 wrapped gift and an appetizer or dessert to share. There will be prizes, food and fun! Please sign-up to bring something, <https://tinyurl.com/Dec6Bingo>. Contact Ileen Marien, ileenmarien@gmail.com, with questions.

Mt. Meru Coffee: Consider purchasing coffee for your holiday gatherings from Ascension's Mt. Meru Coffee Project. If what you'd like isn't available in the cabinet, please fill-out the order form. Your order will be ready for pick-up at church just a few days later. Don't forget to put some money in the basket to help us support coffee farmers in Tanzania! Last week, we collected only \$2.75!

Clothes for the Cold: Outreach for Hope's annual Clothes for the Cold drive is back! You can easily give online, <https://outreachforhope.org/clothes-for-the-cold>. Each \$10 gift up to our \$4000 fundraising goal means one more coat for our Ministry Partners to share with neighbors in need across the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA.

Jubilate Chorale Joy & Wonder: The Jubilate Chorale will present their Christmas concert, Joy and Wonder, on Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Brookfield, and on Sunday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa. Tickets are available online at jubilatechorale.org or from Vicki Taylor, vicki@ascensionelca.org.

Reflections Blog: Too busy to read the entire newsletter? Browse our Reflections Blog for individual articles that might interest you! <https://ascensionelca.org/events/reflections/>

Get Connected: Do you get Ascension's e-alerts? If not, sign-up and never miss another event or announcement. We send out e-alerts weekly on Wednesday and occasionally for special notices. Sign-up online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCealert> or contact the church office.

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 (membership)

Please place in the offering plate.

CALENDAR

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

Sun Nov 17

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Blast
9:45am Annual Mtg S
10:45am Misa EH
10:45am Worship S
7pm AA WH

Mon Nov 18

6pm AMEN CR
6:30pm AA Sm Group
WH
7pm Jubilate rehearsal S

Tue Nov 19

7am AMEN zoom
9:30am Women's Bible
CR
7pm Church council HR

Wed Nov 20

12pm Young at Heart
WH
6pm Handbells S
7pm AA WH
7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Nov 21

9:30am TGIT HR
10am Al Anon CR
1pm Hansen Group CR
5pm Children's Choir
MR
5:45pm Youth Choir
MR
6:30pm JOLT EH

Fri Nov 22

11am Cloverleaf EH

Sun Nov 24

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Blast
10:45am Misa EH
10:45am Worship S
6pm CRASH
7pm AA WH

Mon Nov 25

*5pm Healing Hearts
meal*
6pm AMEN CR
6:30pm AA Sm Group
WH

Tue Nov 26

7am AMEN zoom
9:30am Women's Bible
CR
6pm Handbells S
7pm Holloway Mtg HR
7:15pm Adult Choir S

Wed Nov 27

7pm AA WH

Thu Nov 28

Thanksgiving Day
Office closed

Fri Nov 29

Office closed

Key

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



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