

Hope



**First Sunday of Advent**  
8:30 a.m., December 1, 2024

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolyte:** Marta Aparicio **Altar Guild:** Gary Bauer

**Communion:** Darlene DiBrito, Jennifer Werner

**Greeters:** Cheryl Werner, Jennifer Werner

**Media:** Adam Boales **Reader:** Sheri Greger

**Ushers:** Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Jim Hahn

**PRELUDE** Chorale Prelude on "Wachet Auf" (Wake, Awake), *J. S. Bach*

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*v. 1-3*)

**ELW 257**

**ADVENT 1—LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**P:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us with hope, as we light this candle to keep watch for your arrival.

**C:** **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**Glory to God**

**p. 139**

**PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray... A candle burns, the first marker of our Advent journey. As we set out, may we travel hopefully. As we set out, God of journeys, travel with us.

**C:** **Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**Pastor Tony**

**FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

**A:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Prepare the Royal Highway (v. 1)****ELW 264****GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.****GOSPEL READING****Luke 21:25-36**

[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.


**C: Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON****Pastor Tony****HYMN****Rejoice, Rejoice Believers****ELW 244****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Healing:** Linda Hansen, heart procedure on 11/29  
Al Wollschlager, cervical spinal surgery on 12/5

**SHARING OF THE PEACE****OFFERING**

**Comfort Ye and Ev’ry Valley Shall Be Exalted**  
*(from Messiah), G. F. Handel*

**Jeff Britton**

	<p><b>Many Ways to Give Electronically</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>QR code</i></li> <li>• <i>VancoMobile Giving app on your smartphone</i></li> <li>• <i>Online at <a href="http://tinyurl.com/SupportALC">tinyurl.com/SupportALC</a></i></li> <li>• <i>Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount</i></li> </ul>
---	---

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe who brings forth bread from the earth.  
Alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another: God of mercy...

**C: We confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.  
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P: God of might...

**C: We confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have  
trusted false promises.**

P: God in our midst...

**C: We confess that we have sinned. We ask you to come to us, that we may know your for-  
giveness and feel your presence in us.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God for-  
gives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his au-  
thority, 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.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING****p. 144****PROPER PREFACE****HOLY, HOLY, HOLY****p. 144****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 res-  
urrection 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. 146****HYMNS****What Feast of Love****ELW 487**

<b>HYMNS</b>	<b>Come Now, O Prince of Peace</b>	<b>ELW 247</b>
	<b>Christ, Be Our Light</b>	<b>ELW 715</b>

### **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.**

<b>CLOSING HYMN</b>	<b>Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying</b>	<b>ELW 436</b>
---------------------	---	----------------

#### **SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

<b>POSTLUDE</b>	<b>Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers, <i>setting by David Lasky</i></b>
-----------------	---



# 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. 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!

**Poinsettia Donations:** If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), please fill-out the form on the next page and place it in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. You may also fill out the form online at <https://tinyurl.com/PoinsettiaALC> and pay online.

**Advent Book Study:** Pastor Chris is leading a 4-week study beginning Monday, Dec. 2, at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on the book *The First Advent in Palestine: Reversals, Resistance, and the Ongoing Complexity of Hope* by Kelley Nikondeha. Welcome the season of Advent with reflection, candlelight, song, and study. Books are \$20. RSVP to Pastor Chris, [pc@ascensionelca.org](mailto:pc@ascensionelca.org).

**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](mailto:jbirner1@wi.rr.com), Ascension's Financial Secretary, and she can facilitate a change in your monthly online giving.

**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. Parents can then go shopping for their children and feel the pride of selecting their gifts. Bring the gift cards to the church office.

**Christmas Light Recycling:** Burned out Christmas lights are always a problem. First, they annoy us when they don't light and secondly, they annoy us when we don't know how to dispose of them. We will again collect tree lights for proper recycling. Place them in the marked bin in the Donation Center. Creation Care will assure proper recycling.

**AMEN Christmas Gathering and Long Underwear Collection:** This year's Annual Men's Christmas Gathering and Long Underwear Collection for Hope Center is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Historic North Pillar Brewing Co., 212 E. North St., Waukesha. Drop-off much-needed long underwear (men's or women's) and enjoy Christian fellowship as we celebrate this special time in the church year. Pizza will be served at 6 p.m. We are asking for a \$15 donation per person to offset the cost. Please RSVP by text to Steve Boyer, 262-366-4078, ASAP so we have a head count for pizza. Donations may also be brought to church.

**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](mailto: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. Ascension is proud to be a founding member of this project and a top seller of this special coffee.

**Food Pantry and Blessing Box:** As you do your grocery shopping this coming week, remember those who are in need. Bring your food donations to church and put them in the marked bins in the Donation Center. We are seeing a much heavier use than during the summer months.

**Supporting Children & Families in El Salvador:** Ascension is collecting funds in December to send to San Jorge Church to purchase backpacks and shoes for the children in their community. \$20 will provide a backpack and \$40 will provide a pair of shoes. We are hoping to send funds to support forty children. We are also collecting to send funds for an end-of-the-year food basket for each family. The baskets are simple, but contain food basics that help ease hunger during the holiday. We hope to provide food baskets for forty families, at a cost of \$50 a basket. You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/ALCSJES> or with a check that states El Salvador in the memo line.

**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, [jubilatechorale.org](http://jubilatechorale.org), or from Vicki Taylor.

**December Newsletter:** Read all about December at Ascension including pastoral reflections and ways to worship, grow and serve with Ascension, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

**Prayer Requests:** Prayer requests may be made using the yellow prayer card in the pew, online <https://ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers/>, by email to [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org), or phone message to the church office, 262-547-8518.

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</a>		
<b>Sunday, Dec. 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Eli Escobedo	Callum Reinfeldt
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marge Schroeder	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
<b>Communion</b>	Marge Schroeder, Paul Wehmeier	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews, Cathy Rapp
<b>Greeters</b>	Bob and Karen Schmiechen	n/a
<b>Media</b>	Cheryl Werner	Jeff Froh
<b>Reader</b>	Jennifer Werner	Rick Dowling
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer	Cynthia and Mike Carlson

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

**Sun Dec 1**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am Blast

**10:45am Misa EH**

**10:45am Worship S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 2**

10am Advent Book

Study HR, S

6pm AMEN CR

6pm Advent Book Study

HR, S

6:30pm AA Sm Group

WH

**Tue Dec 3**

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible

**Wed Dec 4**

11:30am Staff Meeting

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Dec 5**

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

1pm Hansen Group HR

5pm Children's Choir

5:45pm Youth Choir

6pm AMEN Christmas Party

**Fri Dec 6**

6pm Women's Bingo

**Key**

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

**Sat Dec 7**

2pm CRASH CR

**Sun Dec 8**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am Journey to Bethlehem

9:45am Kringle pick-up

**10:45am Misa EH**

**10:45am Worship S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 9**

10am Advent Book

Study HR, S

5pm *Healing Hearts*

*Dinner*

6pm AMEN CR

6pm Advent Book Study

HR, S

6:30pm AA Sm Group

WH

**Tue Dec 10**

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible

CR

7pm Holloway Mtg HR

**Wed Dec 11**

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Dec 12**

**6am Annunciation**

**Worship EH**

10am Al Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir MR

5:45pm Youth Choir

MR

**Sat Dec 14**

**6pm Advent Concert**  
**Worship S**



**Poinsettia Donations**

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), 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.

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

In celebration of Jesus' birth

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donated in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**Donor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed form along with your payment to the church office or place in the offering plate. You may also pay on our website and mark it "Poinsettia."

# 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.**



Ascension Lutheran Church  
1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI  
262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](http://ascensionelca.org)