



Second Sunday of Advent

10:45 a.m., December 8, 2024

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

Acolyte: Callum Reinfeldt

Altar Guild: Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews

Communion: Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews, Cathy Rapp

Media: Jeff Froh **Reader:** Rick Dowling

Ushers: Cynthia and Mike Carlson

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG

Before the world was made
Before You spoke it to be
You were the King of kings
Yes, You were, yes, You were
And now You're reigning still
Enthroned above all things
Angels and saints cry out
We join them as we sing

Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever
Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever

Glory to God Forever

Creator God, You gave
Me breath so I could praise
Your great and matchless name
All my days, all my days
So let my whole life be
A blazing offering, a life that shouts and sings
The greatness of our King (*Chorus*)

Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours
Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours
We sing (*Chorus*)

ADVENT 2—LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God. One candle to remind us of hope, the second candle to lead us in the way of peace, calling us to change our living to prepare for the coming of Christ.

C: **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.**

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

P: Let us pray... Holy God, a candle burns, the second marker of our Advent journey. As we continue, may we travel peacefully. As we continue, God of journeys, speak to us.

C: **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Shepherds, why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song
(Chorus)

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

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SONG

Adore

You stepped down from heaven
Humbly You came
God of all creation
Here with us
In a starlit manger Emmanuel
Light of the world here to save

Wise men bring their treasures
Shepherds bow low
Angel voices sing
Of peace on earth
What have I to offer to heaven's King
I will bring my life my love my all
(Chorus)

Adore

Come let us adore

O come let us adore Him

The Lord

Worship Christ the Lord

Let all that is within us adore

PRAYERS

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

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord

Comfort: For the Gallo family at the death of Jay's dad, Jerry
For the Frowein family at the death of Rick's dad, Richard
For Callie Koenig's friend Ellie at the death of her father

Thanksgiving: For Linda Hansen's successful heart procedure

God's Care: With Peter Passante for Renee and Liz

Healing: For Mary Rapp, pulled muscle in leg
For Tracy, Peter Passante's friend, following surgery to remove a brain tumor

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

This I Believe

Our Father everlasting, the all-creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Savior

**I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit, our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high (Chorus)

Ways to Give



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

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
forgiveness 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
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.**

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 tres-
passes, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliv-
er 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

We Have a Savior

SONGS

Your Name

As morning dawns and evening fades
You inspire songs of praise
That rise from earth to touch Your heart
And glorify Your name

Jesus in Your name we pray
Come and fill our hearts today
Lord give us strength to live for You
And glorify Your name (**Chorus**)

**Your name is a strong and mighty tower
Your name is a shelter like no other
Your name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your name**

Great Are You Lord

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord (**Chorus**)

**It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only**

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You, Lord

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You, Lord (**Chorus**)

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

SONG

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on Earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all you nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the Heaven born Prince of peace
Hail the son of righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that we no more may die
Born to raise each child of earth
Born to give us second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**



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!

Baptized: We welcome Camila Alessandra Salvatierra Martinez and Fabio Morales Martinez in baptism today at the Spanish service. Parents are Francisco Morales and Valeria Martinez. Sponsors are Gustavo Martinez and Olisbeth Ascanio.

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. You may also fill out the form online at <https://tinyurl.com/PoinsettiaALC> and pay online.

Journey to Bethlehem & Winter Item Donations: This special event is today between services.

Kringle Pick-Up: Stop by the Conference Room this morning starting at 9:45 a.m. to pick-up your kringles. If you didn't get a chance to order, there are some extras available for purchase.

Annunciation Worship & Breakfast: On Thursday, Dec. 12, join your pastors and members of Ascension as we celebrate the visit of the angel Gabriel to Mary with a 6 a.m. Spanish-language worship led by a mariachi band, followed by a potluck breakfast.

Advent Concert Worship *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*: Choirs, handbells, praise band, and instrumentalists will present *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 9:30 a.m. followed by a potluck brunch.

Healing Hearts Meal: Ascension will provide a homemade meal of mac and cheese for Healing Hearts on Monday, Dec. 9. We need help with recipe supplies, rolls, veggies, fruit and cookies to make the meal complete. Visit the sign-up if you can help, <https://tinyurl.com/HH12-2024>.

El Salvador: Our annual gifts for our partners in El Salvador is to send money for backpacks (\$20), shoes (\$40) and a simple food basket (\$50). You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/ALCSJES>, with a check to Ascension with a memo for El Salvador, or at the table on Sunday morning. See the December newsletter for more details.

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.

Christmas Light Recycling: We will again collect broken or burned out tree lights for proper recycling. Place them in the marked bin in the Donation Center. Creation Care will recycle them.

Jubilate Chorale: Jubilate Chorale's Christmas concert, *Joy and Wonder*, will be this afternoon at 3 p.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa. Tickets are available online at jubilate-chorale.org or from Vicki Taylor, Director of Music Ministries.

Advent & Christmas at Ascension



Activities

BLAST Journey to Bethlehem, today, 9:45a

Advent Book Study, Mondays, 10a & 6p,
through Dec. 23

Healing Hearts Meal, Dec. 9

Advent Brunch, Sunday, Dec. 15, 10:30a

CRASH Progressive Dinner, Dec. 15, 4:30p

Young at Heart Christmas, Wed., Dec. 18, 12p

Children's Program Rehearsal, Sat. Dec. 21, 9a

Las Posadas (*en español*), Sábado, Dec. 21, 4p

Church Office Closed, Dec. 24-27

Worship

Annunciation Worship (*en español*), 6a, Thurs-
day, Dec. 12

Advent Concert Worship, Saturday 6p & Sunday
9:30a, Dec. 14 & 15

Misa (*en español*), Sunday, Dec. 15, 10:45a

4th Sunday of Advent Worship, Dec. 22, 8:30a

Worship with Children's Program (*bilingual*),
Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:45a

Misa (*en español*), Dec. 22, 10:45a

Christmas Eve worship, 3p, 5p & 9:30p, Tues-
day, Dec. 24

Nochebuena (*en español*), 6p, Tuesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Day Worship, 10a, Dec. 25

1st Sunday of Christmas, Sunday, Dec. 29, 8:30a
& 10:45a

Misa (*en español*), Dec. 29, 10:45a



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.

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

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

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



ASCENSION
Lutheran Church

Sun Dec 15

9:30am Advent Concert Worship S

10:30am Brunch WH, K

10:45am Misa EH

4:30pm CRASH Progressive Dinner

7pm AA WH

Mon Dec 16

10am Advent Book Study
HR

6pm AMEN CR

6pm Advent Book Study
HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group
WH

Tue Dec 17

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible
CR

Wed Dec 18

12pm Young at Heart

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Dec 19

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

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>

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