

Love



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m., December 22, 2024

### Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolyte:** Simon Williams **Altar Guild:** Julie Kinunen

**Communion:** Lauren Birner, Julie Kinunen

**Greeters:** Chris and Jimmy Loos

**Media:** *Needed* **Reader:** Scott Greger

**Ushers:** Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Todd Schroeder

**PRELUDE** **Savior of the Nations, Come,** *settings by J. S. Bach, Paul Manz*

### **WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN** **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (*v. 1, 6 - 8*) **ELW 257**

### **ADVENT 4—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, one candle to lead us in the way of peace, one candle to call us to joy, and the fourth candle to show us the way of love.

C: **God will give you a sign, a young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** **O Come, All Ye Faithful** (*v. 1*) **ELW 283**

P: Let us pray... Holy God, a candle burns, the fourth marker of our Advent journey. As we continue, may we travel with expectation. As we continue, God of journeys, draw us to our journey's end...

C: **Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S TIME** **Pastor Edwin**

**FIRST READING** **Micah 5:2-5a**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock

in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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 1st chapter.

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

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 1:39-55**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **SERMON**

**Pastor Edwin**

## **HYMN**

**My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness**

**ELW 251**

## **SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR MADELYNN NICOLE FARMER**

P: Praise and thanksgiving be to our God our maker, source of all blessing. In life, in death, we trust in God's most holy name. Here at this font, we hear God's promise. Here, in the presence of water and God's Word, moments of life-changing grace enter into the world.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

P: Sarah and Pete, do you present Madelynn Nicole for the sacrament of holy baptism?

Sponsors: We/I do.

P: David and Nancy, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Madelynn Nicole baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring Madelynn Nicole to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people; bring her to worship to hear the Word of God and to share in holy communion; teach her the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments; place in her hands the Bible, the living Word; and tend her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Madelynn grow in the Christian faith and life?

C: **We do.**

P: Sarah and Pete, God has led you to this moment. You have been invited to tend this miracle of life in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church. Do you promise to encourage Madelynn: to walk alongside her as she grows in her faith and in her relationship with God?

Sponsors: We do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Madelynn and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

C: **We do.**

A: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Do you renounce the devil, his empty promises and all the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: **I do.**

A: With all the faithful who came before us we dare to confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

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

A: 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.**

A: 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: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth. You are the fountain of resurrection. Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock.

Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again. At this font, holy God, we praise you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Madelynn Nicole Farmer, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Please sing:*



**P:** Let us pray. God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through the gift of baptism. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Madelynn Nicole: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Madelynn Nicole, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

**P:** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify our God in heaven. Brothers and sisters, please welcome our new sister Madelynn into the family of God.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Healing:** For Diane Dowling, following surgery

For Iva Richards' sister-in-law Lila, broken bones following a fall

**God's Care:** For Iva Richards' brother Dale, in hospice

**Thanksgiving:** For Verna Bauer's upcoming 95th birthday

## OFFERING

**The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came**  
*arr. Cathy Moglebust*

**Amy James,**  
**bell tree**



### Many Ways to Give Electronically

- *QR code*
- *VancoMobile Giving app on your smartphone*
- *Online at [tinyurl.com/SupportALC](http://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)*
- *Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount*

## OFFERTORY

**Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah**

**ELW 240**

## 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 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. 146****HYMNS****Savior of the Nations, Come****ELW 263****Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus****ELW 254****In the Bleak Midwinter****ELW 294****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****Angels, from the Realms of Glory****ELW 275****SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE** **Angels, from the Realms of Glory**, setting by Michael Burkhardt

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshipsupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshipsupport</a>			
<b>Dec. 24</b>	<b>3p</b>	<b>5p</b>	<b>9:30p</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Eli Escobedo, <i>1 needed</i>	Grace Paczesny, Lexi Lytle	Hadley Marien
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marge Schroeder	<i>1 needed</i>	<i>1 needed</i>
<b>Communion</b>	Marge & Todd Schroeder, Jennifer Werner	Sharon Coralline, Linda Elder, Jim Hahn	<i>1 needed</i>
<b>Greeters</b>	Jackie Bosanac, Natalie Mustapich	Sharon Coralline, Toni Coralline Jones	<i>2 needed</i>
<b>Media</b>	Buck Houston	Adam Boales	<i>1 needed</i>
<b>Ushers</b>	Cheryl, Kurt, Scot Werner	Dennis Mohr, Mike Rapp, Tom Rapp, Aidan Rapp	<i>2 needed</i>
<b>Dec. 25</b>	<b>10a</b>		
<b>Acolyte (1)</b>	Ruby Olson		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marge Schroeder		
<b>Communion</b>	Darlene DiBrito, Becky Pepper, Marge Schroeder		
<b>Media</b>	<i>1 needed</i>		
<b>Ushers (2)</b>	Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier		



**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 Madelynn Nicole Farmer in baptism today. Madelynn's parents are David and Nancy Farmer. Madelynn's sponsors are Pete Friske and Sarah Czerwinski.

**BLAST Program "Abajo en Belén" (Down in Bethlehem):** The BLAST Sunday School children will share the story of Jesus' birth in worship today at 10:45 a.m.

**Meru Coffee for Christmas:** Need a last-minute gift? Check the Meru cabinet! We still have gift samples, Meru's special Peaberry blend, and flavored coffee available.

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

**Church Office Closed:** The church office will be closed Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 24-27, and Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

**Ark Encounter:** If you're interested in the trip to the Ark Encounter, please contact Linda Elder directly, 262-650-9182, [lindaelder323@gmail.com](mailto:lindaelder323@gmail.com). This is a privately-coordinated event.

## *Christmas at Ascension*

### **Christmas Eve worship**

3p, 5p & 9:30p, Tuesday, 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

## 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?***

- ☐ E-Alert
- ☐ 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 22

8:30am Worship S  
10:45am Children's  
Program Worship S  
7pm AA WH

### Mon Dec 23

10am Advent Book  
Study HR  
6pm AMEN CR  
6pm Advent Book Study  
HR  
6:30pm AA Sm Group  
WH

### Tue Dec 24

7am AMEN zoom  
3pm Christmas Eve  
worship S  
5pm Christmas Eve  
worship S  
6pm Nochebuena EH  
9:30pm Christmas Eve  
worship S

### Wed Dec 25

Church office closed  
10am Christmas Day  
worship S  
7pm AA WH

### Thu Dec 26

Church office closed  
10am Al Anon CR

### Fri Dec 27

Church office closed

### Sun Dec 29

8:30am Worship S  
10:45am Misa EH  
10:45am Worship S  
7pm AA WH

### Mon Dec 30

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

### Tue Dec 31

Church office closed  
7am AMEN zoom

### Wed Jan 1, 2025

Church office closed  
7pm AA WH

### Thu Jan 2, 2025

9:30am TGIT HR  
10am Al Anon CR  
1pm Hansen Group HR

#### 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>



Ascension Lutheran Church  
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262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](https://ascensionelca.org)