



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 a.m., February 2, 2025

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolyte: Ruby Olson **Altar Guild:** Gary Bauer **Choir Accompanist:** Kathy Johnson

Communion: Lauren Birner, Sharon Coralline, Jennifer Werner

Greeters: Mike and Sherry Hoelzl **Media:** Cheryl Werner

Reader: Jennifer Werner **Ushers:** Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier

PRELUDE

God of Grace and God of Glory, *Paul Manz*

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW 665

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

p. 140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says

the Lord.” Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

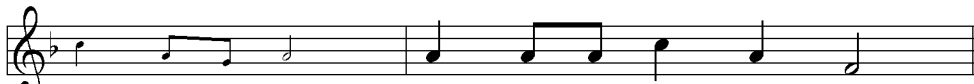


words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

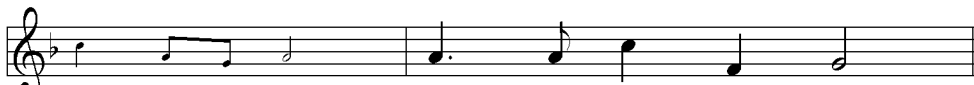
GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:21-30

Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERVICE OF BAPTISM FOR SOPHIE KRISTINE BIRGENHEIR

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: Lisa and Scott, do you present Sophie Kristine for the sacrament of holy baptism?

Sponsors: We/I do.

P: Denis and Lauren, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Sophie Kristine baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

P: As you bring Sophie Kristine 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 Sophie grow in the Christian faith and life?

C: We do.

P: Lisa and Scott, 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 Sophie: 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 Sophie 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: Sophie Kristine Birgenheir, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please sing:



The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Al-le-lu-ia'. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on a five-line staff. Below the staff, the lyrics '1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;' are written. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. Below this staff, the lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written.

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 Sophie Kristine: 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: Sophie Kristine, 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 Sophie into the family of God.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Healing: Gary Wipperman, following bypass surgery
Dodie Rudd, recovering from norovirus
Phyllis Petarius, continued healing

Comfort: For Bill Klippel and family at the death of Sandra
For Sarah Pehl and family at the death of her father, Henry George Schurmann

Thanksgiving: For Mary Thorp on her 95th birthday

OFFERING

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy
Karen Marrolli

Ascension Choir



Many Ways to Give Electronically

- *QR code*
- *VancoMobile Giving app on your smartphone*
- *Online at tinyurl.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 white grape juice are available.

LAMB OF GOD

p. 146

HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

O God of Mercy, God of Light

ELW 714

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

COMMUNION BLESSING

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Scott Greger

1st Vice President: Sarah Paczesny

2nd Vice President: *Pending*

Secretary: Lauren Birner

Treasurer: Amy Knaub

Director of Ministries: Kelly Hoeg

Director of Operations: Cynthia Carlson

At-Large Board Members:

Mike Dian, Maria Garcia, Jim Hahn,

Jonathon Koenig, Brett Kohnke,

Nick Wagner

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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (*v. 1, 3, 4*)

ELW 631

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

La Rejouissance (The Rejoicing), *Handel, arr. Burkhardt*

Worship Support https://tinyurl.com/worshipsupport		
Feb. 9	8:30a	10:45a
Acolyte	Jakob Wagner	Cam Johnson
Altar Guild	Marge Schroeder	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
Communion	Becky Pepper, Marge Schroeder	Pat Boyer, Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
Greeters	Don and Nancy Cahen	
Media	Adam Boales	Cheryl Anspach
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner	Cynthia and Mike Carlson



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 Sophie Kristine Birgenheir in baptism today at the 8:30 a.m. service. Sophie's parents are Denis and Lauren Birgenheir. Proud big brother is Paul. Sophie's sponsors are Lisa and Scott Seamans. We also welcome Cameron Michael Hoof in baptism today at the 10:45 a.m. service. Cameron's parents are Cayla and Chad Hoof. Cameron's sponsors are Jacob Huckabee and Julia Patzin.

Love Your Church, World, Life: Each year, we spend time spreading the love of God inside and outside the walls of Ascension. Always and in all ways, we want to say thank you for the tending of our shared ministry through your financial support. In February, we also invite members and friends to support the ministries of our community by providing donations of items to offset the needs of budgeted ministry. Please choose a heart off the windows of the sanctuary to purchase items and/or live out your faith.

Hawthorne School: Help support our partnership with Hawthorne School by considering volunteering to help at their annual Friendship Dance on Friday, Feb. 7. Each volunteer slot is for a limited amount of time so the effort is minimum, but the impact is maximum. Sign-up today <https://tinyurl.com/Hawthorne2025-2>.

Blessing Bags: We are collecting items to fill Blessing Bags for the homeless. Items requested: gallon Ziplock bags, warm socks, warm mittens and hats, hand and foot warmers, hygiene products (small size), simple snacks. We are also looking for individuals or a small group to help pack bags. Contact Shirley Wehmeier, shwehmeier@gmail.com if you can help.

February Healing Hearts Meal: Ascension's next meal for Healing Hearts is Monday, Feb. 10. See how you can help at the Sign-Up Genius, <https://tinyurl.com/FebHH2025>. Contact Teri Quam tquam61@gmail.com with questions.

Blessing Box: With the colder weather, please be aware that not all items will survive extremes in temperature. If the temperature drops below freezing for several days, canned and jarred foods can break so please do not put them in the box. Boxed food in its original package, dried food, hygiene items, winter scarves or mittens, school supplies, and cleaning items are all appropriate during the cold months. We cannot accept anything not in the original packaging.

El Salvador Trip Sharing & Chocolate! Join Pastor Edwin, Doug and Jeremy to hear all about their trip to El Salvador on Sunday, Feb. 9, between services in East Hall. We will start selling Salvadoran chocolate today for \$5 a bar. Find out why we're excited for the cacao project!

Read about February at Ascension! Find out how you can worship, grow serve with us, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

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)

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

Sun Feb 2

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Blast

10:45am Misa EH

10:45am Worship S

7pm AA WH

Mon Feb 3

10am Chosen HR

6pm AMEN CR

6pm Chosen HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group

WH

Tue Feb 4

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible

Wed Feb 5

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Feb 6

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

1pm Hansen Group HR

6pm JOLT EH

Sat Feb 8

10:30am Knit Fest WH,
K

Sun Feb 9

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Blast

9:45am El Salvador

Sharing EH

10:45am Misa EH

10:45am Worship S

7pm AA WH

Mon Feb 10

10am Chosen HR

12pm Staff Meeting

*5:30pm Healing Hearts
Meal*

6pm AMEN CR

6pm Chosen HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group
WH

7pm Jubilate rehearsal S

Tue Feb 11

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible
CR

6:30pm SOPHIA WH

7pm Holloway Mtg HR

Wed Feb 12

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Feb 13

10am Al Anon CR

Fri Feb 14

6p Wedding rehearsal

Sat Feb 15

1pm Wedding Prep

3p Wedding S N 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>



Ascension Lutheran Church
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262-547-8518 ascensionelca.org