



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
8:30 a.m., May 25, 2025

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*  
Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*  
Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*  
Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Altar Guild:** Marge Schroeder

**Communion:** Marge Schroeder, Jennifer Werner

**Greeters:** Bob and Jan Zastrow

**Media:** Adam Boales   **Ushers:** Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner

**PRELUDE**                      **Crown Him with Many Crowns**, *Franks/Burkhardt*

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN**                      **Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones**                      **ELW 424**

**GREETING**

**P:** Christ is risen!

**C:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**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:** Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

**CHILDREN'S TIME**                      **Pastor Tony**

## 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. John, the 14th chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL READING

**John 14:23-29**

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

**Pastor Tony**

## HYMN

**Lord, You Give the Great Commission (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)**

**ELW 579**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE


**God's Care:** For Arlene Davis' niece, Kelly, in hospice  
For Arlene Davis' friend, Jim Fenske, in hospice

**PRAYERS** *continued*

**Healing:** For Tim Behrendt, open-heart surgery  
For Marv Goetter, surgery  
With Paul Eggers for his friend Mark, beginning chemo treatments  
For Rian Kurzynski’s dad, Mitch Ward, hip replacement

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING** **This Is My Song** **ELW 887**



**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 PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray ... Merciful Father,  
**C:** We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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**

<b>HYMNS</b>	<b>In the Singing</b>	<b>ELW 466</b>
	<b>By Your Hand You Feed Your People</b>	<b>ELW 469</b>
	<b>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</b>	<b>ELW 490</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.

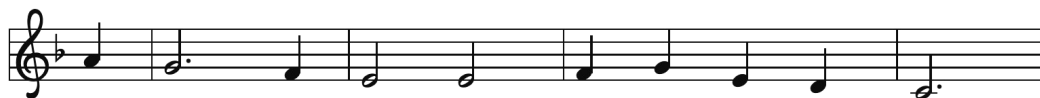
C: Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### Go to the World



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## SENDING

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

### Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones, *Thomas Gieschen*

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**Go to the World:** Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993. Music: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958. Text 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). Music Oxford University Press. Used by permission OneLicense# A-724818. All rights reserved.



**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!

**\$88 for 88:** Help us raise money for a gently-used baby grand piano! Donate today at the table in the narthex or online!

**Summer Worship:** We start our summer worship this weekend, Sunday, May 25, with worship at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary and 10 a.m. in the Memorial Gardens, weather permitting. Bring a chair! In June, we will have worship in the Memorial Gardens on June 1, 15, 29.

**Office Closed:** Please note that the office will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

**Wild at Heart Men's Book Study:** This group will not meet on Monday, May 26. The group will discuss chapters 3 and 4 on June 2.

**Senior Toweling:** We're celebrating our high school seniors on Sunday, June 8, at both services with senior toweling. Please send a picture of your graduating senior, where they're graduating from and their plans following graduation to Tamie Greenwood, [tamie@ascensionelca.org](mailto:tamie@ascensionelca.org).

**Kitchen Care:** We're recruiting volunteers to clean the kitchen as a group every other month. Help us keep our new kitchen looking nice! If you can help, please contact Arlene Davis, 262-542-9119 or by email, [ahdavis98@gmail.com](mailto:ahdavis98@gmail.com).

**Bunco:** Everyone is invited to join us on Wednesday, May 28, from 1-3 p.m. for the fun dice game of bunco.

**Blessing Box:** Our Blessing Box is getting heavy use. Please remember to pick up some non-perishable food items when you are shopping. Please remember that we can't take fresh bakery or garden items, which may spoil or attract critters. If you have a surplus of garden items, please contact the Food Pantry directly. Donations for the Blessing Box can be placed directly into the box or put in the marked bin in the Donation Center.

#### E-Giving



- [Tinyurl.com/SupportALC](http://Tinyurl.com/SupportALC)
- Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount

*More next page.*

## **The Story of the Memorial Gardens**

In 1997, the Holy Spirit began to move in a small group of church members to dream and imagine a design and landscape of the wetlands behind the current church building. The five acres of wetlands are owned by the church but subject to the permission and review of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Ascension member Haskell Reichert was inspired to create a Memorial Green area in memory of his wife, Loretta. During the next few years, conversations and dreams became meetings and tasks planned and communicated to the growing, faithful community of Ascension. It was decided that an Ash Garden, where we might scatter the cremains of loved ones, would be planned and added to the designs for the Memorial Green space. A plan for landscaping was designed, a gravel path was installed, an island of rock was created above a natural creek that runs through the property, and the Ash Garden began to take shape. The members of Ascension donated their time to help the Memorial Green to take shape and then donated their dollars to bring in more than 200 plants and trees to help shape the Memorial Gardens into what you see today.

A pavilion was added in the summer of 2010 to provide a sense of place for outdoor worship during the summer months. It is now used to host weddings, receptions, funerals, and a multitude of other moments in the life of the church. Mark Otto blessed the pavilion with the addition of a brass cross to match the cross that hangs over the altar in the main sanctuary of the church.

In 2017, after the death of Ascension youth Fabricio Aparico in 2016, a fellow member of the youth group, Ethan Saye, created an Eagle Scout project to offer a permanent witness to the glory of God. The Memorial Gardens were again refreshed with the planting of a tree in honor of Fabricio and the placing of a large rock with the Bible verse from John 14:1-2, "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?"

In 2018, after the death of their son Ryan in 2017, Mark and Debbie Pichler gathered donations to offer some permanence to the gathering space where we scatter cremains, adding large, carved rock steps down to the creek, a bench for reflection, and a trail to the Ash Garden allowing for greater accessibility for those with mobility challenges. Again, countless volunteers, members and friends of Ascension heard the call and joined in the construction and planting of additional plants.

In the summer of 2021, an Eagle Scout project by Kurt Werner added a Butterfly Garden with gravel path to continue to extend the path from the Ash Garden to more of the main Memorial Gardens with additional seating to rest and reflect. A beautiful, triple-cross metal art fixture was added in the summer of 2022 by the skilled hands of Paul Maass. In 2023, Addison Jahner, also ready to attain the rank of Eagle Scout, wanted to complete the gravel path from the Ash Garden and the Butterfly Garden all the way to the parking lot while also adding more beauty to the space. A plan was formed, and once again members and friends rolled up their sleeves to bring the dream to life.

*Continued next page.*

**Memorial Gardens, continued**

In the Spring of 2024, a member of the congregation had a vision of making the Memorial Gardens accessible to all and provided the seed money to extend and complete the cement path from the parking lot to the Ash Garden gathering space. Within weeks the money was raised, and the path was completed in early May of this year, providing access for all who feel the call of God to enter into a space of reflection and remembrance.

Today, the Memorial Gardens are filled with life to the glory of God. In the midst of death, there is always the promise of life. The Memorial Gardens serve as a living reminder of the power of God in the promise and presence of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Thanks be to God.

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

**Sun May 25**  
**8:30am Worship S**  
**10am Outdoor Worship MG**  
**10am Worship EH**  
7pm AA WH

**Mon May 26 Memorial Day**  
Office closed

**Tue May 27**  
*7am AMEN zoom*  
9:30am Women's Bible CR  
10:30am Boyer Group  
7pm Holloway Mtg HR

**Wed May 28**  
1pm Bunco WH  
7pm AA WH

**Thu May 29**  
10am Al Anon CR

**Fri-Sat May 30-31**  
*GMS Assembly*

**Sun Jun 1**  
**8:30am Worship S**  
**10am Worship EH**  
**10am Outdoor Worship S**  
5pm CRASH  
7pm AA WH

**Mon Jun 2**  
6:30pm AA Sm Group WH  
6:30pm PC AMEN Study CR

**Tue Jun 3**  
*7am AMEN zoom*  
9:30am Women's Bible CR

**Wed Jun 4**  
7pm AA WH

**Thu Jun 5**  
*8am YAH Lambeau bus trip*  
9:30am TGIT HR  
10am Al Anon CR  
1pm Hansen Group CR

**Sun Jun 8 Senior Toweling**  
**8:30am Worship S**  
**10am Worship EH S**  
11:15am CRASH KY Mtg WH  
7pm AA WH

**Mon Jun 9**  
12pm Staff Mtg HR  
6:30pm AA Sm Group WH  
6:30pm PC AMEN Study 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>

**Tue Jun 10**  
*7am AMEN zoom*  
9:30am Women's Bible CR  
10:30am Boyer Group  
6:30pm SOPHIA Mtg WH

**Wed Jun 11**  
7pm AA WH

**Thu Jun 12**  
10am Al Anon CR

**Sun Jun 15**  
**8:30am Worship S**  
**10am Outdoor Worship MG**  
**10am Worship EH**  
7pm AA WH

**Mon Jun 16**  
*JOLT Adventure Camp begins*  
6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

**Tue Jun 17**  
*JOLT Adventure Camp*  
*7am AMEN zoom*  
9:30am Women's Bible CR

**Wed Jun 18**  
*JOLT Adventure Camp*  
12pm Young at Heart WH  
7pm AA WH

**Thu Jun 19**  
*JOLT Adventure Camp returns*  
9:30am TGIT HR

# 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)



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