



**13th Sunday after Pentecost**  
8:30 a.m., September 7, 2025

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

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

**Communion:** Darlene DiBrito, Carol and Steve Spieker

**Greeters:** Sarah and Emily Boales, Linda Hansen **Media:** Adam Boales

**Ushers:** Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer

**PRELUDE**

**La Rejouissance (The Rejoicing)**

*Handel, arr. Burkhardt*

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

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  $\text{✠}$ , and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN**

**Earth and All Stars!**

**ELW 731**

## **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.**

## **KYRIE**

**p. 147**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**This Is the Feast**

**p. 149**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **ANTHEM**

**Come, Let Us Worship God**  
*Makeover, arr. Houts*

**Ascension Choir**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

**Pastor Chris**

## 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.

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter.

C:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL READING

**Luke 14:25-33**

One day when large groups of people were walking along with him, Jesus turned and told them, “Anyone who comes to me but refuses to let go of father, mother, spouse, children, brothers, sisters—yes, even one’s own self!—can’t be my disciple. Anyone who won’t shoulder his own cross and follow behind me can’t be my disciple. “Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn’t first sit down and figure the cost so you’ll know if you can complete it? If you only get the foundation laid and then run out of money, you’re going to look pretty foolish. Everyone passing by will poke fun at you: ‘He started something he couldn’t finish.’ “Or can you imagine a king going into battle against another king without first deciding whether it is possible with his ten thousand troops to face the twenty thousand troops of the other? And if he decides he can’t, won’t he send an emissary and work out a truce? “Simply put, if you’re not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it good-bye, you can’t be my disciple.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

**Pastor Chris**

## HYMN

**O God beyond All Praising**

**ELW 880**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Comfort:** For the survivors of the earthquake in Afghanistan

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

**Here I Am, Lord, Schutte, arr. Schrader**  
*(All join in singing refrain from ELW 574.)*

**Ascension Choir**

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

**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

**ELW 184**

## 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. 154**

### HYMNS

**Come to the Table**

**ELW 481**

**Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said**

**ELW 667**

**O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**ELW 810**

## 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.**

**SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**O God, Beyond All Praising**

*Setting by David Lasky*

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</a>		
<b>Sept. 14</b>	<b>8:30a</b>	<b>10:45a</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Zach Jahner	Bly Dringenburg
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marge Schroeder	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
<b>Communion</b>	Lauren Birner, Becky Pepper, Marge Schroeder	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews, Amy Smith
<b>Greeters</b>	Mike and Sherry Hoelzl	<i>Always Appreciated</i>
<b>Media</b>	Buck Houston	Jeff Froh
<b>Readers</b>	Maggie Mulroy	Rick Dowling
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis Mohr, Todd Schroeder, Paul Wehmeier	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!

## Join Us Today for These Exciting Events!

- \* **Backpack blessings at all services.**
- \* **JAM, BLAST, JUMP!** Between services, we'll have the kick-off for JAM (Jesus and Me, birth-4k), BLAST (k-3rd) and JUMP (Jesus Understands Me Perfectly, 4-5th graders). BLAST & JUMP Registration <https://tinyurl.com/BLASTJUMP>. JAM Registration <https://tinyurl.com/JAM25-26>.
- \* **10:45a worship:** The late worship service moves back to 10:45a.
- \* **God's Work, Our Hands:** In recognition of the ELCA's God's Work, Our Hands, you are invited to fill out a small cross with how you have served God through serving others so far this year, placing the cross on the sanctuary windows as a visible sign of how much Ascension is carrying out God's command to love one another as God loves us.
- \* **2025 Photo Directory** is ready for pick-up at the Welcome Center. One per family, please.
- \* **CRASH Kick-Off** is 12 to 1:30 p.m. for parents and students in West Hall. A light lunch will be provided.
- \* **Sign-Up for the Welcome Home Feast & Friends Event Saturday, Sept. 13, 5 to 8 p.m.** Bring an appetizer to share and lawn chairs for you and your family and enjoy music by the Dirty Boogie Band. If you can help set-up, please let the church office know, 262-547-8518 or email Tamie Greenwood, [tamie@ascensionelca.org](mailto:tamie@ascensionelca.org).

**MKE Wild Church at Ascension:** Today at 2 p.m., the synod's Milwaukee Wild Church worship experience will be held in the Memorial Gardens, or West Hall depending on weather. All are welcome. Please invite friends of all ages who are not attracted to traditional church services. Led by Pastor Larry Harpster, Wild Church is interactive and lets nature contribute to the worship experience. It welcomes all people who desire to get closer to God's creation.

**School Lunches in Tanzania:** As we head back to school, we remember the children of Samaria Parish. For many of the children, school lunch is often their only meal of the day. We are collecting donations to purchase the maize and beans for school lunches. Donate today!

## E-Giving



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

**SOPHIA Immigration Task Force:** The Immigration Task Force of SOPHIA will be meeting on Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Ascension. Anyone interested in learning more is invited to attend.

**Adult Choir and Handbells Resumed:** The Ascension Choir and Ascension Ringers resume rehearsals on Wednesdays. Handbells meets at 6 p.m. Choir meets at 7:15 p.m. Email Vicki Taylor, [vicki@ascensionelca.org](mailto:vicki@ascensionelca.org), with questions or to join.

**JOLT Registration Race:** JOLT, Journey of a Lifetime, our ministry for 6-8 graders, begins on Thursday, Sept. 11, with a student/parent orientation meeting at 6 p.m. Run the Registration Race! Nametags, forms, pictures, \$40 fee (by check or credit card), and, of course, a couple of games with prizes. We will get to know each other as well as talk through the year ahead for JOLT and what confirmation looks like at Ascension. Questions or can't make it? Contact Pastor Chris, [pc@ascensionelca.org](mailto:pc@ascensionelca.org).

**Tanzania Partnership Prayer Breakfast:** On Saturday, Sept. 13, we will gather at Ascension for a Zoom call with our friends in Tanzania and others in the Diocese of Meru in Tanzania and the Greater Milwaukee Synod for a time of shared prayers. The prayer petitions are written collaboratively and all of the speakers are planned in advance, so no need to worry about being put on the spot. The call starts at 7:30 a.m. You are invited to arrive early to grab some coffee and breakfast treats. Our friends from Samaria would love to see some Ascension faces on the call! Let Sarah Aparicio, [sarah@ascensionelca.org](mailto:sarah@ascensionelca.org), know if you have any questions.

**Adult Ed -- Chosen:** Ready for Season 4 of the Chosen video series? Join Pastor Chris and Pastor Tony as we dive back into this popular video series for review and discussion. We begin on Monday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. Sign-up in the narthex/lobby.

**Soul Sisters at the Pizza Farm:** Soul Sisters will host a get together on Friday, Sept. 19, at Grassway Organic's Pizza Farm. The farm is located at W2716 Friemoth Road in East Troy. The event will run from 5 to 8 p.m. Sign-up is not required. The cost of this event is \$15 and should be paid upon arrival. Your payment will cover your meal but you will be responsible for any beverage you wish to purchase. We will order pizza ahead of time so please let us know of any food allergies. Tables will be provided but you will need to bring your own chair. The event is entirely outdoors and a little rugged so please dress accordingly. In the event of rain, we will move the event to an indoor venue. Due to limited parking, we highly recommend carpooling to the farm. This event is open to all women under the age of 60. If you have any questions, please reach out to any of the pastors' wives (Ileen, Sarah, or Lori).

**Outreach for Hope Ride Run Walk:** We'd love for you to be part of the 2025 Family Ride Run Walk on Saturday, Sept. 27. Register, volunteer or donate today! [ofhrrw.org/](http://ofhrrw.org/) The event has a new site for Waukesha County this year: the Fox River Sanctuary, west of downtown Waukesha, meeting at E.B. Shurts Building, 810 W. College Ave. We hope this accessible gathering place will empower more of us to participate. Contact Beth Hoffmann, 262 542-7447, [hoffmanne222@gmail.com](mailto:hoffmanne222@gmail.com), for more information (if calling please leave a message).

**Tanzania Info Meeting:** Are you interested in joining Ascension as we begin to plan for our next sister parish visit? In 2026, we will be headed to Tanzania at the end of July into early August to spend time with our brothers and sisters of Samaria Parish. Join us between services on Sunday, Sept. 21, for information. If you are interested in traveling with us but unable to attend the meeting, contact Sarah Aparicio, [sarah@ascensionelca.org](mailto:sarah@ascensionelca.org), for more information.

# 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 Sep 7

Backpack Blessing  
**8:30am Worship S**  
9:45am JAM / BLAST /  
JUMP

### **10:45am Worship EH S**

11:45am CRASH WH  
2pm Wild Church MG  
WH  
7pm AA WH

### Mon Sep 8

12pm Staff Mtg HR  
6:30pm AA Sm Group  
WH  
6:30pm AMEN CR

### Tue Sep 9

7am AMEN zoom  
9:30am Women's Bible  
CR  
6:30pm SOPHIA Immi-  
gration Mtg WH

### Wed Sep 10

6pm Handbells S  
7pm AA WH  
7:15pm Adult Choir S

### Thu Sep 11

10am Al Anon CR  
6pm JOLT Kick-off  
Mtg

### Sat Sep 13

7:30am Meru Day of  
Prayer K/HR  
5pm Feast & Friends  
Event MG

### Sun Sep 14

**8:30am Worship S**  
9:45am BLAST S  
9:45am JUMP CR  
9:45am Kindergarten  
Stepping Stone WH  
**10:45am Worship EH S**  
7pm AA WH

### Mon Sep 15

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

### Tue Sep 16

7am AMEN zoom  
9:30am Women's Bible  
CR  
10:30am Boyer group  
HR  
7pm Church council HR

### Wed Sep 17

12pm Young at Heart  
WH  
6pm Handbells S  
7pm AA WH  
7:15pm Adult Choir S

#### 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  
1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI  
262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](https://ascensionelca.org)