



**15th Sunday after Pentecost**  
10:45 a.m., September 21, 2025

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*  
Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*  
Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

**Acolyte:** Kaiana Nichols-Schroeder

**Altar Guild:** Sue Mathews

**Communion:** Sue Mathews, Cathy Rapp, Gary Wipperman

**Media:** Cheryl Anspach

**Ushers:** Mike Rapp, Brian Smith

**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 ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

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## SONGS

### Because of Your Love

As we come into Your presence  
We remember every blessing  
That You've poured out so freely from above

Lifting gratitude and praises  
For compassion so amazing  
Lord we've come to give You thanks for all You've done

Because of Your love, we're forgiven  
Because of Your love, our hearts are clean  
We lift You up, with songs of freedom  
Forever we're changed, because of your love

### What an Awesome God

God is great, give Him all the praise  
Hallelujah, name above all names  
Fire in His eyes, healing in His veins  
Everywhere, His glory on display

Take a look at those stars  
He can name them all  
Before His throne, every knee falls  
The demons have to run  
The angels have to praise  
Even the wind and waves obey

**Our God is an awesome God**  
**He reigns from heaven above**  
**With wisdom, power and love**  
**Our God is an awesome God (Repeat)**

And even when I ran, He didn't run away  
He came and put death back in its place  
Friday on a cross, broken for my shame  
Sunday morning, rose up from that grave

Take a look at those scars on His hands and feet  
He saved our souls for eternity  
Worthy is the Lamb glory to the King  
Let all the saints and the angels sing

**(Chorus)**

Eyes on the sky there will be a day  
He will come and wipe our tears away  
No more fear, no more pain  
No more sorrow, sin, or shame

The King is coming back again  
A reign of love that will never end  
For everything You've done  
And everything You do  
And everything You are, I'll sing to You  
**(Chorus)**

## PRAYER

### PRESENTATION OF KINDERGARTEN BIBLES

**Pastor Tony**

### CHILDREN'S TIME

**Pastor Chris**

## SONG

### I Will Celebrate

I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord  
Sing to the Lord a new song (2x)

With my mind focused on Him  
With my heart rejoicing within  
With my hands lifted to Heaven  
With all I am worshipping Him

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

Pastor Chris

## SONG

### Glorious Day

One day when Heaven was filled with His praises  
One day when sin was as black as could be  
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin  
Dwelt among men, my example is He  
Word became flesh and  
The light shined among us  
His Glory revealed

One day they led Him up Calvary’s mountain  
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree  
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected  
Bearing our sins, my redeemer is He  
Hands that healed nations  
Stretched out on a tree  
He took the nails for me (*Chorus*)

**Living, He loved me, dying He saved me**  
**Buried, He carried my sins far away**  
**Rising, He justified freely forever**  
**One day He’s coming, Oh glorious day,**  
**Oh glorious day**

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer  
One day the stone rolled away from the door  
Then He arose, over death He had conquered  
Now He’s ascended, my Lord ever more  
Death could not hold Him,  
The grave could not keep Him  
From rising again (*Chorus*)

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## PRAYERS

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

**Comfort:** For Linda Blodgett and family at the death of Gene  
For Sally Alexander and family at the death of Bob  
For Wendy Ward and family at the death of her aunt, Patty Carl-Sowle  
For Mike Wilkinson and family at the death of his brother, Mark

**Healing:** For Linda Druml and for good test results

**Thanksgiving:** For Donna Madison on her 90th birthday on Sept. 25

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

This is my desire to honor You  
Lord, with all my heart, I worship You  
All I have within me, I give You praise  
All that I adore is in You

### I Give You My Heart

**Lord, I give You my heart  
I give You my soul, I live for You alone  
Every breath that I take  
Every moment I'm awake  
Lord, have Your way in me**

And I will live, and I will live for You  
And I will live, and I will live for You  
(Chorus)



## 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 grape juice are available.

### SOLO

### Gratitude

## SONGS

There's love that came for us  
Humbled to a sinner's cross  
You broke my shame and sinfulness  
You rose again victorious

Faithfulness none can deny  
Through the storm and through the fire  
There's truth that sets me free  
Jesus Christ who lives in me

## Stronger

**You are stronger, You are stronger  
Sin is broken, You have saved me  
It is written, Christ has risen  
Jesus You are Lord of all (2x)**

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

**And I will call upon Your name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours, and You are mine**

## Oceans

Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sovereign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and You won't start now  
*(Chorus)*

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of my Savior  
*(Chorus)*

## 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.

## SONG

### Everyday

**Everyday, it's You I live for  
Everyday, I'll follow after You  
Everyday, I'll walk with You, my Lord**

Everyday, Lord I'll learn to stand upon Your word  
And I pray that I might come to know You more  
You will guide me in every single step I take  
Everyday I can be Your light unto the world

## 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!

**Join Us This Morning for These Exciting Events!**

- **JAM between services. No BLAST, JUMP.**
- **God's Work, Our Hands:** Each Post-it on the narthex window represents a service done by one of our members to the glory of God. Please add your Post-it to the window as we prepare for the Ministry Fair on Oct. 5.
- **2025 Photo Directory** is ready for pick-up. One per family.
- **School Lunches for Tanzania:** We are collecting donations to purchase school lunches in Samaria Parish. Donate today!
- **Tanzania Trip 2026** info meeting between services. If you are interested in traveling with us but unable to attend the meeting, contact Sarah Aparicio, [sarah@ascensionelca.org](mailto:sarah@ascensionelca.org).

**Kindergarten Bibles:** Kindergarten students receiving their bibles today are Sam Leverentz, Mabel Schultz and Poppy Wittchow.

**CRASH Meets Today:** Calling all high schoolers! CRASH will meet today from 6-7:30 p.m.

**Ascension Children's Ministry Worship on the Farm:** Join us on Sunday, Oct. 12 for worship at the Green Meadows Petting Farm, East Troy. Come for worship beginning at 10:30, enjoy a potluck lunch, and spend the rest of your day enjoying the farm. Cost is \$15 per person (under 2 free). Please sign up online <https://tinyurl.com/GreenMeadows25> to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Bring your own utensils. No electric or coolers are available so please plan accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri Greger or Pastor Tony.

**Hawthorne Grand Friends:** Hawthorne is in need of volunteers for our Grand Friend's Day event on Sept. 25. Sign-up online <https://tinyurl.com/HawthorneGrand>, if you can help the young scholars. The event will include muffins, coffee, a craft, and a photo booth.

**Interested in Joining Ascension?** We will have new member info sessions between services on Sundays, Sept. 28 or Oct. 5. Sign-up online <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers> or just show up. If you're interested but unable to attend, email Amy Gilgenbach, [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org) or call the church office 262-547-8518 to let us know so we can follow-up with you.

**Bunco:** Everyone is invited to bunco, a fun, fast-paced dice game, from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 24.

## E-Giving



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

**Confirmation Meeting for 9th Graders & Parents:** Confirmation Sunday is on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 26, at both the 8:30 and 10:45a.m. services. If you are a 9th grade student or parent of a 9th grader expecting to be confirmed, please mark your calendars for Sunday, Sept. 28, 12-1:30 p.m. for a meeting about confirmation. We will talk through confirmation requirements, share lunch, and answer all the questions. Questions to Pastor Chris, [pc@ascensionelca.org](mailto:pc@ascensionelca.org).

**Immigration Fiction, Facts & Faith:** SOPHIA invites you to a special presentation to help understand the confusion of what is publicized about immigration and refugee resettlement. Immigration: Fiction, Facts & Faith is a presentation and discussion with Darryl Morin on Thursday, Sept. 25, 6:30 to 8 p.m. This presentation will address the collision of fact and fiction and how our faith interplays with all things immigration. The event will be held in the St. Mary's Church Community Room, 225 S. Hartwell Ave. Register by Sept. 23, [tinyurl.com/CCimmigrationFFF](http://tinyurl.com/CCimmigrationFFF). SOPHIA'S Immigration Task Force encourages congregation members to attend.

**Outreach for Hope Ride Run Walk:** The Outreach for Hope annual Ride/Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27. We have a lot of Ascension participants. Please see the list online [ofhrrw.org/all-teams-list](http://ofhrrw.org/all-teams-list) to support the Ascension team or this link [ofhrrw.org/all-participants](http://ofhrrw.org/all-participants) to support an individual. See the display in the narthex for more details or check with Beth Hoffmann [hoffmanne222@gmail.com](mailto:hoffmanne222@gmail.com). Register, volunteer or donate today! [ofhrrw.org](http://ofhrrw.org)

**Ascension Arise 2035 Vision Listening Sessions:** Congregation members are invited to listening sessions on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 6:30 p.m., and Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 11 a.m., about Ascension's vision for 10 years in the future, Ascension Arise 2035. Your input, about your church, is important and welcome as we look to all that God has in store for the days ahead.

**Healing Hearts Meal:** Ascension supports Healing Hearts, a program that supports children and their families during the grieving process, by providing a meal once a month. We need people to donate food, people to cook food and people to serve food. The October meal is chili. Please sign-up to help <https://tinyurl.com/HHfall25>.

**Tanzania Partnership Day of Prayer:** If you weren't able to attend the Tanzania Day of Prayer Breakfast, please see the video that was made by the Praise Band and posted on our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/TheAscensionlutheran>, under the Special Activities tab.

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</a>		
<b>Sept. 28</b>	<b>8:30a</b>	<b>10:45a</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Eli Escobedo	Callum Reinfeldt
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Julie Kinunen	Kathy and Mike Tomchek
<b>Communion</b>	Julie Kinunen, Carol and Steve Spieker	Diane and Rick Dowling, Mike Tomchek
<b>Greeters</b>	Sharon Boward, Joyce Krueger	<i>Always appreciated</i>
<b>Media</b>	Buck Houston	Anna Marien
<b>Readers</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Brian Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer	Mark Pichler

## 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 Sep 21**

**8:30am Worship S**  
 9:45am Tanzania Mtg HR  
 9:45am JAM S  
**10:45am Worship EH S**  
 6pm CRASH CR  
 7pm AA WH

### **Mon Sep 22**

10am Chosen Study HR  
 6pm Chosen Study HR  
 6:30pm AA Sm Group  
 WH  
 6:30pm AMEN CR  
 7pm Jubilate S

### **Tue Sep 23**

*7am AMEN zoom*  
 9:30am Women's Bible  
 10am Alexander visitation  
**11am Alexander Service**  
 12pm Alexander reception

### **Wed Sep 24**

1pm Bunco WH  
 6pm Handbells S  
 7pm AA WH  
 7:15pm Adult Choir S

### **Thu Sep 25**

10am Al Anon CR  
 6pm JOLT EH  
*6:30pm SOPHIA Immigration*

### **Fri Sep 26**

9:30am Blodgett visitation  
**11am Blodgett Service**  
 12pm Blodgett reception

### **Sat Sep 27**

*OFH Ride Walk Run*

### **Sun Sep 28**

**8:30am Worship S**  
 9:45am BLAST WH  
 9:45am JUMP CR  
 9:45am New Members HR  
**10:45am Worship EH S**  
 12:00pm Confirmation  
 Mtg WH  
 7pm AA WH

### **Mon Sep 29**

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

### **Tue Sep 30**

*7am AMEN zoom*  
 9:30am Women's Bible  
 10:30am Boyer group  
 5:15pm Budget Team WH  
 6:30pm Vision Session HR

### **Wed Oct 1**

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
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>



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