

## First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m., November 30, 2025

### Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolytes:** Madeline Paczesny, Simon Williams

**Altar Guild:** Joan Birner

**Communion:** Sharon Coralline, Jim Hahn

**Greeters:** Cathy Dugdale, Maelyn Olson, Kristy Olson-Schubert and Mikey Schubert

**Media:** Adam Boales **Reader:** Maggie Mulroy

**Ushers:** Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner

**PRELUDE** Chorale Prelude on “Wachet Auf” (Wake, Awake), *J. S. Bach*

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ADVENT 1—LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**P:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us with hope, as we light this candle to keep watch for your arrival.

**C:** **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them.**

**HYMN** Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (*v. 1*) **ELW 240**

### **PRAYER**

**P:** Let us pray... A candle burns, the first marker of our Advent journey. As we set out, may we travel hopefully. As we set out, God of journeys, travel with us.

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

**OPENING HYMN** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*v. 1, 2, 3, 6*) **ELW 257**

### **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** Glory to God **p. 148**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

**Pastor Tony**

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Prepare the Royal Highway (v. 1)*

**ELW 264**



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:

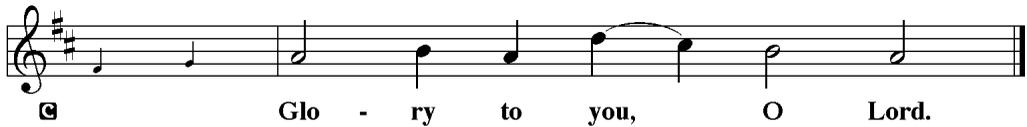


*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

C:



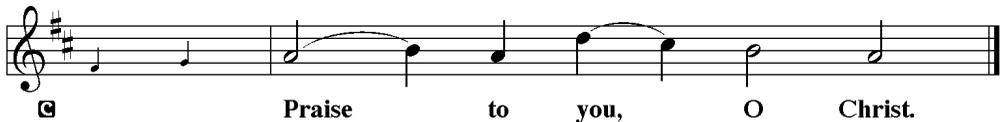
## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



## SERMON

Pastor Tony

## HYMN

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (v. 1, 3)

ELW 436

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Healing:** For Linda Druml's sister, Judy, beginning chemo for colon cancer  
For Jim Druml and good test results  
For Sherry and Mike Hoelzl's son-in-law, Jesse, collapsed lung

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

## OFFERING

**The King Shall Come**  
*Setting by Anne Krentz Organ*



**Ways to Give**  
VancoMobile Giving app  
Online at [tinyurl.com/SupportALC](http://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)

## 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 for-  
giveness 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 for-  
gives 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.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 152

## PROPER PREFACE

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p. 153

## 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.

## HYMNS

**Wait for the Lord**

**ELW 262**

**Come Now, O Prince of Peace**

**ELW 247**

**The King Shall Come**

**ELW 260**

## 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**

**Rejoice, Rejoice Believers**

**ELW 244**

**SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers, *setting by David Lasky***



**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!

### Today at Ascension!

- **8:30 & 10:45 worship**
- **BLAST & JUMP (No JAM)**

**In the Mix in 2026:** Please return your pledge cards to church. You may also fill-out your pledge online at [tinyurl.com/ALCpledge](https://tinyurl.com/ALCpledge) to help us plan for next year. If you get offering envelopes, they will be available by Dec. 12 for pick-up.

**Midweek Advent Worship:** During Advent, we will gather in the sanctuary for a half hour worship with music, prayer, scripture, devotion, and communion Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.

**Advent Book Study:** Join Pastor Chris in a three-week book study beginning Tuesday, Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m., or Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. On Tuesday nights, we will light the Advent wreath with a brief devotion before beginning the chapter discussion. On Wednesday mornings, you are invited to stay for worship from 11:30 to 12 p.m. after the book study. We will discuss Chapter 1 the first week. Sign-up at the Welcome Desk. The book *Voices of Advent*, by Matthew L. Skinner, is available on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$13 but can also be purchased online.

**Soul Sisters Bingo:** Join Soul Sisters for a fun night of bingo on Friday, Dec. 5, 6 to 8 p.m. in East Hall. This event is open to women of ALL AGES. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert and a wrapped gift (\$10 value). We will also be collecting donations of personal hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, diapers and wipes) as these are the most needed items at Hope Center and the Waukesha Food Pantry. Please sign up online [tinyurl.com/bingo25A](https://tinyurl.com/bingo25A). Questions? Please contact Ileen Marien, [ileenMarien@gmail.com](mailto:ileenMarien@gmail.com).

**Supporting Families in El Salvador:** We're collecting funds for an end-of-the-year food baskets for families in El Salvador. The baskets are simple, but contain food basics that help ease hunger during the holiday. This year, food scarcity is a bigger issue since most of the families lost their bean crop due to flooding, as well as global inflation. We hope to provide food baskets for 40 families, at a cost of \$50 a basket. You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/ALCSJES> and choose the El Salvador fund or with a check that states El Salvador in the memo.

**Deck the Halls of Ascension:** Join us on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 to 11 a.m., as we prepare the church for the season of Advent and Christmas, decorating trees and hanging garlands and wreaths. Hot cocoa and goodies will be supplied.

**Angel Tree:** Please visit the Angel Tree in the narthex for those in need this year. The tree will come down on Dec. 4 so act soon! Select an angel off the tree and purchase a designated gift card. Place the gift cards in the box provided in the office.

**Confirmation Students:** Please pick up your posters from the Welcome Center by Dec. 7.

**AMEN Christmas Gathering Dec. 15:** Please remember to drop your long underwear donations in the bin at church or bring the night of the event. Please also remember to pay Steve Boyer by Dec. 1!

**Jubilate Chorale Christmas Concerts Dec. 6 & 7:** Usher in the Christmas season with the Jubilate Chorale as they present *The News the Angels Bring* on Saturday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, Waukesha, and on Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m., St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa. Tickets are available from Ascension members Scott Greger, Liz Jacobson, Annemarie Wucker, and Vicki Taylor, or by visiting [jubilatechorale.org](http://jubilatechorale.org).

**CRASH Kringles:** If you ordered kringles, please plan to pick them up next Sunday, Dec. 7, after worship.

**Poinsettia Donations:** If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), please fill-out the form at the end of the bulletin. You may also fill out the form online at <https://tinyurl.com/PoinsettiaALC> and pay online.

**Children's Ministry Journey to Bethlehem:** On Sunday, Dec. 7, join us between services for advent activities, games, and fun. There is a special surprise for JAM students. They will meet in the sanctuary briefly before joining in on the fun.

**Annunciation Worship & Breakfast:** On Friday, Dec. 12, join us as we celebrate the visit of the Angel Gabriel to Mary with a 6 a.m. Spanish-language worship led by a mariachi band, followed by a potluck breakfast.

**Healing Hearts Meal:** We have one final 2025 Healing Hearts meal on Monday, Dec. 8. We'll be serving a meal of chicken pot pie stew (crock pot). Please sign up to donate food or to volunteer to serve the meal. <https://tinyurl.com/HHfall25>.

**Mt. Meru Coffee:** Consider purchasing coffee for your holiday gatherings from Ascension's Mt. Meru Coffee Project. If what you'd like isn't available in the cabinet, please fill-out the order form. Your order will be ready for pick-up at church just a few days later.

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

**Advent Concert Worship *Go Tell It on the Mountain*:** Join us at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 and 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, for our annual Advent Concert Worship. The musical ensembles of Ascension will share the music of the season in the context of worship with holy communion. We will celebrate the season with a potluck continental brunch at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Sign-up in the narthex today to let us know what you're bringing.

### E-Giving



[Tinyurl.com/  
SupportALC](https://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)

**Worship Support** <https://tinyurl.com/worshipsupport>

<b>Dec. 7</b>	<b>8:30</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Howie Leatherwood, Joey Leatherwood	Zach Jahner, Audrey Roehl
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Gary Bauer	Cindy Finn, Kris Wells
<b>Communion</b>	Carol and Steve Spieker	Rick Dowling, Kristy Olson-Schubert, Maelyn Olson
<b>Greeters</b>	Linda Foss, Becky Pepper	<i>Always appreciated</i>
<b>Media</b>	Buck Houston	Cheryl Anspach
<b>Reader</b>	Beth Hoffmann	Teri Quam
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer	Dennis Leatherwood, Pat Boyer

**Sun Nov 30 Advent I**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am BLAST WH JUMP CR

**10:45am Worship EH S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 1**

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Dec 2**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

10:30am Boyer group HR

6:30pm Book Study HR

**Wed Dec 3**

10:30am Book Study HR

**11:30am Advent Worship S**

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Dec 4**

9:30am TGIT HR

10am AI Anon CR

1pm Hansen Mtg CR

5pm Children's Choir MR

5:45pm Youth Choir S

**Fri Dec 5**

6pm Soul Sisters Bingo EH

**Sat Dec 6**

9am Deck the Halls

2pm CRASH Kringle sorting

**Key**

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth Rm
MG	Memorial Garden
MR	Meeting Room
N	Narthex (Lobby)
PR	Prayer Room
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall (Kit)
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>

**Sun Dec 7 Advent II**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am Kringle pick-up CR

9:45am Journey to Bethlehem

**10:45am Worship EH S**

**2pm Wild Church MG WH**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 8**

*12pm Staff Mtg*

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Dec 9**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

6:30pm Book Study HR

6:30pm SOPHIA WH

**Wed Dec 10**

10:30am Book Study HR

**11:30am Advent Worship S**

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Dec 11**

10am AI Anon CR

5pm Children's Choir MR

5:45pm Youth Choir S

**Fri Dec 12**

**6am Annunciation Worship EH**

**Sat Dec 13**

**6pm Advent Concert Worship**

**Sun Dec 14 Advent III**

**9:30am Advent Concert Worship S**

10:45am Brunch

*4:30pm CRASH Dinner*

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 15**

*5pm AMEN at Tally's*

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

**Tue Dec 16**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

10:30am Boyer group HR

6:30pm Advent Book Study

**Wed Dec 17**

10:30am Book Study HR

**11:30am Advent Worship S**

12pm Young at Heart WH

7pm AA WH

**Thu Dec 18**

9:30am TGIT HR

10am AI Anon CR

**Fri Dec 19**

9am Private event S

**Sat Dec 20**

9am Children's Program Rehearsal S

**4pm Las Posadas**

**Sun Dec 21 Advent IV**

**8:30am Worship S**

**10:45am Worship with Children's Program S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 22**

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Dec 23**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

**Wed Dec 24**

Church office closed

**3pm Christmas Eve worship**

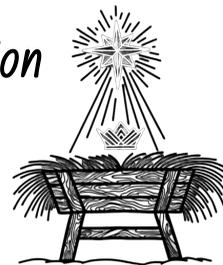
**5pm Christmas Eve worship**

**6pm Nochebuena EH**

7pm AA WH

**9:30pm Christmas Eve worship**

# Advent & Christmas at Ascension



## Activities

**Journey to Bethlehem**, Sunday, Dec. 7, 9:45a

**Advent Book Study**, Tuesdays, Dec. 2-16, 6:30p, and Wednesdays, Dec. 3-17, 10:30a

**Healing Hearts Meal**, Monday, Dec. 8, 4:30p

**Advent Brunch**, Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m.

**CRASH Progressive Dinner**, Sunday, Dec. 14, 4:30p

**Young at Heart Christmas**, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 12p

**Children's Program Rehearsal**, Saturday, Dec. 20, 9a

**Las Posadas** (*en español*), Saturday, Dec. 20, 4p

**Church Office Closed**, Dec. 24-26

## Worship

**Annunciation Worship** (*en español*), Friday, Dec. 12, 6a

**Advent Concert Worship**, Saturday 6p & Sunday 9:30a, Dec. 13 & 14

**Misa** (*en español*), Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:45a

**4th Sunday of Advent Worship**, Sunday, Dec. 21, 8:30a

**Worship with Children's Program** (*bilingual*), Sunday, Dec. 21, 10:45a

**Christmas Eve worship**, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 3p, 5p & 9:30p

**Nochebuena** (*en español*), Wednesday, Dec. 24, 6p

**Christmas Day Worship**, Thursday, Dec. 25, 10a

**1st Sunday of Christmas**, Sunday, Dec. 28, 8:30a & 10:45a



## Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), please return the completed form along with your payment to the church office or place in the offering plate. You may also pay on our website and mark it "Poinsettia." Thank you for helping make the sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the birth of Jesus! Please mark how you'd like your donation to be listed below.

In celebration of Jesus' birth

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of

---

Donated in memory of

---

**Donor:**

---

**Donation amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment type:** \_\_\_\_\_

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