

## First Sunday of Advent

10:45 a.m., November 30, 2025

### Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*

Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

**Acolytes:** Kaiana Nichols-Schroeder

**Altar Guild:** Kathy and Mike Tomchek

**Communion:** Jeff Froh, Becky Hastings, Teri Quam

**Media:** Anna Marien **Reader:** Jeff Froh

**Ushers:** Kathy and Mike Tomchek

## 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.**

## SONG

### A Christmas Hymn (v. 1)

Come now see the Lord of Heaven  
In a lowly manger laid  
King deserving of a throne room  
Born a poor, powerless babe  
Oh the myst'ry, oh the wonder  
Somehow God is one of us  
Such is greatness in His kingdom  
He descended to our dust

## 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.**

---

**ELW liturgy** used by permission Sundays and Seasons license SAS02813. **A Christmas Hymn:** Chris Llewellyn | Savannah Locke © Capitol CMG Paragon; Rend Family Music. **Here I Am to Worship:** Tim Hughes © 2000 Thankyou Music. **You Are Holy (Prince of Peace):** Marc Imboden | Tammi Rhoton © 1994 Imboden Music, Martha Jo Publishing. **Waiting Here for You:** Chris Tomlin | Jesse Reeves | Martin Smith © 2011 sixsteps Music Smith United Thankyou Music Vamos Publishing worshiptogether.com songs. **Adore:** Graham Kendrick | Martin Chalk © 2015 Common Hymnal Digital; Common Hymnal Publishing; Rising Springs Music; S. D. G. Publishing; Twelve Lions Music; Vamos Publishing; Worship Together Music; worshiptogether.com songs. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 90978.

**SONG****O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
 And ransom captive Israel  
 That mourns in lonely exile here  
 Until the Son of God appear

**Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
 Shall come to thee, O Israel**

Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high  
 Who ordered all things mightily  
 To us the path of knowledge show  
 And teach us in her ways to go (*Chorus*)

Oh, come, our Dayspring from on high  
 And cheer us by your drawing nigh  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
 And death's dark shadows put to flight (*Chorus*)

**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.**

**SONG****Here I Am to Worship**

Light of the world  
 You stepped down into darkness  
 Opened my eyes let me see  
 Beauty that made this heart adore You  
 Hope of a life spent with You

King of all days  
 So highly exalted  
 Glorious in Heaven above  
 Humbly You came to the earth You created  
 All for love's sake became poor (*Chorus*)

**Here I am to worship  
 Here I am to bow down  
 Here I am to say that You're my God  
 You're altogether lovely  
 Altogether worthy  
 Altogether wonderful to me**

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

## SERMON

Pastor Tony

## SONG

### You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)

You are holy (echo), You are mighty (echo)  
You are worthy (echo), Worthy of praise (echo)  
I will follow (echo), I will listen (echo)  
I will love you (echo), All of my days (echo)

You are Lord of lords, You are King of kings  
You are mighty God, Lord of everything  
You're the living God, You're my saving grace  
You will reign forever, ancient of days  
You're my Prince of Peace  
And I will live my life for you

## PRAYERS

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

**O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him**  
**O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord**

**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

### Waiting Here for You

If faith can move the mountains, let the mountains move  
We come with expectation, waiting here for You

**Waiting here for You**  
**With our hands, lifted high in praise**  
**It is You we adore, singing alleluia**

You're the Lord of all creation, and still You know my heart  
You're the author of salvation, You've loved us from the start  
*(Chorus)*



## 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 au-  
thority, 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.**

## 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 res-  
urrection 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

Adore

SONG

### All Who Are Thirsty

All who are thirsty, all who are weak  
Come to the fountain  
Dip your heart in the stream of life  
Let the pain and the sorrow  
Be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy  
As deep cries out to deep, we sing

**Come, Lord Jesus, come (4x)**

## SONG

### Breathe

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe  
Your Holy presence living in me  
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread  
Your very word, spoken to me

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe  
Your Holy presence living in me  
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread  
Your very word, spoken to me (**Chorus**)

**And I, I'm desperate for You**  
**And I, I'm lost without You**

## 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

### Build Your Kingdom Here

Come set Your rule and reign  
In our hearts again  
Increase in us we pray  
Unveil why we're made  
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope  
Like wildfire in our very souls  
Holy Spirit come invade us now  
We are Your church  
We need Your power in us

Build Your kingdom here  
Let the darkness fear  
Show Your mighty hand  
Heal our streets and land  
Set Your church on fire  
Win this nation back  
Change the atmosphere  
Build Your kingdom here we pray

## 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!

## 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.



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

<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

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

**Sun Nov 30**

**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 Al 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

<b><u>Key</u></b>	
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
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>

**Sun Dec 7 Advent I**

**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 Al 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 II**

**9:30am Advent Concert Wor-ship 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 Al Anon CR

**Fri Dec 19**

9am Private event S

**Sat Dec 20**

9am Children's Program Re-hearsal S  
**4pm Las Posadas**

**Sun Dec 21**

**8:30am Worship S**  
**10:45am Worship with Chil-dren's Program S**  
 7pm AA WH

**Mon Dec 22**

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH  
 6:30pm AMEN CR

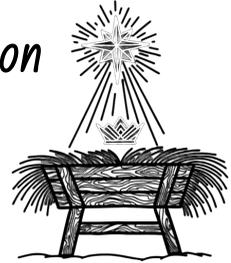
**Tue Dec 23**

*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 wor-ship**

# 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)

**Please place in the offering plate.**



**ASCENSION**  
*Lutheran Church*

1415 Dopp St. Waukesha, WI 53188  
262-547-8518 [ascensionlca.org](http://ascensionlca.org)