

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Advent Concert Worship

December 13 & 14, 2025

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor* Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*
Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*
Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries* Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*
Kathy Johnson, *Service Musician*

Acolytes: (6p) Marta Aparicio, Hadley Marien, Brooklyn Stigler;
(9:30a) Elsa Romme, Grace Paczesny

Altar Guild: (6p) Marge Schroeder; (9:30a) Marge Schroeder

Communion: (6p) Becky Pepper, Marge and Todd Schroeder, Diane Dowling;
(9:30a) Becky Pepper, Marge Schroeder, Jennifer Werner

Greeters: (6p) Bob and Jan Zastrow; (9:30a) Carol McDivitt, Garnet Wolff

Media: (6p) Buck Houston; (9:30a) Cheryl Werner

Ushers: (6p) Brian Smith; (9:30a) Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier, Scot Werner

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Night of Silence, *Daniel Kantor*

Ascension Choir

Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth; weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night, on wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, rumors of a dawn so embracing,
breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star, your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar,
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, rising in the warmth of the Son's love,
Star unknowing of night and day, spirit we wait for the loving Son.

ADVENT 3—LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son ☩, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God. One candle to remind us of hope, one candle to lead us in the way of peace, the third candle to call us to joy as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

C: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (v. 3)

ELW 240

**All: Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way
for the King of glory.**

P: Let us pray... Holy God, a candle burns,

C: The third marker of our Advent journey.

P: As we continue, may we travel joyfully.

C: As we continue, God of journeys, guide our footsteps. Amen.

READING

Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain, Carolyn Jennings

Ascension Choirs

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,
Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
Lift up your voice, shout the good news:
Behold your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,
He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm.
Behold your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven,
He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal he was God,
The Alpha and Omega, He. Behold your Lord!

He will come in power and glory,
He will rule with mercy and truth,
Hope of all the nations, Light of the world, Light of all.

He will love the little children,
He will hold them in his arms.
Love him and trust him as a little child,
Behold, your Lord comes to you.
Love him as a child.

--Adapted from Isaiah 40

HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v 1, 5)

ELW 257

**All: 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 you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Advent Majesty, arr. Karen Buckwalter

Ascension Ringers

A Christmas Hymn

Praise Band

(Sung to the tune of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

**All: 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 mystery, oh the wonder, somehow God is one of us
Such is greatness in His kingdom, He descended to our dust**

**Christ the Word holy expression of the humbleness of God
Herald of a prideless kingdom one of sacrificial love
Mighty One who made the heavens knelt to wash his brother's feet
And the earth that He created He bestowed unto the meek**

**King of glory became nothing, humbled to the point of death
Stretched His arms out like a beggar and forgave with His last breath
What God started with a manger ended with an empty grave
Suffering servant now exalted, Jesus name above all names**

**Light eternal in the darkness, He shall not be overcome
Shining over all our shadows, every curse has been undone
Heaven breaks forth like the springtime through the winter of our souls
Now His life is life abundant, is forever ours to know**

**Come now church let us adore Him, tune your heart to sing His grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's redeeming love
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's redeeming love**

— Robert Robinson, John Weyeth, Chris Llewellyn, Savannah Locke

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem has sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, this Rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.

This flow'r whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels in glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

--Anonymous (v. 1, 2); Fredrich Layritz (v. 3)

READING

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the inn.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

In Bethlehem, Erik Dewar, arr. Erik Dewar, Dan Forrest

Ascension Choir

Though the road was long, the time drew near,
Heaven's King on earth would soon appear.
Yet, no bed prepared; no waiting crown.
Just a stable near the edge of town.

Here the Child was born so far from home
To those humble trav'lers all alone.
So they whispered low their soft amen,
on that lonely night in Bethlehem.

Come behold the shepherds, oft unseen,
chosen first to look though rough unclean.
"Tis the Christ! Peace on earth begins:
He will save his people from their sins.

See our Mighty God has done great things!
Hear the angel hosts his glories sing: "Alleluia!"

And repeat the sounding joy again
on that holy night in Bethlehem.

You are worthy, Jesus, Lord of all,
stooping down to grace that cattle stall.
You did not recoil to meet us there,
all our weakness, shame and grief to share.

So bring down the mighty from their seat;
gently lift the humble to their feet,
that we all would at your manger bend
to behold that sight in Bethlehem.

See our Mighty God has done great things!
Hear the angel hosts his glories sing: "Alleluia!"
And repeat the sounding joy again
on that holy night in Bethlehem.

--Erik Dewar

READING

Luke 2:8-14

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Shepherd Boy, Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham, Steven Furtick

Praise Band

This kind of thing shouldn't happen to me
I'm just a boy who watches the sheep
But I saw a miracle
A star like the morning lit up the night
A choir of angels filled up the sky
They sang of a miracle

Glory to God in the highest
Peace to His people here on earth
For the Savior is born, Emmanuel God is with us
And He will reign forevermore
Jesus Christ, the Lord of Lords

Shepherd Boy; Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham, Steven Furtick © Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Music by Elevation Worship Publishing; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs. All rights reserved. Used by permission under CCLI License # 90978

So I ran to that town to see if it's true
Is He really here? Had Heaven come through?
And oh it was beautiful
'Cause there in the stable asleep in her arms
The Lion of Judah the King of my heart
With tears filling up my eyes, of this I will testify (*Refrain*)

He brings joy to the world, joy to the world
He brings joy to the world, joy to the world (*Refrain*)

Angels from the Realms of Glory, Henry T. Smart, arr. Dan Forrest **Ascension Choir**

Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplation, brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of Nations, ye have seen His natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One!
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!
--James Montgomery

HYMN

Away in a Manger (v. 1)

ELW 277

**All: Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

Ya viene la Navidad, Viktor Jortack

Children's Choir

Ya viene, ya viene, ya viene la Navidad;
ya viene, ya viene, ya viene la Navidad.
(It's coming, it's coming, it's Christmas coming again)

Encendamos la vela, la vela del amor;
y con ella prendida iluminemos el amor;
y con ella prendida iluminemos el amor.
*(Light a candle for love, light a candle for love; and light up the world with
the love of the Lord; and light up the world with the love of the Lord.)*

Encendamos la vela, la vela de la paz... *(Light a candle for peace...)*
Encendamos la vela de la felicidad... *(Light a candle for joy...)*
Encendamos la vela de la esperanza... *(Light a candle for hope...)*

Hear the Angels, Hear them Sing!, *Vicki Bedford*

Children's Choir

Hear the angels, hear them sing, "Glory to God in the highest!"
How they made the heavens ring! "Peace to all of good will!"

Angels sang to shepherds of prophecy fulfilled.
Then the angels sang their song, a song that echoes still! (*Refrain*)

Bethlehem was sleeping, a star was standing still.
Then the angels sang their song, a song that echoes still! (*Refrain*)

Mary held her baby, her heart with joy was filled!
Then the angels sang their song, a song that echoes still!

Hear them singing, "Gloria in excelsis Deo!"
A song that echoes still!

--*J. Paul Williams*

HYMN

What Child Is This (*v. 1*)

ELW 296

**All: What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning, *Spiritual, arr. John Helgen*

Youth Choir

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, for this work is almost done.

Children, don't get weary, children, don't get weary,
children, don't get weary, for this work is almost done.

Darker midnight lies before us...

Lo, the morning soon is breaking...

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, *R. Fisher Boyce, arr. Keith Christopher*

Youth Choir

O beautiful Star of Bethlehem,
shining afar through shadows dim,
Giving a light for those who long have gone.
And guiding the wise men on their way
unto the place where Jesus lay,
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shine on.

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem,
Shine upon us until the glory dawns.
Give us a lamp to light the way,
unto the land of perfect day.
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shine on.

O beautiful star, the hope of light,
guiding the pilgrim through the night,
Over the mountain 'til the break of dawn.
And into the light of perfect day it will give out a lovely ray.
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shine on. (*Refrain*)

O beautiful star, the hope of rest,
for the redeemed, the good, the blest,
Yonder in glory when the crown is won.
For Jesus is now the star divine,
Brighter and brighter He will shine.
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shine on. (*Refrain*)

--Adger Page

On Christmas Day in the Morning, *English Carol*, arr. Tammy Waldrop Ascension Ringers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please say, "Hear our prayer" after each petition.

Healing: Sharon Coralline, Linda Foss, Mike Sheffler (hospitalized), Jim Druml, Janet Niebrugge, Amy Smith's Aunt Etta (96) and cousin Sue

Comfort: For Linda Druml at the death of her friend, Ginny

God's Care: For Tyler Waters, epilepsy seizures

Thanksgiving: Darlene Thoresen, successful surgery

OFFERING

Brightest and Best, arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney

Ascension Choir

Hail the blest morn when the great Mediator
Down from the regions of glory descends.
Shepherds go worship the Babe in the manger;
Lo! For His guard the bright angels attend.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch, and Savior of all.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid.
Star in the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Eden and off' rings divine,
Gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?



Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gold would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor. (*Refrain*)
--*Reginald Heber*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.

The First Noel, *arr. Sandra Eithun*

Ascension Ringers

HYMN (*Sat.*)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

**All: O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!**

**How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

A Hallelujah Christmas (*Sun.*), *Leonard Cohen*

Praise Band

Solo: I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth,
the minor fall, the major lift
With every breath, I'm singing Hallelujah

All: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Solo: A couple came to Bethlehem,
expecting child, they searched the inn
to find a place, for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
so in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born, oh, Hallelujah (*All sing refrain*)

The shepherds left their flocks by night
to see this baby wrapped in light
A host of angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said,
"You'll find Him in a manger bed."
Immanuel and Savor, Hallelujah (*All sing refrain*)

Solo: A star shone bright, up in the east
To Bethlehem, the wise-men three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah (*All sing refrain*)

Solo: I know You came to rescue me
This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross too
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah (*All sing refrain*)

--*Cloverton*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, *Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Pink Zebra*

Ascension Choir

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
"Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise. Join the triumph of the skies.
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest Heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold Him come, off-spring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see. Hail th'incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Alleluia, Alleluia!...

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays his glory by, born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the songs of earth. Born to give them second birth,
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

--Charles Wesley, 1739

COMMUNION BLESSING

Go Tell it on the Mountain, *Traditional Spiritual, arr. Shawn Kirchner* **Ascension Choir**

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain: Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Jesus' birth. (*Refrain*)

And lo! When they had heard it they all bowed down and prayed;
Then travelled on together to where the Babe was laid. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Babe was born;
And God sent down the angels that blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

BENEDICTION

HYMN

Joy to the World (*v. 1, 4*)

ELW 267

**All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Go, Tell it on the Mountain, *arr. Molly Ijames*

Piano Duet

The Musicians

Instrumentalists

Kathy Johnson, piano
Greg Milleville, piano
Amy James, flute, percussion
Jaime Dringenberg, violin
Dave Dringenburg, guitar
Dave Erato, saxophone
Jerry Loughney, violin 1
Christine Annin, violin 2
Olga Tuzhilkov, viola
Braden Zitoun, cello
Sarah Wehmeier, percussion
Gen Anspach, percussion
Tyler Earnest, percussion

Ascension Ringers

Cheryl Anspach
Gen Anspach
Pam Baumann
Cathy Britton
Beth Earnest
Tyler Earnest
Scott Greger
Liz Jacobson
Amy James
Pam Larsen
Pastor Chris Marien
Carol Nelson
Susan Otto
Becky Perdue
Carol Spieker
Steve Spieker

Ascension Choir

Cheryl Anspach
Pastor Edwin Aparicio
Pam Baumann
Joan Birner
Jeff Britton
Vicki Dian
Darlene DiBrito
Linda Elder
Al Gilgenbach
Scott Greger
Rande Hagen
Beth Hoffmann
Tom Hoffmann
Deb Izu
Liz Jacobson
Dave Johnson
Sandy Koester
Sara Leatherwood
Al Maechtle
Don Malchow
Kathy Malchow
Pastor Chris Marien
Ron Marien
Greg Milleville
Maggie Mulroy
Jerry Olson
Susan Otto
Julie Seavers
Carol Spieker
Steve Spieker
Bonnie Thiesenhusen
Jeana Wagner
Annemarie Wucker

Praise Band

Ben Janzow, Leader
Kristeen Klepp
Jim Finn
Casey Janzow
Dave Chyla
Ken Kasten
Jeremy Poling
Dan Roeland
Jaime Dringenburg
Dave Dringenburg

Children's Choir

Luisa Aparicio
Emily Boales
Alisson Castro
Miri Dringenburg
Eli Greger
Lilly Motley
Amaya Schroeder

Youth Choir

Marta Aparicio
Karla Aparicio Castillo
Bly Dringenburg
Addison Jahner
Anna Marien
Hadley Marien
Grace Paczesny
Maddy Paczesny

Advent & Christmas at Ascension



Activities

Advent Brunch, Sunday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m.
 CRASH Progressive Dinner, Sunday, Dec. 14, 4:30p
 Young at Heart Christmas, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 12p
 Children's Program Rehearsal, Saturday, Dec. 20, 9a
 Las Posadas (*en español*), Saturday, Dec. 20, 4p
 Church Office Closed, Dec. 24-Jan. 1

Worship

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

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>

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

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

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 Advent IV

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**

Thu Dec 25

Church office closed

**10am Christmas Day wor-
ship**

Fri Dec 26

Church office closed



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!

Kringle Sale: There will be a limited number of extra kringle for sale after worship. Additionally, if you haven't picked-up your kringle order yet, please do so. They can be found in the kitchen refrigerator.

Brunch: Join us for a potluck brunch following the Advent Concert Worship on Sunday.

El Salvador: We're collecting for families in El Salvador. Backpacks (\$20), shoes (\$40) and a simple food basket (\$50). You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/ALCSJES>, with a check to Ascension with a memo for El Salvador or with a credit card at the table in the lobby.

CRASH Progressive Dinner: CRASH meets here tonight at 4:30 p.m. for the start of this event. Don't forget your \$10-or-less gift! Questions to Pastor Edwin.

AMEN Dec. 15: Please remember to bring your long underwear donations tomorrow.

Young at Heart Christmas: Join the Young at Heart group (for people over 55) on Wednesday, Dec. 17, for a Christmas potluck lunch and music. Bring a dish to pass if you are able. Please note that there will be no bunco this month.

Children's Program Rehearsal: BLAST and JUMP kids are encouraged to attend the program rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 20, at 9 a.m. There will be treats at the end of the rehearsal!

Las Posadas: Everyone is invited to join our Latino families to re-enact Mary and Joseph's family journey to Bethlehem on Saturday, Dec. 20, beginning at 4 p.m. with hot cocoa and a live nativity. Las Posadas will begin at 5 p.m.

Children's Ministry Christmas Program: Join us on Sunday, Dec. 21, at the 10:45 a.m. worship service when our children will welcome the coming Savior. 8:30 a.m. worship will be held as usual.

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. You may place orders by email to Amy Gilgenbach, admin@ascensionelca.org.

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

In the Mix in 2026: Please return your pledge cards to church or fill-out your pledge online <https://tinyurl.com/ALCpledge> to help us plan for next year. Offering envelopes will be available for pick-up (or mailed on request) soon.

Advent/Christmas Invitations: December is packed with wonderful music and activities that are welcoming to guests. One-on-one invitations to people you know are the best way by far to have new people come to church activities. Stop by the Welcome Center to pick up invitations complete with dates and times of all the concerts and special events during this wonderful time of the year. We know that Christmas and the days leading up to it are days that more people are interested in attending a church service or activity than any other time of the year. Share the welcoming spirit of Ascension!

December Newsletter: Read all about December at Ascension including pastoral reflections and ways to worship, grow and walk with Ascension, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests may be made using the yellow prayer card in the pew, online <https://ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers/>, by email to admin@ascensionelca.org, or phone message to the church office, 262-547-8518.



Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our sanctuary this Christmas season (\$12 each), please fill-out this form and place in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. You may also fill out the form online at <https://tinyurl.com/PoinsettiaALC> and pay online.

In celebration of Jesus' birth

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of

Donated in memory of

Donor:

Donation amount \$ _____

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."

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
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262-547-8518 ascensionelca.org