



**Third Sunday after Epiphany**  
8:30 a.m., January 25, 2026

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolytes:** Benji Earnest, Aubrey Olson **Altar Guild:** Julie Kinunen

**Choir Accompanist:** Kathy Johnson **Communion:** Jim Hahn, Julie Kinunen

**Greeters:** Greg and Sue Grams **Media:** Cheryl Werner **Ushers:** Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner

**PRELUDE**      **Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness, Michael Burkhardt**

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN**      **Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**      **ELW 843**

**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**      **This Is the Feast**      **p. 140**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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

**CHILDREN'S TIME**      **Pastor Tony**

**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. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.

C:



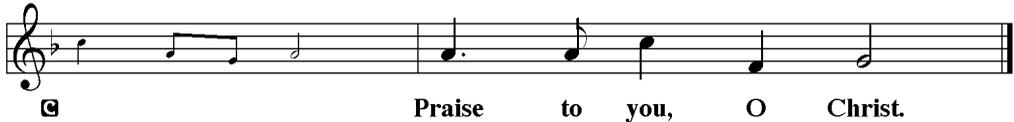
## GOSPEL READING

**Matthew 4:12-23**

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



## SERMON

**Pastor Tony**

## HYMN

**Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus**

**ELW 802**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**God's Care:** For Denmark and Greenland

**Healing:** Janet Niebrugge  
Linda Foss, PET scan and chemo treatment  
Adrianna Dahms, knee surgery  
Don Steinke, heart lung infection chronic  
Chris Holloway's father, Bill Rudd, infection  
Donna Savin's brother, Don, recovering from heart surgery  
Mary, Deb Izu's friend

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

**Of the Father's Love Begotten**  
*setting by Michael Burkhardt*  
*Congregation joins in singing verses 4 & 5 as directed*

**Ascension Choir  
and Ringers**  
ELW 295



#### Many Ways to Give Electronically

- QR code
- VancoMobile Giving app on your smartphone
- Online at [tinyurl.com/SupportALC](http://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)
- Via text to 262-214-3681 with the amount

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray ... Merciful Father,

**C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 144

## PROPER PREFACE

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p. 144

## 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. 146**

## **HYMNS**

**Now the Silence**

**ELW 460**

**Here I Am, Lord**

**ELW 574**

**Christ, Be Our Light**

**ELW 715**

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

## **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

**President:** Sarah Paczesny

**1st Vice President:** Klelin Saravia Quintanilla

**2nd Vice President:** Peter Akins

**Secretary:** Lauren Birner

**Treasurer:** Nick Wagner

**Director of Ministries:** Kelly Hoeg

**Director of Operations:** Cynthia Carlson

**At-Large Board Members:**

Jhonson Aparicio, Mike Dian

Maria Garcia, Jim Hahn,

Karen Simington

## **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**

**I Love to Tell the Story**

**ELW 661**

## **SENDING**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

**Rigaudon, *André Campra***



# 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!

- Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
- Church Council installation
- Children's Ministry: All JAM, BLAST, & JUMP families are invited between services today for a potluck brunch and family activity in West Hall
- See the table in the narthex to sign-up for AMEN's No Regrets conference on Feb. 7.

**Caminando Juntos (Walking Together):** This group will meet on Monday, Jan. 26, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss current events affecting communities and plan for education and support strategies for our members and neighbors.

**A Pastoral Message on Immigration Enforcement:** Please read Bishop Paul Erickson's letter on the synod website <https://milwaueesynod.org/immigration-enforcement-from-bishop-paul-erickson> about immigration enforcement. He shares some steps we can take to care of our neighbors during these tumultuous times.

**JOLT:** There will be no JOLT on Jan. 29.

**The Chosen Season 5:** Sign-up at the Welcome Center to let us know you'll join us for Season 5 of the Chosen starting Monday, Feb. 2, at either 10 a.m. or 6 p.m.

**Healing Hearts Sessions for Children and Families:** Family grief support group sessions begin Monday, Feb. 2, for children, youth, and families who grieve loss due to death, divorce, addiction, incarceration, deportation, or military deployment. The sessions meet from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m. with dinner and then small groups by age. Find out more online [healingheartswisconsin.org](http://healingheartswisconsin.org) or contact them at 262-751-0874.

**No Regrets 2026:** AMEN is offering a small group presentation of this year's No Regrets Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the church Hearth Room. The theme is "Surrender." Hot breakfast and refreshments will be served. This event is limited to 20 participants. See the table in the narthex today or RSVP to Alan Maechtle via email [amaechtle@gmail.com](mailto:amaechtle@gmail.com) or text to 262-422-8801. Please include name, phone number and email for registration confirmation.

## E-Giving



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

*More next page.*

**Volunteers Needed for Hawthorne Elementary:** Help support our partners at Hawthorne Elementary School by volunteering at their final Friendship Dance on Friday, Feb. 6. Sign-up online at <https://tinyurl.com/VolunteerHawthorne> if you can help. Your assistance is appreciated!

**Healing Hearts Meal Feb. 23:** We have three meal dates with a variety of opportunities to support ministry for grieving families this spring. We need people to donate, cook and serve food. Please sign-up to help, <https://tinyurl.com/HHSpring26>.

**Blessing Bags for Homeless:** We will continue collecting Blessing Bags for the homeless throughout February. The bags will be given to the Hope Center, and some will be put in our Blessing Box. See the newsletter for more information or the signs in front of the Blessing Bag bin in the Donation Center. Contact Shirley Wehmeier, [shwehmeier@gmail.com](mailto:shwehmeier@gmail.com), if you can help.

**Children's Ministry Food Pantry Collection:** Join the Children's Ministry as we collect food for the Food Pantry Serving Waukesha County! We are gathering specific items to be used during our Journey to the Cross event and need your help to fill our bins. We're collecting peanut butter, cereal, pasta, canned fruit/veg, and baby items (diapers, wipes, formula). Please donate by Sunday, Feb. 20. Drop items in the Children's Ministry Bin. Thank you for your generosity! For more info, contact Ms. Sheri, Ms. Amy, or Pastor Tony.

**Hope Center News & Guest:** Tonya Lyons, the new Director of the Hope Center, will be our guest on Sunday, Feb. 8, between services in the Hearth Room. She will update us on all the changes with the new building and the hopes and plans for the future. Join us to find out about what's in the works for Hope Center.

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</a>		
<b>Feb. 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Eli Escobedo, Jakob Wagner	Camden Johnson, Lexi Lytle
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marge Schroeder	Cindy Finn, Kris Wells
<b>Communion</b>	Marge Schroeder, <i>1 volunteer needed</i>	Melody and Paul Maass, Gary Wipperman
<b>Greeters</b>	Sarah, Jonathan, Emily Boales, Karen Simington	<i>Always appreciated</i>
<b>Media</b>	Adam Boales	Anna Marien
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer, Todd Schroeder	Pat Boyer, Dennis Leatherwood

**Sun Jan 25**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am BLAST WH

9:45am JUMP CR

**10:45am Worship EH S**

1pm Private event S, N

7pm AA WH

**Mon Jan 26**

11:30am Pastoral Assistants HR

1pm Knit Wits HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

6:30pm Caminando Juntos HR

7pm Jubilate rehearsal S

**Tue Jan 27**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

10:30am Boyer group HR

7pm Holloway Mtg HR

**Wed Jan 28**

1pm Bunco WH

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Jan 29**

10am Al Anon CR

**Sun Feb 1**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:30am CRASH Paczki Sales

9:45am BLAST WH

9:45am JAM S

9:45am JUMP CR

**10:45am Worship EH S**

2pm Wild Church MG WH

7pm AA WH

**Mon Feb 2**

10am/6pm Chosen HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Feb 3**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

**Wed Feb 4**

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Feb 5**

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

1pm Hansen Mtg CR

6pm JOLT EH

**Fri Feb 6**

*5pm CRASH Bucks game*

**Sat Feb 7**

8:30am No Regrets HR WH & Kit

9am Jubilate rehearsal S

**Sun Feb 8**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:30am CRASH Paczki Sales N

9:45am Hope Center presentation HR

**10:45am Worship EH S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Feb 9**

10am/6pm Chosen HR

12pm Staff Mtg HR

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Feb 10**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

10:30am Boyer group

6:30pm SOPHIA Immigration Task Force Mtg WH

7pm Holloway mtg HR

**Wed Feb 11**

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Thu Feb 12**

10am Al Anon CR

**Sat Feb 14**

8am Meru Synod Committee Mtg HR

**Sun Feb 15**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am BLAST WH

9:45am JUMP CR

**10:45am Worship EH S**

7pm AA WH

**Mon Feb 16**

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

**Tue Feb 17**

*7am AMEN zoom*

9am Paczki Pick-up K

9:30am Women's Bible CR

6pm Handbells S

7pm Church council HR

7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Wed Feb 18 Ash Wednesday**

**12pm Worship S**

12pm Young at Heart WH

**6:30pm Worship S**

7pm AA WH

<u>Key</u>	
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>

## 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
- JAM, BLAST, JUMP (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  
262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](http://ascensionelca.org)