



## Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 a.m., February 1, 2026

### Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolytes:** Eli Escobedo, Jakob Wagner **Altar Guild:** Marge Schroeder

**Choir Accompanist:** Kathy Johnson

**Communion:** Marge Schroeder, Paul Wehmeier, Jennifer Werner

**Greeters:** Sarah, Jonathan and Emily Boales, Karen Simington

**Media:** Adam Boales **Ushers:** Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer, Todd Schroeder

### PRELUDE

**Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart**, *setting by Michael Burkhardt*

### 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.**

**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.**

**KYRIE**

p. 138

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**This Is the Feast**

p. 140

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**Pastor Chris**

**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 5th chapter.

C:

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

P: When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit,

C: **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

P: Blessed are those who mourn,

C: **for they will be comforted.**

P: Blessed are the meek,

C: **for they will inherit the earth.**

P: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

C: **for they will be filled.**

P: Blessed are the merciful,

C: **for they will receive mercy.**

P: Blessed are the pure in heart,

C: **for they will see God.**

P: Blessed are the peacemakers,

C: **for they will be called children of God.**

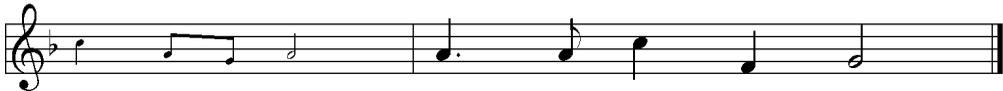
P: Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,

C: **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

P: Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



C

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

**Pastor Chris**

**HYMN**

**Let Streams of Living Justice**

**ELW 710**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

- Comfort:** For the family and friends of Bill Klippel at his death  
**God's Care:** For Bill Rudd (Chris Holloway's father), entering hospice  
For Mike and Tyler Karlson's friend Nik, hospice  
For the residents of Minneapolis/St. Paul  
**Healing:** Beth Hoffmann, cancer  
Becky Pepper, shoulder surgery

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING**

**Offertory, John Ness Beck**

**Ascension Choir**



**E-Giving**

- VancoMobile Giving app
- Online at [tinyurl.com/SupportALC](http://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)

## 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.

## PRAYER STATION

If you desire private prayers of healing for yourself or someone you know, please receive communion and then make your way to the kneeler at the altar where one of the pastors or pastoral assistants will listen to your request and then offer a moment of prayer.

## LAMB OF GOD

p. 146

## HYMNS

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

Brightest and Best of the Stars

ELW 303

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726

## 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

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

ELW 669

## SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

**O God Beyond All Praising**, *setting by David Lasky*



# 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.
- JAM—East Hall, BLAST—West Hall & JUMP—Conference Room at 9:45 a.m.
- Wild Church 2 p.m. West Hall

**February Newsletter:** Read all about this month at Ascension, including pastoral perspectives, events and ministries, <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>.

**Love Your Church, Love Your World:** Chose a heart from the sanctuary window to show your love for Ascension and the work we do in the wider world. Return the heart with your donation.

**CRASH Paczki Sale:** Reserve your paczki for Mardi Gras! Paczki pick-up will be on Tuesday, Feb. 17. CRASH students, please sign-up to help <https://tinyurl.com/PaczkiSale>.

**CRASH Bucks Game:** CRASH students who are going to see the game, please meet at church at 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6, in the Conference Room for some food before the game.

**Healing Hearts:** 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 starting at 5:45 p.m. with dinner and then small groups by age. Find out more online [healingheartswisconsin.org](http://healingheartswisconsin.org).

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

**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. Breakfast and refreshments will be served. This event is limited to 20 participants. RSVP to Alan Maechtle, [amaechtle@gmail.com](mailto:amaechtle@gmail.com) or text 262-422-8801. Please include name, phone number and email.

**The Chosen Season 5:** Join us beginning Monday, Feb. 2, for Season 5 of the Chosen, at either 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center.

## E-Giving



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

*More next page.*

**Blessing Bags:** We will continue collecting individual snacks and personal care items for Blessing Bags for the homeless through February. The bags will be given to the Hope Center, and some will be put in our Blessing Box. Contact Shirely Wehmeier, [shwehmeier@gmail.com](mailto:shwehmeier@gmail.com), with questions.

**Children's Ministry Food Pantry Collection:** Help Us Give Back! 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. 22. Drop items in the Children's Ministry box in the lobby.

**Healing Hearts Meal:** Our next Healing Hearts meal is Monday, Feb. 23. We're looking for people to donate food, to cook food and to serve food. Please sign-up to help. <https://tinyurl.com/HHSpring26>.

**Sing for a Season:** Sing for a Season is back! Join the Ascension Choir and sing for the Lenten season and/or Holy Week. Rehearse with us on Tuesdays from 7:15-8:15 p.m., Feb. 24 through March 24; sing for Palm Sunday, March 29, Maundy Thursday, April 2, Good Friday, April 3, and Easter Sunday, April 5. Interested singers are invited and welcome to join in for 4-5 rehearsals and sing with us on whatever dates work best. Email [vicki@ascensionelca.org](mailto:vicki@ascensionelca.org) with questions and to sign-up.

**Children's Choir:** The Ascension Children's Choir returns for our spring session on Wednesdays from 5:15-6 p.m. beginning Feb. 25 through March 25. Please note the change to Wednesdays; rehearsals will take place immediately prior to Lenten Soup Suppers and worship services. All children in grades K-5 are welcome to join us! Email [vicki@ascensionelca.org](mailto:vicki@ascensionelca.org) with questions and to sign up.

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

**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.

<b>Worship Support</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport">https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</a>		
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Hadley Marien, Elsa Romme	Ella Pfahler, Henry Schultz
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Gary Bauer	Jay and Robin Gallo
<b>Communion</b>	Darlene DiBrito, Jennifer Werner	Brad Piper, <i>2 volunteers needed</i>
<b>Greeters</b>	Dick and Sharon Boward	<i>Always appreciated</i>
<b>Media</b>	Buck Houston	Cheryl Anspach
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier	Cynthia and Mike Carlson

**Sun Feb 1**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:30am CRASH Paczki Sales  
9:45am JAM EH, BLAST WH,  
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

**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**

2:30pm Klippel visitation  
**3:30pm Klippel service**  
4:30pm Klippel reception  
*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 presenta-  
tion 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 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/6:30pm Worship S**  
7pm AA WH

**Thu Feb 19**

9:30am TGIT HR  
10am Al Anon CR  
1pm Hansen Mtg CR

**Sat Feb 21**

12:30pm Knit Fest HR

**Sun Feb 22**

**8:30am Worship S**

9:45am Journey to the Cross N  
**10:45am Worship EH S**  
6pm CRASH CR  
7pm AA WH

**Mon Feb 23**

10am/6pm Chosen HR  
*4:30pm Healing Hearts Meal*  
6:30pm AA Sm Group WH  
6:30pm AMEN CR  
7pm Jubilate rehearsal S

**Tue Feb 24**

*7am AMEN zoom*  
9:30am Women's Bible CR  
10:30am Boyer group  
6pm Handbells S  
7pm Holloway Mtg HR  
7:15pm Adult Choir S

**Wed Feb 25**

12pm Young at Heart WH  
5:15pm Children's Choir MR  
6pm Lenten Soup Supper EH  
**6:45pm Lenten Worship S**  
7pm AA WH

**Key**

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth Rm
MG	Memorial Garden
MR	Music 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)