



# ASCENSION

*Lutheran Church*

**Ash Wednesday**

12 and 6:30 p.m., February 18, 2026

**Worship Leadership**

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor* Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Acolytes:**

**Altar Guild:** (6:30p) Julie Kinunen

**Choir Accompanist:** (6:30p) Kathy Johnson

**Communion:** (12p) Diane and Rick Dowling, Christine Piper  
(6:30p) Julie Kinunen, Cathy Rapp, Jennifer Werner

**Media:** (12p) (6:30p)

**Ushers:** (12p) Brian Smith

(6:30p) Mike Rapp, Paul Wehmeier



## PRELUDE

Savior, When in Dust to You, *setting by Paul Manz*

## INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

## HYMN

### Psalm 51:1-12 Be Merciful, O Lord

*(Cantor sings odd numbered verses; all sing even numbered verses.)*



Have mercy on me, O God, according to your<sup>1</sup> steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out<sup>1</sup> my offenses.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through<sup>1</sup> from my wickedness, and cleanse me<sup>1</sup> from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know<sup>1</sup> my offenses, and my sin is ev-<sup>1</sup>er before me.

**<sup>4</sup>Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil<sup>1</sup> in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right<sup>1</sup> in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born<sup>1</sup> steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my<sup>1</sup> mother's womb.

**<sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth<sup>1</sup> deep within me, and would have me know wisdom<sup>1</sup> deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I<sup>1</sup> shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur-<sup>1</sup>er than snow.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear<sup>1</sup> joy and gladness; that the body you have broken<sup>1</sup> may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face<sup>1</sup> from my sins, and blot out<sup>1</sup> all my wickedness.

**<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean<sup>1</sup> heart, O God, and renew a right spir-<sup>1</sup>it within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away<sup>1</sup> from your presence, and take not your Holy Spir-<sup>1</sup>it from me.

**<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of<sup>1</sup> your salvation and sustain me with your boun-<sup>1</sup>tiful Spirit.**

## CONFESSION

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.

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

ANTHEM (6:30p)

To Dust, *Karen Marrolli*

Ascension Choir

HYMNS

Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW 606

Chief of Sinners, Though I Be

ELW 609

### I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, the spot - less Lamb of God;  
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; all full - ness dwells in him;  
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, this wea - ry soul of mine;



he bears them all and frees us from the ac - curs - ed load.  
he heals all my dis - eas - es; my soul he does re - deem.  
his right hand me em - brac - es; I on his breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus to wash my crim - son stains  
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, my bur - dens and my cares;  
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



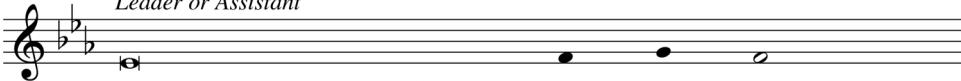
clean in his blood most pre - cious till not a spot re - mains.  
he from them all re - leas - es; he all my sor - rows shares.  
like fra - grance on the breez - es his name a - broad is poured.

## PRAYER

## SERVICE OF LIGHT

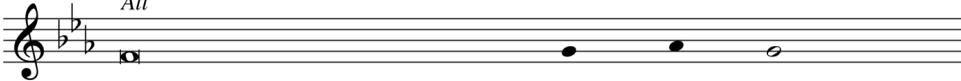
### Procession

*Leader or Assistant*



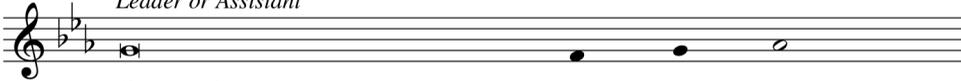
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

*All*



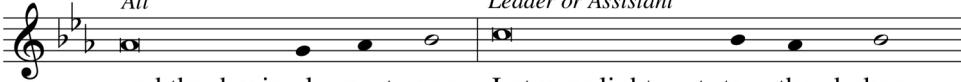
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

*Leader or Assistant*



Stay with us now, for it is evening,

*All* *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

*All*



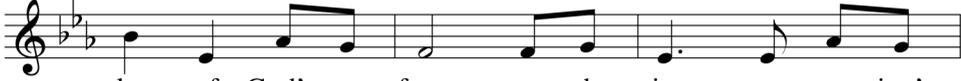
and shine within your peo - ple here.

## EVENING HYMN

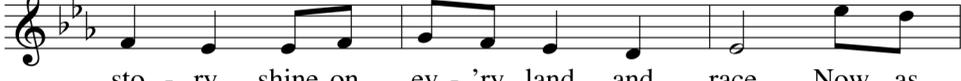
*All*



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y

eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to  
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry  
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our

you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us

light our hearts a - new.  
free and make us whole.  
on to end - less day.

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL READING

**Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SERMON

**Pastor Tony**

**HYMN**

**Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty**

**ELW 777**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING (12p)**

**Abide with Me, arr. Cathy Moglebust**

**Amy James, Bell Tree**

*(6:30p)*

**Just As I Am, Bode/McChesney**

**Ascension Ringers**

**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. 154**

**HYMNS**

**Come to the Table**

**ELW 481**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**ELW 793**

**Abide with Me**

**ELW 629**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

**CLOSING HYMN (12p) The King of Love My Shepherd Is (v. 1, 2, 4, 6)**

**ELW 502**

**CLOSING ANTHEM (6:30p) The Lord Is My Shepherd, Allen Pote**

**Ascension Choir**

**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.**

**SENDING**

**P: Let us go forth in peace.**

**C: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Tallis' Canon, Paul Manz**



# ASCENSION

**Pew Pads:** Please fill-out the blue pew pad and pass it to your neighbor. You might make a new friend.

**Love Your Church, Love Your World:** Choose a heart from the sanctuary window and return the item to show your love for Ascension and the work we do in the wider world.

**Wednesday Soup Suppers & Worship:** Starting Feb. 25, we meet for soup supper at 6 p.m. Please see the sign-up in the narthex/lobby to bring a soup or loaf of bread. Worship begins at 6:45 p.m. and ends at 7:15 p.m.

**Lenten Book Study Starts Tomorrow:** Thursday mornings in Lent, join PC in the study of “The Message of Jesus” by Adam Hamilton. Join us starting Feb. 19 at 10:30 a.m. Purchase a book from PC for \$13 or buy one on your own. Sign-up at the Welcome Center.

**Thursday Morning Worship:** Join us for worship Thursdays in Lent at 11:30 a.m. beginning tomorrow, Feb. 19.

**JOLT** will not meet for the remainder of Thursdays in February.

**Children's Ministry Food Pantry Collection:** We're collecting specific items to be used during our Journey to the Cross event: peanut butter, cereal, pasta, canned fruit/veg, and baby items (diapers, wipes, formula). Please donate by Friday, Feb. 20. Journey to the Cross will be Sunday, Feb. 22, between worship.

**An Evening of Education on Gaza and Palestine:** Please join us for an evening of education, insight, experience and wisdom presented by Dr. Rahman & Dr. Zaidi from their recent medical volunteer work in Gaza. The event will be at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Brookfield, on Thursday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m.

**Healing Hearts Meal:** Our next Healing Hearts meal is Monday, Feb. 23. We're still looking for a couple items and people serve. Please sign-up if you can help, <https://tinyurl.com/HHSpring26>.

**February Young at Heart:** Join the Young at Heart group (for people over 55) on Wednesday, Feb. 25, (4th Wednesday due to Lent) for a potluck lunch and games. Bring a dish to pass if you are able. There will be no bunco in February.

**Sing for a Season:** Sing for a Season is back! Rehearse with us on Tuesdays from 7:15-8:15 p.m., Feb. 24 through March 24. 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).

**Children's Choir:** Children's Choir resumes next week for a limited time! Children grades K-5 are invited to join us in preparation to sing in worship on Palm Sunday, March 29. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5:15-6 p.m. (just prior to soup suppers!) on Feb. 25 and March 5, 11, 18, and 25. Email [vicki@ascensionelca.org](mailto:vicki@ascensionelca.org) with questions and to sign up.

## E-Giving



- Or online at [tinyurl.com/SupportALC](https://tinyurl.com/SupportALC)

## 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 class (membership)

**Please place in the offering plate.**

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

### **Wed Feb 18**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

**12pm / 6:30pm Worship**  
7pm AA WH

### **Thu Feb 19**

9:30am TGIT PR  
10am Al Anon CR  
10:30am Book Study HR  
**11:30am Worship S**  
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  
5:15pm Children's Choir  
MR  
6pm Soup Supper EH  
**6:45pm Worship S**  
7pm AA WH

### **Thu Feb 26**

10am Al Anon CR  
10:30am Book Study HR  
**11:30am Worship S**

### **Sun Mar 1**

**8:30am Worship S**  
9:45am 1st Communion  
Stepping Stone WH  
**10:45am Worship EH S**  
**2pm Wild Church MG  
WH**  
*4pm JOLT / CRASH Shop  
& Serve*  
7pm AA WH

### **Mon Mar 2**

10am/6pm Chosen HR  
6:30pm AA Sm Group  
WH  
6:30pm AMEN CR

### **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>



**ASCENSION**  
*Lutheran Church*

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Waukesha, WI 53188  
262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](https://ascensionelca.org)