



Second Sunday in Lent
8:30 a.m., March 1, 2026

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolytes: Elsa Romme, Jakob Wagner **Altar Guild:** Gary Bauer

Choir Accompanist: Kathy Johnson **Communion:** Darlene DiBrito, Steve Spieker

Greeters: Mike and Sherry Hoelzl **Media:** Buck Houston

Reader: Darlene DiBrito **Ushers:** Dennis Mohr, Paul Wehmeier, Al Wollschlager

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, arr. John Behnke

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. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

p. 148

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Tony

FIRST READING

Psalms 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep. Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep; the Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life. The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

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

GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Tony

HYMN

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Healing: For Sheri Greger’s cousin, Thomas, recovering from surgery, now on ventilator
Cara Boyer, knee replacement
Vicki Dian, knee replacement
For Peter Passante’s friend, Brett, recovering from spinal fusion surgery
With Peter Passante for Michelle’s mom, cancer with an RAS mutation

Thanksgiving: For Warren Madison celebrating his 96th birthday today

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Just As I Am
arr. Howard Helvey

Ascension Choir



Many Ways to Give Electronically

- QR code
- VancoMobile Giving app on your smartphone
- Online at 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. 152

PROPER PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p. 153

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

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

Around You, O Lord Jesus

ELW 468

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW 742

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, *setting by Paul Manz*



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.
- **First Communion Stepping Stone**, 9:45 a.m., West Hall
- **Caminando Juntos/Walking Together** information table, 9:45 - 11:45 p.m.
- **No JAM, BLAST, JUMP**
- **Wild Church**, 2 p.m. West Hall
- **JOLT & CRASH Shop & Serve**, meet at Ascension at 4 p.m.

First Communion: First communion stepping stone classes will be March 1, 8, and 15, between worship services. The Rite of First Communion will be held on March 22 during worship. Contact Pastor Tony, tony@ascnesionelca.org, with questions.

JOLT & CRASH Shop 'n' Serve: JOLT & CRASH will meet today, 4 to 6 p.m. for the Shop 'n' Serve event to benefit the Food Pantry of Waukesha County.

New Member Classes: Interested in joining Ascension? We'll have new member conversations between worship on March 15 and March 22. Fill-out this online form, <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers>, to RSVP or let us know if you'd like to learn more about Ascension. A copy is also available in the office.

GriefShare: Are you or someone you know struggling with grief after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend? Consider Ascension's grief support ministry, GriefShare. The next session is Tuesdays, March 3 – May 19, at 6 – 8 p.m. and led by Pastor Tony. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office to sign up. Questions? Contact Pastor Tony, 262-547-8518 or tony@ascnesionelca.org.

Caminando Juntos / Walking Together: Caminando Juntos will meet on Saturday, March 7, at 9:30 in the Hearth Room. Anyone interested in ways to walk with our Latino brothers and sisters is welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Teri Quam, tquam61@gmail.com.

SOPHIA Presentation: On March 15, we will host a special guest from SOPHIA between services to give a presentation on Ascension as a founding member of SOPHIA, current community activities and how Ascension can become more involved in SOPHIA's future. This guest is well known to Ascension. He is now the vice president of SOPHIA but we know him as Pastor Jim Bickel, a former long-time pastor of Ascension.

More next page.

Sun Mar 1

8:30am Worship S

9:45am 1st Communion SS
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

Tue Mar 3

7am *AMEN zoom*
9:30am Women's Bible CR
6pm GriefShare CR
6pm Handbells S
7:15pm Adult Choir S

Wed Mar 4

5:15pm Children's Choir MR
6pm Soup Supper EH
6:45pm Worship S
7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 5

9:30am TGIT MR
10am Al Anon CR
10:30am Book Study HR
11:30am Worship S
1pm Hansen Mtg CR

Sat Mar 7

9am Jubilate rehearsal S
9:30am Caminando Juntos HR
10:30am Private event WH

Sun Mar 8

Daylight Savings begins

8:30am Worship S

9:45am BLAST HR
9:45am First Communion SS
WH

9:45am JUMP CR

10:45am Worship EH S

6pm CRASH CR
7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 9

10am/6pm Chosen HR
12pm Staff Mtg HR
6:30pm AA Sm Group WH
6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Mar 10

7am *AMEN zoom*
9:30am Women's Bible CR
5pm Private event EH
6pm GriefShare CR
6pm Handbells S
6:30pm SOPHIA Immigration Task Force Mtg WH
7pm Holloway mtg HR
7:15pm Adult Choir S

Wed Mar 11

5:15pm Children's Choir MR
6pm Soup Supper EH
6:45pm Worship S
7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 12

10am Al Anon CR
10:30am Book Study HR
10:30am Boyer group MR
11:30am Worship S

Fri Mar 13

5:30p BLAST Movie Night

Sat Mar 14

9am Adult Choir S
12pm Handbells S

Sun Mar 15

8:30am Worship S

9:45am First Communion SS
WH
9:45am New members conversation HR
9:45am SOPHIA EH
10:45am Worship EH S
7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 16

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

Tue Mar 17

Alfombra reservation MR
7am *AMEN zoom*
9:30am Women's Bible CR
6pm GriefShare CR
6pm Handbells S
6:30pm Church council HR
7:15pm Adult Choir S

Key

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth Rm
MG	Memorial Garden
MR	Meeting Room
MS	Music Room
N	Narthex (Lobby)
PR	Prayer Room
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall (Kit)
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>

Your Lenten Journey with Ascension



- **Soup supper and Wednesday Night Worship:** Through March 25, join us Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. for soup supper and stay for worship at 6:45 p.m. Worship will end by 7:15 p.m.
- **Lenten Book Study:** There's still time to join us for PC's book study of "The Message of Jesus" by Adam Hamilton Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Purchase a book from PC for \$13 or buy one on your own.
- **Thursday morning worship:** 11:30 a.m., through March 26.

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

March 8	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Howie Leatherwood, Joey Leatherwood	Camden Johnson, Henry Schultz
Altar Guild	Marge Schroeder	Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
Communion	Lauren Birner, Marge Schroeder	Mary Ellen Comp, Mary Kolberg, Sue Mathews
Greeters	Dennis and Joyce Beauchene	<i>Always appreciated</i>
Media	Cheryl Werner	Jeff Froh
Readers	Beth Hoffmann	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Ushers	Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner	Cynthia and Mike Carlson

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
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