



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

Worship Leadership

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*
Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*
Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolytes: Howie Leatherwood, Joey Leatherwood

Altar Guild: Marge Schroeder **Choir Accompanist:** Kathy Johnson

Communion: Lauren Birner, Marge Schroeder **Greeters:** Dennis and Joyce Beauchene

Instrumentalists: Braden Zitoun, cello; Suzanne Geoffrey, oboe **Media:** Cheryl Werner

Reader: Beth Hoffmann **Ushers:** Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Scot Werner

PRELUDE

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

ELW 533

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: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

ANTHEM

More Love to Thee, Mark Shepperd

Ascension Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Tony

FIRST READING

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms. For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours. The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands

have molded the dry land. Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice! "Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert. There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works. Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.' Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

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 4th chapter.

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

GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-18, 25-29

Eventually he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?" Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water." "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?" Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life." "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water." "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her. "I don't have a husband," the woman replied. Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband—for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certain-

ly spoke the truth!” The woman said, “I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” Then Jesus told her, “I am the Messiah!” Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, “What do you want with her?” or “Why are you talking to her?” The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, “Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Tony

HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

arr. Erik Dewar, Dan Forrest

(Congregation please join in singing v. 2-3 as directed)

**Ascension Choir
with Congregation**

ELW 815

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

Healing: For Maddie Goetter, breast cancer surgery on March 10

For Peter Passante's friend, Shawna, chip fracture

Carol Ziarniak, hospitalized

Thanksgiving: For Sheri Greger's cousin, Thomas, ventilator removed, continued healing

God's Care: For Don Steinke's sister, Susan Gering, entering hospice

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

My Song is Love Unknown

arr. Cathy Moklebust

**Amy James,
bell tree**



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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 186

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, Let Us Eat

ELW 491

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

ELW 759

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW 335

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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Chaconne, Louis Couperin

Today!

- **Worship** at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
- **First Communion Stepping Stone**, 9:45 a.m., West Hall
- **BLAST, JUMP**, 9:45 a.m., no JAM
- **CRASH** meets from 6 - 7:30 p.m.
- **SOPHIA table**, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m.



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!

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.

Family Movie Night: Children's Ministry invites you on Friday, March 13, at 5:30 p.m. for a Family Movie Night featuring free pizza, popcorn and juice. Come and enjoy a movie that will delight young and old. Bring comfy blankets and pillows too! Please RSVP online at <https://tinyurl.com/FamilyMovieNight3-26> and be entered to win a special seat the night of the movie!

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? We invite you to consider Ascension's grief support ministry, GriefShare, which meets Tuesdays, through May 19, at 6 – 8 p.m. This impactful group started last Tuesday and participants are encouraged to attend all 10 sessions, however you are also welcome to begin our GriefShare group at any point. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office to sign up. Questions? Please contact Pastor Tony, tony@ascensionelca.org.

SOPHIA Community Breakfast & Auction: See the table in the narthex today to learn about SOPHIA's annual breakfast fundraiser. Purchase tickets or donate to help us fill our Wisconsin or Waukesha themed baskets for the silent auction. Contact Joan Mikecz, jdmikecz@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.

Healing Hearts Monthly Meal: Our next meal is March 23. Please see the Sign-Up Genius <https://tinyurl.com/HHSpring26> if you can help serve or provide food.

March Newsletter: The March newsletter is available on our website at <https://ascensionelca.org/events/newsletter/>. Read the pastors' reflections and find out about all that is happening this month at Ascension.

Sun Mar 8

Daylight Savings begins
8:30am Worship S
 9:45am BLAST HR
 9:45am 1st Communion SS
 WH, MR
 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 AI Anon CR
 10:30am Boyer Group MR
 10:30am Book Study HR
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 1st Communion SS
 WH, MR
 9:45am New members conver-
 sation 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

Wed Mar 18

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

Thu Mar 19

Alfombra reservation MR
 9:30am TGIT WH
 10am AI Anon CR
 10:30am Book Study HR
11:30am Worship S
 1pm Hansen Mtg CR

Fri Mar 20

Alfombra reservation MR
 11am Elder Mtg HR

Sat Mar 21

9am Drawing of Alfombras
 WH, K
 12:30pm Knit Fest HR

Sun Mar 22

Alfombra reservation MR
 First Communion
8:30am Worship S
 9:45am BLAST WH
 9:45am JAM EH
 9:45am JUMP CR
 9:45am New member con-
 versation HR
10:45am Worship EH S
 12pm Private event WH
 7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 23

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

Tue Mar 24

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

<u>Key</u>	
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>

Your Lenten Journey with Ascension



- **Soup supper and Wednesday night worship:** Join us Wednesdays through March 25 at 6 p.m. for soup supper and stay for worship at 6:45 p.m. Worship will end by 7:15 p.m. Please sign-up in the narthex to bring a soup or bread.
- **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.
- **Thursday morning worship:** 11:30 a.m., through March 26.

Worship Support https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport		
March 15	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Ruby Olson, Madeline Paczesny	Zach Jahner, Callum Reinfeldt
Altar Guild	Chris and Jimmy Loos	Jay and Robin Gallo
Communion	Jennifer and Scot Werner	<i>One volunteer needed</i> , Becky Hastings, Cathy Rapp
Greeters	Linda Blodgett, Sarah, Jonathan, Emily Boales	<i>Always appreciated</i>
Media	Adam Boales	Anna Marien
Readers	Jennifer Werner	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Ushers	Dennis Mohr, Jeff Rohrer, Al Woll-schlager	Mike Rapp, Brian Smith

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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