



Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:45 a.m., March 22, 2026

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Anthony Acompañado, *Pastor*
Ben Janzow, *Praise Band Leader*

Acolytes: Bly Dringenburg, Lexi Lytle **Altar Guild:** Kathy and Mike Tomchek
Communion: Maelyn Olson, Sherry Olson, Mike Tomchek **Media:** Cheryl Anspach
Reader: Sue Mathews **Ushers:** Mark Pichler, Patrick Tkach

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.**

SONGS

Before the world was made
Before You spoke it to be
You were the King of kings
Yes, You were, yes, You were
And now You're reigning still
Enthroned above all things
Angels and saints cry out
We join them as we sing

**Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever
Glory to God, glory to God
Glory to God, forever**

Glory to God Forever

Creator God, You gave
Me breath so I could praise
Your great and matchless name
All my days, all my days
So let my whole life be, a blazing offering
A life that shouts and sings
The greatness of our King *(Chorus)*

Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours
Take my life and let it be
All for You and for Your glory
Take my life and let it be Yours, we sing
(Chorus)

Today Is the Day

I'm casting my cares aside
I'm leaving my past behind
I'm setting my heart and mind on You Jesus
I'm reaching my hand to Yours
Believing there's so much more
Knowing that all you have
In store for me is good, is good

**Today is the day you have made
I will rejoice and be glad in it (2x)
And I won't worry about tomorrow
I'm trusting in what You say
Today is the day**

I'm putting my fears aside
I'm leaving my doubts behind
I'm giving my hopes and dreams to You Jesus
I'm reaching my hands to Yours
Believing there's so much more
Knowing that all You have
In store for me is good, is good *(Chorus)*

I will stand upon Your truth (echo)
And all my days I'll live for You (echo)
I will stand upon Your truth (echo)
And all my days I'll live for You (echo)
(Chorus)

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

FIRST READING

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared. I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits; in your word is my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning. O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord here is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption. For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG

Better Is One Day

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere (*Repeat*)

How lovely is Your dwelling place
Oh Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
Here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I see beneath the shadow of Your wings

GOSPEL READING

John 11:17-44

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

SONG

This I Believe (The Creed)

Our Father everlasting, the all-creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Savior

**I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit, our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high (*Chorus*)

PRAYERS

Please say, "Hear our prayer" and sing the previous refrain after each petition.

Comfort: For the Reagles family at the death of Rebecca's dad, Bob Packman

Healing: For Deb Izu, hospitalized
For Dorothy Baehmann, upcoming surgery on 3/27
For Greg Milleville, cancer surgery 3/23
For Al Wollschlager, upcoming surgery for bilateral hernias
With Cynthia and Michael Carlson for baby Zayne, no kidney function
For Greg Hall's father, surgery on 3/26

God's Care: With Cynthia Carlson for Debbie Detrick, hospice

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

One Thing Remains

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant through the trial and the change
One thing remains, one thing remains

**Your love never fails, never gives up
Never runs out on me (3x)
Your love ...**

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never, ever, have to be afraid
One thing remains, one thing remains (*Chorus*)

In death, in life, I'm confident and
Covered by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid
There's nothing that can separate
My heart from Your great love
(*Chorus*)

This I Believe (The Creed): Ben Fielding | Matt Crocker © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia. **One Thing Remains:** Brian Johnson, Christa Black Gifford, Jeremy Riddle, Bethel Music Publishing / ChristaJoy Music Publishing / Mercy / Vineyard Publishing. **Finally Home:** Barry Graul | Bart Millard | Mike Scheuchzer © 2007 Simpleville Music Wet As A Fish Music. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 90978

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 grape juice are available.

FIRST COMMUNION

Today in worship, we celebrate the First Communion of the following students.

Bernardo Alexander Cuesta
Eli Robert George Greger
Grace Avery Lytle
Lillian Michelle Motley

Nora Cecelia Niklasch
Audrey Michaela Poling
Ellis James Schultz
Lucy Anja Hernandez Sierra

SOLO

Finally Home

SONGS

Your Name

As morning dawns and evening fades
You inspire songs of praise
That rise from earth to touch Your heart
And glorify Your name

Jesus in Your name we pray
Come and fill our hearts today
Lord give us strength to live for You
And glorify Your name (*Chorus*)

**Your name is a strong and mighty tower
Your name is a shelter like no other
Your name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your name**

Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

SONG

Old Church Choir

There's revival and it's spreading
Like a wildfire in my heart
A Sunday morning hallelujah
And it's lasting all week long

Can you hear it? Can you feel it?
It's the rhythm of a gospel song
Oh, once you choose it you can't lose it
There ain't nothing
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

I've got an old church choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing
'Cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

When the valleys that I wander
Turn to mountains that I can't climb
Oh, You are with me, never leave me
Oh, 'cause there ain't nothing
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
(Chorus)

Clap your hands and stomp your feet
'Til you find that gospel beat
'Cause He's all you'll ever need
All you'll ever need
Clap your hands and stomp your feet
'Til you find that gospel beat
'Cause He's all you'll ever need
All you'll ever need

I've got an old church choir
Singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing
'Cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
Oh, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**



E-Giving

- VancoMobile Giving app
- Online at tinyurl.com/SupportALC
- QR code

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

March 29	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Benji Earnest, Aubrey Olson	Claire Cruft, Ariya Jewett
Altar Guild	Joan Birner	Mary Kolberg
Communion	Darlene DiBrito, Becky Pepper	Mary Kolberg, Teri Quam
Greeters	Kristy Olson, Maelyn Olson	<i>Always appreciated</i>
Media	Cheryl Werner	Jeff Froh
Readers	Maggie Mulroy	Rick Dowling
Ushers	Jim Hahn, Dennis Mohr, Todd Schroeder	Kathy and Mike Tomchek



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.
- First Communion at both services
- JAM, BLAST & JUMP, 9:45 a.m.
- New member conversation, 9:45 a.m., Hearth Room
- Caminando Juntos info table / SOPHIA table
- Children's Ministry breakfast sign-up table

New Member Classes: Interested in joining Ascension? We'll have new member conversations between worship today. Fill-out this online form, <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers>, to RSVP or let us know if you'd like to learn more about Ascension.

Calling All Acolytes! We are looking for volunteers on Maundy Thursday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m., and Good Friday, April 3, at 12 and 6:30 p.m. Two for each service would be great! Please let the church office know by emailing Tamie Greenwood, Tamie@ascensionelca.org.

Children's Ministry Breakfast & Conversations: On Sunday, April 12, we will meet between services for a potluck breakfast and table conversations. We had so much fun in the fall with this, and thought we would bring it back again! Please sign-up online, <https://tinyurl.com/Breakfast-chat> or see the table today.

Lilies: If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for our sanctuary, please fill-out the form in the back of the bulletin and place in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. Lilies are \$16 each. The form is also available at <https://tinyurl.com/ALCEasterLilies>. Please submit your donations by March 29.

LAST Soup Supper & Worship: Join us on Wednesday, March 25, for soup supper at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 6:45 p.m.

SOPHIA Community Breakfast: This annual fundraiser for SOPHIA will be on Saturday, April 18. Contact Joan Mikecz, jdmikecz@gmail.com, to purchase tickets or donate to help us fill our Wisconsin or Waukesha themed baskets for the silent auction. The keynote speaker is author and homeless services advocate Kevin Nye. More info sophiawaukesha.org/events.

Bunco: Everyone is invited next week for bunco, a fun, fast-paced dice game, on Wednesday, 1-3 p.m.

Sun Mar 22

First Communion
8:30am Worship S
 9:45am BLAST WH, JAM EH,
 JUMP CR
 9:45am New members HR
10:45am Worship EH S
 12pm Private event WH
 7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 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 Mar 24

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

Wed Mar 25

1pm Bunco WH
 5:15pm Children's Choir MR
 6pm Soup Supper EH
6:45pm Worship S
 7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 26

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

Sun Mar 29 Palm Sunday

8:30am Worship S
 9:45am BLAST, JUMP
10:45am Worship EH S
 7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 30

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

Tue Mar 31

7am AMEN zoom
 9:30am Women's Bible CR

Wed Apr 1

6pm Handbells S
 7pm AA WH
 7:15pm Adult Choir S

Thu Apr 2

Maundy Thursday
 9:30am TGIT WH
 10am Al Anon CR
 1pm Hansen Mtg CR
 6:30pm Worship S

Fri Apr 3 Good Friday

12pm Worship S
6:30pm Worship S

Sun Apr 5 Easter Sunday

8:30am Worship S
10:45am Worship EH S
 7pm AA WH

Mon Apr 6 Easter Monday

Church office closed
 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
MS	Music Room
N	Narthex (Lobby)
PR	Prayer Room
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall (Kit)
<i>Italics</i>	<i>Virtual or offsite</i>

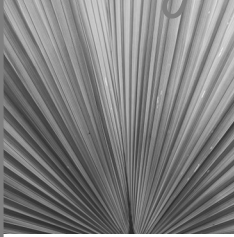
Partners AFAR Pasta Dinner

Save the date for Saturday, May 16! Our annual Partnership Pasta Dinner is always a fun night of fellowship while we raise funds to support our partnerships. This year the focus will be raising funds for our July trip to visit our sister parish in Tanzania.



We are currently collecting donations for our raffle and auction. Items that tend to do well include spa packages, tickets to entertainment and experiences, gifts cards to restaurants, and alcohol. New this year, we are also looking for donations for our wine and spirit pull. Your support of this event is always appreciated! Contact sarah@ascensionelca.org with questions.

Holy Week ~ Semana Santa



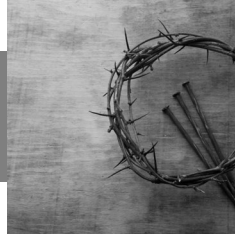
March 29
Palm Sunday
Domingo de Ramos

8:30 & 10:45 English
10:45a en español



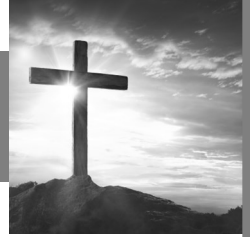
April 2
Maundy Thursday
Jueves Santo

6:30p English
6:30p en español



April 3
Good Friday
Viernes Santo

12p & 6:30p English
5:30p Procesional y
misa (en español)



April 5
Easter
Domingo de Resurrección

8:30 & 10:45a
English
10:45a en español

Easter Lily Donations

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for our sanctuary, please fill-out this form and place in the offering plate along with your donation or return the form with your donation to the church office. Lilies are \$16 each.



Donor(s)

Donation amount \$ _____

This donation is given (*please check*):

In celebration of the resurrection of Jesus

To the glory of God

Donated in honor of:

Donated in memory of:

Thank you for helping make the sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

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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