



# ASCENSION

*Lutheran Church*

**Good Friday**

12p & 6:30p, April 3, 2026

## Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

**Choir Accompanist:** (6:30p) Kathy Johnson **Greeter:** (12p) Becky Pepper

**Instrumentalist:** (6:30p) Kristian Brusubardis, *violin*

**Ushers:** (12p) Brian Smith; (6:30p) Mark Pichler

*Please silence your cell phones out of respect for the solemn nature of this service.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(12p) **There Is a Balm in Gilead**

**Pastor Chris**

(6:30p) **What Wondrous Love Is This**

**Ascension Choir**

*arr. Eugene Oldham*

## OPENING WORDS

P: This day let all stand still

**C: In silence and in sorrow.**

P: Sun and moon

**C: Be still.**

P: Earth

**C: Be still.**

P: Still the waters.

**C: Still the wind.**

P: Time be still.

**C: Watch and wait.**

P: Let us pray...O God, we pray this day: for all who have a song they cannot sing, for all who have a burden they cannot bear, for all who live in chains they cannot break, for all who wander homeless and cannot return, for those who are sick and for those who tend them, for those who wait for loved ones and wait in vain, for those who live in hunger and for those who will not share their bread, for those who are misunderstood and for those who misunderstand, for those whose words of love are locked within their hearts and for those who yearn to hear those words. Have mercy upon these, O God. Have mercy upon us all.

**C: Amen.**

**READING****The Arrest and Trial of Jesus****John 18:12-24**

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

**HYMN****Ah, Holy Jesus (v. 1)****ELW 349****READING****The Disciple's Denial****John 18:25-27**

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

**HYMN****Ah, Holy Jesus (v. 2)****ELW 349****READING****Jesus Before Pilate****John 18:28-40**

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do

you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

C: **Have mercy on us.**

**HYMN** (12p)

**Ah, Holy Jesus** (v. 3)

**ELW 349**

**ANTHEM** (6:30p)

**Ah, Holy Jesus**, arr. Brenda Austin

**Ascension Ringers**

**READING**

**Jesus Is Sentenced to be Crucified**

**John 19:1-16a**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

P: Lord, to whom shall we go.

C: **You have the words of eternal life.**

**HYMN**

**O Sacred Head, Now Wounded** (v. 1)

**ELW 351**

**READING****The Crucifixion of Jesus****John 19:16b-25a**

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

P: Lord, to whom shall we go.

**C: You have the words of eternal life.**

**HYMN****O Sacred Head, Now Wounded** (v. 2)**ELW 351****READING****At the Cross****John 19:25b-27**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

P: Lord, to whom shall we go.

**C: You have the words of eternal life.**

**SOLO****Mary's Song**, *Dallas Holm***Liz Jacobson****READING****The Death of Jesus****John 19:28-30**

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P: Lord, to whom shall we go.

**C: You have the words of eternal life.**

**HYMN****O Sacred Head, Now Wounded** (v. 3)**ELW 351****READING****Jesus' Side Is Pierced****John 19:31-34, 36-37**

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they

came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: **Oh, come, let us worship him.**

**SOLO** (12p)

**Were You There**

**Don Malchow**

**HYMN** (6:30p)

**Were You There** (v. 1, 2, 5)

**ELW 353**

**READING**

**The Burial of Jesus**

**John 19:38-42**

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: **Oh, come, let us worship him.**

**HYMN** (12p)

**Beautiful Savior** (v. 1)

**ELW 838**

**ANTHEM** (6:30p)

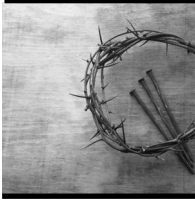
**Arise, My Soul, Arise**  
*Dan Forrest*

**Ascension Choir**  
**Kristian Brusubardis, violin**

**THE 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.**

*Please leave the church in silence.*



**April 3, Good Friday**  
**Viernes Santo**  
12p & 6:30p (*English*)  
5:30p Procession & wor-  
ship (*Español*)



**April 5, Easter Sunday**  
**Domingo de Resurrección**  
8:30a & 10:45a (*English*)  
10:45a (*Español*)

**Pew Pads:** Please fill-out the blue pew pad and pass it to your neighbor.

**Good Friday Procession & Worship:** You're invited to the Latino Ministries' Good Friday procession at 5:30 p.m. in the Memorial Gardens where we will walk over the alfombras. Worship will follow in Spanish in the Latino Sanctuary. English worship will be at 6:30 p.m. in the main sanctuary.

**Easter Sunday Worship:** 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. (*English*), 10:45 a.m. (*Español*).

**Easter Sunday Potluck Breakfast with the Easter Bunny:** Ascension families are invited to a potluck breakfast between services on Easter Sunday, April 5. The Easter Bunny will be present for photos. Please bring a dish to share.

**Church Office Closed:** The church office will be closed on Friday, April 3, and Monday, April 6, in recognition of Good Friday and Easter.

**Tell Me Something New!** We have new lighting for the main sanctuary ready to be installed! We need your help. On Tuesday, April 7, at 9 a.m. we are moving out the chairs from the sanctuary to make it easier for the lighting company to install the new lighting. Once everything is installed, we will need help moving back in on Saturday, April 11, at 1 p.m. If you can help with either or both, please contact the church office as soon as possible, 262-547-8518 or email to [admin@ascensionelca.org](mailto:admin@ascensionelca.org). A little assistance in letting us know that you can help would be greatly appreciated.

**Children's Ministry Breakfast & Conversations:** Sunday, April 12, Children's Ministry families will meet between services for a potluck breakfast and table conversations. Please sign-up online <https://tinyurl.com/Breakfast-chat!>

**JOLT in April:** JOLT families are invited to Holy Week services. How else do we learn the story of Holy Week and all that Jesus has done? In addition to Holy Week worship, JOLT meets on Thursdays, April 16, 23, 30, 6-7:30 p.m. There is **NO** JOLT Thursday, April 9.

**College Care:** Help us show our love and support to our hard-working college students with care packages leading up to finals. Due to the cost of these packages and shipping, we typically only send them to Ascension college students; however, for \$30/student, we would be happy to include non-member students in this care initiative. Additionally, we welcome any donations to help offset the overall costs. Care packages will be mailed the last week of April and the deadline to sign up is Sunday, April 19. Please sign up your student at <https://tinyurl.com/CollegeCareALC> or make a donation. Please contact Pastor Tony, [tony@ascensionelca.org](mailto:tony@ascensionelca.org), with questions.

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

# Partners AFAR Pasta Dinner

Save Saturday, May 16, for our annual Partnership Pasta Dinner. For this year's event, we're focusing our efforts on our partners in Tanzania ahead of our July delegation. Come enjoy a fun night of fellowship, knowing that every contribution directly impacts the shared educational, ministry, and economic development initiatives that make our partnership so meaningful.

## How You Can Help

**Thrivent Members:** You can make a significant impact by applying for a Thrivent Action Team grant to help cover our operational costs.

**Donate Auction Items:** We are seeking high-quality items for our raffle, auction or wine and spirit pull. Experience-based gifts—such as gift cards for services, restaurants, and local experiences—as well as alcohol products, are traditionally our most successful items. Due to space constraints, we are only able to accept new items this year.

Contact Sarah Aparicio, [sarah@ascensionelca.org](mailto:sarah@ascensionelca.org), if you can help.

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

### Sun Apr 5 Easter

#### **8:30am Worship S**

9:30am Latino Ministry Break-fast WH

#### **10:45am Worship EH S**

#### **2pm Wild Church MG WH**

7pm AA WH

### Mon Apr 6 Easter Monday

*Church office closed*

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

### Tue Apr 7

*7am AMEN zoom*

9a Sanctuary move-out

9:30am Women's Bible CR

10:30am Boyer group HR

6pm GriefShare CR

### Wed Apr 8

7pm AA WH

### Thu Apr 9

10am Al Anon CR

### Sat Apr 11

9am Jubilate rehearsal S

1pm Sanctuary move in

### Sun Apr 12

#### **8:30am Worship S**

9:45am CM Breakfast WH

#### **10:45am Worship EH S**

7pm AA WH

### Mon Apr 13

10am/6pm Chosen HR

*12pm Staff Mtg*

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

7pm Jubilate rehearsal S

### Tue Apr 14

*7am AMEN zoom*

9:30am Women's Bible CR

6pm GriefShare CR

6:30pm SOPHIA Immigration

Task Force Mtg WH

7pm Holloway mtg HR

### Wed Apr 15

12pm Young at Heart WH

6pm Handbells S

7pm AA WH

7:15pm Adult Choir S

### Thu Apr 16

9:30am TGIT HR

10am Al Anon CR

1pm Hansen Mtg CR

6pm JOLT EH

### 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>



Ascension Lutheran Church  
1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI  
262-547-8518 [ascensionelca.org](http://ascensionelca.org)