



14th Sunday After Pentecost

8:30 a.m., Aug. 30, 2026

Worship Leadership

Rev. Chris Marien, Lead Pastor

Rev. Edwin Aparicio, *Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Pastor (on sabbatical)*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolytes: Hadley Marien **Altar Guild:** Julie Kinunen

Communion: Beth Hoffmann, Carol and Steve Spieker, Max Stigler, Maelyn Olson Schubert

Greeters: Kristy and Maelyn Olson Schubert

Media: Buck Houston **Ushers:** Dennis Mohr, Todd Schroeder

PRELUDE

Toccata on "O Worship the King," *Michael Burkhardt*

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH WITNESS: STEVE AND CAROL SPIEKER

OPENING HYMN

Son of God, Eternal Savior

ELW 655

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

p. 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

ANTHEM

Ain't-a-That Good News

Windy Hill Handbell Quartet

arr. Susan Nelson Sylvester

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Chris

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

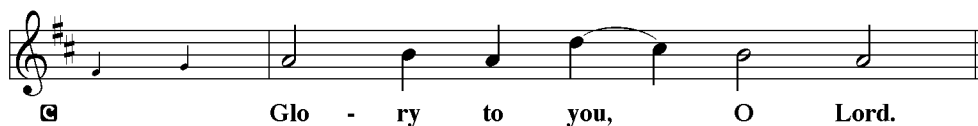


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C:



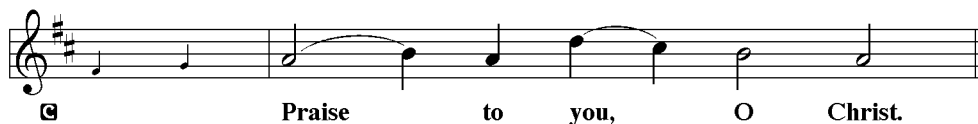
GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



SERMON

Pastor Chris

HYMN

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Healing: Pat Boyer, upcoming cardiac ablation
Mark Otto, upcoming hip replacement surgery
Chuck Czaplewski, hospitalized with pneumonia
For Peter Passante's friend, Heather, knee replacement

God's Care: For Zach Meyer's mother, Karen Meyer, as she enters hospice

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Sweet Hour of Prayer, arr. Linda Lamb

Windy Hill Handbell Quartet

OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

Voice

Cantor All Cantor

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low'ed be your

6 All Cantor All Cantor

name, hal-low'd be your name. Your king-dom come, your king-dom come, your

11 All Cantor All

will be done, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en, on earth as in heav-en.

17 Cantor All Cantor All

Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins, For-

22 Cantor All Cantor All

give us our sins as we for-give those, as we for-give those who sin a- gainst us, who

27 Cantor All

sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of tri- al, save us from the time of

32 Cantor All Cantor All Cantor

tri- al, and de- live-er us, and de- liv-er us from e- vil, from e- vil. For the

37 All

king- dom, the pow- er and the glo- ry are yours, for the king- dom, the pow- er and the

40 Cantor All Cantor

glo-ry are yours, now and for - ev - er, now and for - ev - er. A -

46 All

men. A - - - - men.

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	Now Around You, O Lord Jesus	ELW 468
	Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus	ELW 802
	Be Thou My Vision	ELW 793

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace now and forever.
C: Amen.

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	Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen	ELW 548
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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE	Rigaudon, André Campra
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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!

Thank You! Thank you to Windy Hill Handbell Quartet members Gen Anspach, Brenda Lindsay, Katie Martin, and Nancy Van Brunt for sharing their music with us in the 8:30 worship.

Outdoor Worship: Today's 10 a.m. worship will be held in the Memorial Gardens, weather permitting. Bring a chair and a friend and enjoy the goodness of God's creation!

Children's Ministry Sign-Up & Backpack Blessing: Please sign-up online at tinyurl.com/CMregistration26 to let us know we'll see you this fall! Today at both services, we'll have backpack blessings to help start the new school year on a good note. Kick-off of Children's Ministry is Sept. 13 between services.

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed: We are gearing up for an exciting new year of Children's Ministry, and we need your help to make it happen! We are looking for passionate people to join our team. Whether you have a gift for teaching, love leading crafts, would like to provide snacks, are able to set up/ clean up at events, or simply want to provide a welcoming environment, there is a place for you here. If you are interested or have questions, stop by the Children's Ministry table in the narthex and chat with Ms. Sheri and Ms. Amy.

God's Work, Our Hands: Sign-up today to volunteer to help the congregation put together newborn baby kits for Global Health Ministries on Sept. 13. The kits contain basic items to help the mother clothe and care for her child. GHM sends newborn kits along with medical supplies and equipment to partners in Liberia, Madagascar, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe where they are used to encourage women to visit their local hospital or clinic for prenatal care and assisted delivery.

Outreach for Hope 2026 Ride Run Walk: Sign-up now to ride, run, walk, volunteer or donate! ofhrrw.org. Questions? See Beth Hoffmann in the narthex.

Choirs Resume! The Ascension Choir, ages high school and adults, begins rehearsals on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at a new time, 7 to 8:15 p.m. This choir provides musical leadership in worship approximately three Sundays per month, primarily at the 8:30 service (occasionally at 10:45), and at special evening worship services throughout the church year. Contact Vicki Taylor, vicki@ascensionelca.org. **Ascension Ringers**, our handbell choir, resumes Wednesday, Sept. 9, at the new time of 5:45 to 7 p.m. The handbell choir, for high school through adults, provides music in worship once per month, primarily at the 8:30 service (occasionally at 10:45), and at special services throughout the church year. Joining the Ascension Ringers does not call for previous experience with handbells but some level of music literacy is helpful. Reading music is an acquired skill and those interested in learning to read music with the goal of joining the handbell choir are encouraged to contact Vicki Taylor, vicki@ascensionelca.org.

Welcome! We welcome Nina Cruz to the church office staff. She will provide reception, arrange worship support, and other support for the church and its community. Please watch for communications from her and say, "Hi!" Her email is nina.ascensionelca@gmail.com.

CRASH Kick-Off: We have our kick-off meeting on Sunday, Sept. 13, after the second service. Parents and students are invited to the meeting. We will provide you with all the information about the program. And also, we will share information about the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering 2027. We will have a light lunch for you.

Sunday Fun Ride: Join us on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 2 p.m. for a bike ride. Dust off your bikes and join us for a short ride on the Glacial Drumlin Trail. Meet outside the EB Shurts Nature Center, 810 W. College Ave., Waukesha. All ages are welcome. We will finish back at the Nature Center and end our ride with root beer floats. Contact Melody Maass at pmmaass@gmail.com with questions.

AMEN Book Study: AMEN, Ascension's men's ministry, will be starting a study this fall on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book titled "Life Together," the classic exploration of Christian in community. This daytime group of AMEN generally meets biweekly Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. However, the study starts Thursday, Sept. 24, at 10:30 a.m. It's a short, four-chapter book but packed with lots of wisdom. The book can be ordered on Amazon for under \$10. Please contact Steve Boyer via text msg at 262-366-4078 or email at sboyer@HealthMarkets.com if you're interested.

Young at Heart: The Young at Heart trip to the Schauer Center for the Everley Brothers tribute is full with a waitlist. The money needs to be turned in by Sunday, Sept. 13, so we know how many people can be moved from the waitlist to the bus. Young at Heart will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at noon for a potluck lunch followed by cards, games and fellowship. Please come and bring a friend! Bring a dish if you're able; if not, come anyway and enjoy some fun.

Women's Gathering: We will be hosting a get-together for women of all ages on Friday, Sept. 18, at 5 p.m. at Grassway Organics Pizza Farm, W2716 Friemoth Road, East Troy. Sign-up is not required. The cost is \$15 paid upon arrival, which covers your pizza meal. You will be responsible for purchasing your own beverages. Please let us know ahead of time if you have any food allergies. Tables are provided onsite, but you will need to bring your own chair. Please keep in mind that the event is entirely outdoors with a slightly rugged environment, so be sure to dress comfortably for the weather. In case of rain, watch the church Facebook page for cancellation. Due to limited parking at the farm, carpooling is highly recommended. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ileen Marien or Sarah Aparicio, sarah@ascensionelca.org.

Donations Needed: Our cupboards are bare! Please bring your non-perishable food donations to the Donation Center for either the Food Pantry or our Blessing Box. We fill the box several times a week and take donations to the Food Pantry several times a month.

Healing Hearts Support Groups: Healing Hearts' fall support groups begin, Monday, Sept. 28, for those in need of healing, connection, and growth. Whether you're navigating grief, dealing with life transitions, or seeking a community of support, our free programs are designed to guide you through these challenges with compassion and care. Register at healingheartswisconsin.org or by phone 262-751-0874. The sessions begin with dinner at 5:45 p.m. followed by small group sessions and are held at First United Methodist Church, 121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha.

Easy Giving



- *Vanco Giving app*
- *Online at tinyurl.com/SupportALC*

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

Sun Aug 30

Backpack Blessing

8:30am Worship S

10am Worship EH MG

11am Crash Leaders Meeting CR

7pm AA WH

Mon Aug 31

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Sep 1

7am AMEN zoom

9am OFH WH

9:30am Women's Bible CR

Wed Sep 2

6:30pm Budget Team Mtg HR

7pm AA WH

Thu Sep 3

10am Al Anon CR

11:30am Knit Wits Lunch

1pm Hansen Group CR

Sun Sep 6

8:30am Worship S

10am Outdoor Worship MG

10am Worship EH

4pm Wild Church MG WH

7pm AA WH

Mon Sep 7

Office closed

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

Tue Sep 8

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

6:30pm SOPHIA Immigration
HR

Wed Sep 9

5:45pm Ascension Ringers S

7pm AA WH

7pm Adult Choir S

Thu Sep 10

10am Al Anon CR

Sat Sep 12

12pm Private event EH WH

12:30pm Knit Fest HR

Sun Sep 13

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Children's Ministry

Kick Off N WH HR

10:45am Worship EH S

12pm Crash Kick off WH K

7pm AA WH

Mon Sep 14

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

7pm Jubilate S

Tue Sep 15

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

6:30pm Church council HR

Wed Sep 16

12pm Young at Heart WH

5:45pm Ascension Ringers S

7pm AA WH

7pm Adult Choir S

Thu Sep 17

10am Al Anon CR

1pm Hansen Group CR

6pm JOLT Kick-off

Sun Sep 20

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Children's Ministry S
CR

9:45am Kindergarten Stepping
Stones WH

10:45am Worship EH S

5:30pm Crash CR

7pm AA WH

Mon Sep 21

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH

6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Sep 22

7am AMEN zoom

9:30am Women's Bible CR

Wed Sep 23

1pm Bunco WH

5:45pm Ascension Ringers S

7pm AA WH

7pm Adult Choir S

Thu Sep 24

10am Al Anon CR

10:30am Boyer AMEN HR

6pm JOLT EH

Sat Sep 26

7am OFH Ride-Walk-Run

9am Jubilate S

3:30pm Private event WH

Sun Sep 27

Kindergarten Bibles in worship

8:30am Worship S

9:45am Children's Ministry S
WH CR

9:45am New member conver-
sations HR

10:45am Worship EH S

Key

CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth Room
MG	Memorial Gardens
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>

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 (membership)

Please place in the offering plate.



Ascension Lutheran Church
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