



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday

12 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., February 22, 2023

Worship Leadership

Rev. Christian Marien, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Anthony Acompanado, *Associate Pastor*

Vicki Taylor, *Director of Music Ministries*

Acolyte: Mikael Wagner (6:30p)

Cantor: Scott Greger (6:30p)

Communion assistants: Marge Schroeder (12p)

PRELUDE

Jesu, Meine Freude (*Jesus, My Joy*), J. S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP (12p) **Psalm 51**

Pastor Chris

OPENING HYMN (6:30p) **Our Father, We Have Wandered**

ELW 606

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.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

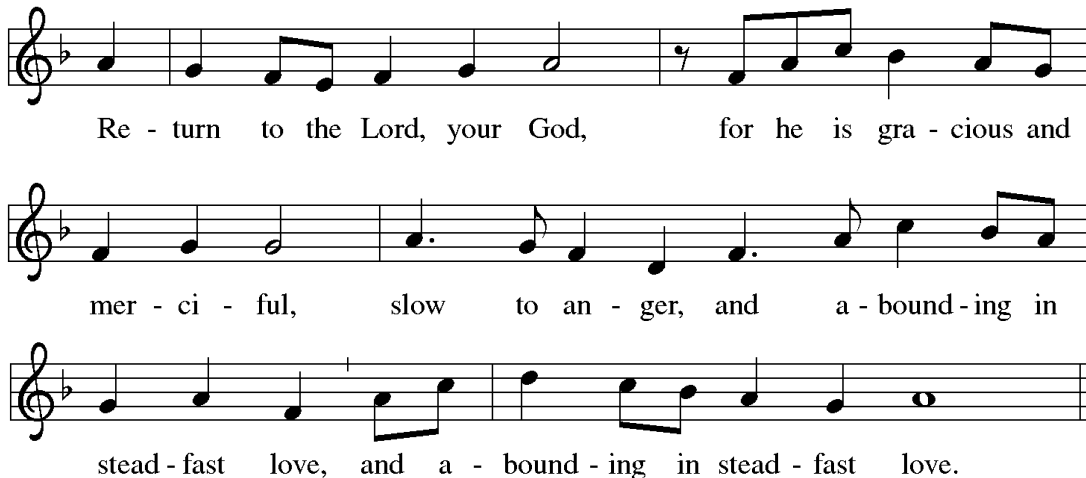
Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing

of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN VERSE



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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:5-15

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. "Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Chris

HYMN

Savior, When in Dust to You

ELW 601

CONFESSION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

p 154

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(12p)

Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW 606

Come to Me, *Dan Forrest*

Annemarie Wucker

Just As I Am

ELW 592

(6:30p)

Psalm 51

Cantor

Mercy, *Craig Courtney*

Ascension Choir

Psalm 103:1-14

Cantor

Just As I Am, *arr. Howard Helvey*

Ascension Choir

PRAYER

P: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of 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.

OFFERING (12p) **Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service** **Piano solo**
setting by Anne Krentz Organ

(6:30p) **Evensong, arr. Derek Hakes** **Ascension Ringers**

OFFERTORY **Where Charity and Love Prevail (v. 5)** **ELW 359**

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.

HYMNS **Come to the Table** **ELW 481**

Restore in Us, O God **ELW 328**

Lord, Be Glorified **ELW 744**

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am **ELW 814**

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 **O Jesus, I Have Promised** **ELW 810**

SENDING

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE **Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word, Dietrich Buxtehude**



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. A changing table is in the women's bathroom in the lobby.

Pew Pads: Please fill-out the blue pew pad and pass it to your neighbor. You might make a new friend.

Starting Point for Membership: Interested in joining Ascension? We'll hold two informal sessions for people to get to know more about our church, on March 5 and March 19, between services. RSVP online <http://tinyurl.com/AscensionNewMembers> or by phone or email (262-547-8518, admin@ascensionelca.org) to let us know you're interested.

Offering Envelopes & Donating: 2023 Offering Envelopes are delayed. In the meantime, if you give cash, use an envelope from the pew and put your name on it. If you donate by check, we'll pull the donor information from the check. You can also donate online at <http://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension> or with this QR code.

JOLT & CRASH: JOLT on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 6 p.m. CRASH meets on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m.

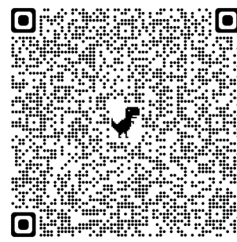
Bunco! A group is forming to play Bunco at Ascension. Play begins Wednesday, March 22, at 1 p.m. Please contact Arlene Davis, 262-542-9119, or Beth Hoffmann, 262-542-7447, if interested.

GriefShare: If you or a loved one have suffered loss and would like some help and support, this may be the program for you. This group will provide help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Led by Pastor Tony, the program will begin on Tuesday, March 28, from 6-8p. Youth Room. Please fill-out the sign-up information online <https://tinyurl.com/GriefAscension> or by call to the church office, 262-547-8518.

Winter Farmer's Market: The Winter Farmer's Market on March 12 is a great opportunity to invite a friend to Ascension. Who can you invite to share in the market and experience Ascension's welcoming atmosphere? The market is free but there is a charge for the brunch. Tickets are available after services or online at <https://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension>. Tickets for the brunch are \$12/adults, \$8/senior, \$5/kid (4-10, under 4 free). \$30 maximum per family. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles. Go to the Sign-Up Genius to see how you can help, <https://tinyurl.com/ALCwmvol>.

Tutoring: We are in urgent need of someone to work with one of our middle school boys. We are also looking for people willing to sub as needed. We will give you guidance and support in how best to work with the students. Contact Shirley Wehmeier, shwehmeier@gmail.com

To Donate
*Or use the Vanco
Giving app or
online at
[tinyurl.com/
DonateAscension](http://tinyurl.com/DonateAscension)*



ANNOUNCEMENTS *cont.*

Love Your Church, Love Your World: We're celebrating *Love Your Church/Love Your World*. We invite you to choose a heart from the windows of the narthex/lobby to purchase items or defray the cost of items already purchased. See the complete request list online, <https://ascensionelca.org/love-your-church-love-your-world/>.

ELCA Lutheran Disaster Relief: Donate online at <https://www.elca.org/> to help the people of Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes and aftershocks.

Dry or Packaged Items Only for the Blessing Box: Due to ongoing problems with cans and bottles exploding in the cold weather, we are limiting the donations for the Blessing Box to dried or packaged products. Please do not put cans or bottles in until further notice.

Outreach for Hope 2023 Lenten Devotions: "*God Sightings: Seeing God's Movement in Our Day*" begins today. The 40 days of Lent (Mondays through Saturdays) will be video devotions by the ministry partners, ministry supporters and staff. It is hoped that this series will inspire you to reflect on the gifts of partnership and accompaniment and how they may impact our faith walk at Ascension. See their website <https://outreachforhope.org/> for details on the varied ways you can access the devotions.

Upcoming Worship Support Schedule		
<i>See the complete schedule online https://tinyurl.com/worshippupport</i>		
Sunday, Feb. 26	8:30	10:45
Acolytes	Linnea Kinunen	Aidan Poling
Altar Guild	Julie Kinunen	Kathy and Mike Tomchek
Communion	Julie Kinunen, Paul Wehmeier	Sue Mathews, Cathy Rapp
Media	Kurt Werner	Joe Morgenroth
Ushers	Bill Klippel, Dennis Mohr, Brian Novotny	Kathy and Mike Tomchek

CALENDAR

Calendar online <https://ascensionelca.org/events/>.

Wed Feb 22

Ash Wednesday
12pm Worship S
 6pm JOLT dinner WH
6:30pm Worship S
 7pm AA WH

Thu Feb 23

10am Al Anon CR
 5pm Children's Choir
 6pm JOLT

Sat Feb 25

9am Tutoring

Sun Feb 26

8:30am Worship S
 9:50am BLAST
10:45am Adoración EH
10:45am Worship S
 6pm CRASH CR
 7pm AA WH

Mon Feb 27

6:30pm AA Group WH
 6:30p AMEN CR
 7pm Jubilate S

Tue Feb 28

7am AMEN zoom
 9:30am Women's Bible CR
 6pm Handbells S
 7pm Holloway Group HR
 7:30pm Choir S

Wed Mar 1

11:30am Staff meeting HR
 6pm Soup supper EH
6:45pm Worship S
 7pm AA WH

Thu Mar 2

9:30am TGIT HR
 10am Al Anon CR
 5pm Children's Choir
 6pm JOLT

Fri Mar 3

1pm Hansen Group HR

Sat Mar 4

9am Tutoring

Sun Mar 5

8:30am Worship S
 9:50am BLAST
 10am New Member Starting Point
10:45am Adoración en español EH
10:45am Worship S
 12pm Private Event WH
 7pm AA WH

Mon Mar 6

6:30pm AA Sm Group WH
 6:30pm AMEN CR

Tue Mar 7

9:30am Women's Bible CR
 6pm Handbells S
 6:30pm Mission Outreach HR
 7:30pm Choir S

Key	
CR	Conference rm
EH	East Hall
HR	Hearth rm
MG	Memorial Gardens
S	Sanctuary
WH	West Hall
<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?

- 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 class (membership)

Please place in the offering plate.



ASCENSION

Lutheran Church

1415 Dopp St., Waukesha, WI 53188 262-547-8518 ascensionelca.org