



*THOSE THE LORD HAS
RESCUED
WILL RETURN...*

*EVERLASTING JOY WILL
CROWN THEIR HEADS.*

ISAIAH 35:10, NIV

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"
Sunday, December 14, 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lords Table with us today:

The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lords Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christs body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of ones sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. (*Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*)

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgar con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. (*El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.*)

+ PREPARATION +

THEME: “WAITING WITHOUT WONDERING”

AS WE GATHER: John is the greatest of all the prophets, and yet he is not without anxiety. He came to prepare the way of the Lord but then found himself in prison—the world unchanged—and those who followed him uncertain about the future. Now, two thousand years later, we look around at our own world with the same anxiety. We are still waiting, but we are not waiting for improvements in the world around us or our own progress in holiness; we are waiting upon the Lord. God is at work, focusing our wondering hearts not at what might be but at what has been in the death and resurrection that gives us hope and confidence. Because of this, we wait for the future He has prepared to unfold, doing the work He has given us to do and sure that He will keep His Word and bring to fruition all that He has begun—in His own time.

PRELUDE

“Hallelujah! Christ Is Coming”

N. Koscheski, R. Flanigan, M. Reardon

Praise Team

“The Voice in the Wilderness”

by John Prindle Scott

Bruce Blubaum, solo

11:00am

WELCOME

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

While we are waiting, come; While we are waiting, come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel; While we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; With power and glory, come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel; While we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; Come, Savior, quickly come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel; While we are waiting, come.

“While We Are Waiting, Come”, Claire Cloninger / Don Cason. CCLI Song No. 27525, © 1986 Word Music, Inc. (a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.), For use solely in accordance with the SongSelect Basic Terms of Agreement. All rights Reserved. CCLI License No. 759893.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION

P With godly sorrow and humble hearts, we come before the Lord, mindful of our sin and of our great need for His mercy and help.

(sung – “Rock of Ages” – stanza 2)

**Not the labor of my hands, Can fulfill Thy law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

P Let us consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

(silence for reflection)

C For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. *(Psalm 51:3-4)*

P Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father.

(sung – “Rock of Ages” – stanza 3)

**Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for
grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

ABSOLUTION

P On this Sunday full of Advent joy, I bring you good news! Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - The Candle of JOY

This third Sunday in Advent, we light the candle of JOY, which reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation He has gifted us. You may wonder why this particular candle is a different color than the others. The rose or pink candle has its roots in something known as *Gaudete* (Latin for "rejoice") Sunday. During this third week of Advent, the old lectionary (prescribed readings for the church year) celebrates the passage Philippians 4:4-5, its verses extolling readers to "rejoice" for "indeed the Lord is near." In other words, this week celebrates the joy of Christ's coming to earth.

It is also known as the Shepherd Candle to highlight the joy the shepherds experienced when they received the good news about Christ's birth (Luke 2:8-20). During the middle of the night, the darkest time, the shepherds encountered angels.

Not only do we consider repentance during Advent, we also consider the importance of joy in this season. During a time where depression is at an all-time high and many people seem to be in despair, this candle reminds us that Jesus, the Light of the world, is coming soon, sent by the Father as the One in whom all true joy is found. Soon we will be singing "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!"

(The Advent candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY are lit.)

"We Light the Advent Candle"

We light the Advent candle.
And sing with cheerful heart.
With **joy**, we spread the message
A blessing to impart.
Our **joy** is never ending;
The Son to us is sending.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

"We Light the Advent Candle", Text: © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Ascension Lutheran Church no. 100030507

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O blessed Lord, grant us watchful hearts to behold the mystery of Christ's coming without doubt or fear as we await the fullness of all that He promised, lest our hearts be deprived of joy and our anxieties steal away the peace He has planted in us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and to the end of the ages.

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:4-10 (ESV)

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;

the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

James 5:7-11 (ESV)

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-15 (ESV)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to Him, "Are you the One who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send My messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

PRAYER/LOVE IN ACTION REQUESTS GATHERED

“When All the World Was Cursed”

LSB 346

- 1 When all the world was cursed
By Moses’ condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came
With words of consolation.
With true forerunner’s zeal
The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown,
As Savior he proclaimed.
- 2 Before he yet was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan’s rolling stream,
A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him
Of whom the prophets told:

- 3 Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.
- 4 O grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day.

"When All the World Was Cursed", Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt., Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

SERMON
"THE WONDER OF OUR GOD"

Pr. Jim Sprengle
Matthew 11:2-15

"In God the Father I Believe"
(tune: Kingsfold)

In God the Father I believe,
Almighty Lord of all
Who made the heavens and the earth:
His name be praised in awe.
And I believe in Jesus Christ,
The Father's only Son;
Conceiv-ed by the Holy Ghost,
Of virgin Mary born.

Who suffered when He stood condemned
By Pontius Pilate's code;
Was crucified, was dead,
As He Himself had long foretold.
Our Lord was buried in a tomb,
Descended into hell,
But on the third day He arose
Again on earth to dwell.

Ascending into heaven above
He sits at God's right hand;
From there He shall return to judge
The living and the dead.
In God the Spirit I believe,
Who guides a holy church;
The universal body that
Victorious shall emerge.

I do believe that all the saints
Must now commune in love,
And that, redeemed by Jesus' blood,
Our sins are pardoned us.
And at life's end, my body frail,
Upraised from earthly strife,
Is resurrected and renewed
In everlasting life!

"In God the Father I Believe", by Frank DeVries. © 1975, CRC Publications.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*(Our offerings are made as an act of worship,
given in loving response to all that God has graciously
given us, both materially and spiritually.*

(11:00) "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Music by William Rowan

Ascension Choir

*Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord!
Prepare the way! Make straight His path.*

*Every valley shall be exalted, every hill made low;
And the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain.*

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all mankind shall see it, shall see it together.*

"Prepare the Way of the Lord", © Copyright 1987, 2011 Hope Publishing Company. Streamed by permission under CCLI #759893

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, You are the source of all joy. Even the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad at Your appearance. Sustain us in the time of waiting for Your will and purpose to unfold in these latter days. Give us patience under trials and hope that endures the changes and chances of this mortal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** O God, You have sent messengers to prepare the way of Your Son's coming. Grant us ears to hear and hearts to believe the words delivered by pastors and all who bear Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Merciful Lord, You give strength to those who are anxious. Give us hearts that trust in You at all times. Grant us courage to confront our doubts and fears with Your Word, and give us strength to fulfill our vocations of worship, witness, prayer and works of mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** O Lord, our God, the prophet Isaiah looked for the day when blind eyes would see, deaf ears would hear, lame legs would leap and mute tongues would sing. Until the final day of restoration, draw near to all who have requested our prayers... give them healing according to Your gracious will. Bind up those who grieve, that they may look for the resurrection of all flesh. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Gracious Father, we give You thanks for the blessings we enjoy, especially those gifts celebrated this week...Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** With grateful hearts we rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

(8:30am service, please turn to page 14 for the Benediction)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

We believe in the real presence of the body
and blood of Christ in Holy Communion.

Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

*(Grape juice is available in the center of the trays for those who
do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available
on the cup return table.)*

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

+ DISTRIBUTION SONGS +

“Feed Us Now”

Feed us now, Bread of Life, In this holy meal;
Let us know Your love anew, We hunger for You.
Feed us now, Bread of Life, Come and live within;
Let Your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.

Piece of bread, glass of wine, Lord, this food is good!
Love and mercy come to us, Your promise we trust.
Piece of bread, glass of wine, Who can understand
How His mercy works in these? Yet, Lord we believe.

God is here, O so near, Nearer than our thoughts.
Stay with us where'er we go, Lord, help us to grow.
God is here, O so near, In this heaven's meal.
May we always feed on You - On the Bread that is true.

“Feed Us Now”, Words and music by Robin Mann., © 1976 Robin Mann. CCLI Song No. 55360. CCLI License No. 759893.

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

Refrain

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.**

Thro' death into life everlasting,
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conqu'rors we are! **(refrain)**

His Word shall not fail you – He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell! **(refrain)**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

C for His steadfast love endures forever.

P Almighty God, heavenly Father, grant to Your people patience for the days of waiting, knowing that You are at work bringing to completion all that You began in us in our Baptism. Keep us from the torment of doubt, from the prison of fear, and from the wandering of a soul ungrounded in Your Word and favor, and bring us at last to heavenly joy in Your presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with the Father and the Spirit are one God, now and even to the end of all the ages.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See the FYI in the back of the Bulletin for more information.)

“Hark the Glad Sound”

LSB 349

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

"Hark the Glad Sound", Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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"Hallelujah! Christ is Coming", words by Nelson Koscheski, music by Ryan Flanigan and Marty Reardon. Copyright 2019 Common Hymnal Digital, Ryan Flanigan Music, Marty Reardon Music.

*Thank you to Wilma and Angel Aguilar
for the lovely Altar flowers in honor of their
wedding Anniversary given to the glory of God.*

† YOU ARE INVITED TO THE SPRENGLE HOME

The Sprengle's invite everyone to a Christmas Open House on Monday, Dec. 15 from 3:00 to 7:00pm. Come when you can and stay as long as you like! *(Call the office for the address if you need it.)*

There will be homemade cookies and beverages to enjoy. If you'd like to bring cookies to share, please bring no more than a dozen and feel free to take a few of your favorites home with you! Let's share the Christmas spirit of love and joy with our Ascension family.

† CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR PASTOR AND STAFF

There is a small white envelope in your church mailbox labeled "Staff Gift." This annual tradition gives you an opportunity to express your appreciation to Pastor Jim and the staff of Ascension for their faithful service throughout the year. If you would like to participate, please place your gift in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or drop it in the offering mail slot by the office door before December 24. Be sure to use the provided envelope or clearly mark your contribution as "Staff Gift." Thanks for your Board of Elders

† INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ALTAR GUILD?

We are seeking new members to join our Altar Guild—as a member, you will participate approximately one time per month in meaningful activities such as setting up communion, rotating the colors for paraments and banners, and decorating the altar to reflect calendar changes throughout the church year. We warmly invite you to become a part of our team. Interested? Contact Margo Bachhuber or Virginia Jacobs for details.

† CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FOR MY FATHER'S HOUSE

If you'd like to support this meaningful outreach, Board members will be collecting donations after both services on December 14, and 21. You may also contribute by placing your gift in the offering plate or by mail—clearly mark it "My Father's House Stockings."

† CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO SHUT-INS

Anyone who wants to participate will gather in the narthex Sunday, December 21 after 11:00am worship service, then proceed to various homes and care centers to share Christmas joy with our shut-ins. Our time ends when we gather to sing at Fairlawn at approximately 4:00pm.

† WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will resume our Bible Study on Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2026, with lesson 4. See you then!

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Regan, Diane Ed and Ingrid (friends and neighbors of Cynthia Jacobsen), Barbara Lewis, Carlyn Staudt, Marla Graber, Joann Schulz, Chenery Whittier's son (Aaryan), Heather Gulde, Riki Neagle, Jim Eckart, Gina Kreps, Mae Smith, Jerry and Alma Bangs.*Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Mike Fogarty, *Mel and Lorraine Haggard.
*Home Bound.

† PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Brett Monson – Navy, San Diego CA (Grandson of Joann Schulz)
Jamie Wong-Lopez, Navy, Kaneohe Bay HI (nephew of Merci McInaney)
Clayton Wright, Air Force – (grandson of Virginia Jacobs)
Colton Wright, Navy – (grandson of Virginia Jacobs)
Tyler Young, Navy – Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).
Bradley Zeller, Army – Fort Lewis WA (grandson of the Zeller's)
Kyle Zeller, Army – Deployed to Poland (grandson of the Zeller's)

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUN., DEC. 14, 2025

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Wyatt Brown
Ushers:	Jim Eckart Stan Chapulis	Matthias McInaney Don Brown
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Laura Potter
PowerPoint:	Tom Osgood	Caleb Zeebuyth
Greeters:	Millie Edwards	Riki Neagle
Readers:	JoAnn Schulz	Mark Wheeler
Altar Guild:	Both Services: Margo Bachhuber	
Flowers:	Both Services: Wilma Aguilar	
Counters:	Both Services: Stan Chapulis and Lottie Gurticke	
Sunday School:	Audrey and Cynthia	

SERVANTS ADVENT MIDWEEK WED., DEC. 17, 2025

	3:30pm	7:00pm
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	John Hazen
Ushers:	NEEDED	Rich Bartell
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	
Greeters:	NEEDED	NEEDED
Altar Guild:	Margo Bachhuber	
Counters:	Dave and Jan Oswald	

ASSISTING NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 21, 2025

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Wyatt Brown
Ushers:	Mike Adams Rich Bartell	Marcus Young Paul Walter
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	J. E. Knox
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	Rosemary Knox
Greeters:	Sheryl Maier	Esperanza Gutierrez Margaret Hubbard
Readers:	Peggy Hall	Caleb Zeebuyth
Altar Guild:	Both Services: Barb Cochran	
Flowers:	Both Services: Karen Zahursky	
Counters:	Both Services: Dave and Jan Oswald	
Sunday School:	Michele, Carrie and Carolyn	

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., DEC. 14 – SAT., DEC. 20

Sunday, Dec. 14	8:30am	Worship
Advent 3	9:45am	Adult Ed and Sunday School
	11:00am	Worship w/ Communion
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
	7:00pm	C-101
Monday, Dec. 15	3-7:00pm	Sprengle Open House
	6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study
Wednesday, Dec. 17	3:30pm	Advent Midweek 3 Worship
	7:00pm	Advent Midweek 3 Worship
Thursday, Dec. 18	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Practice

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., DEC. 21 – SAT., DEC. 27

Sunday, Dec. 21	8:30am	Worship w/ Communion
	9:45am	Adult Ed and Sunday School
	11:00am	Worship
	12:15pm	Bell Practice
	5:00pm	Spanish Worship
	7:00pm	C-101
Monday, Dec. 22	6:00pm	Young Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, Dec. 23	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday, Dec. 24	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight
Thursday, Dec. 25	10:00am	Christmas Day Worship
Saturday, Dec. 27	8:00am	Iron Men Fellowship

MILESTONES – Sunday, Dec. 14 through Sat., Dec. 20

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Larry Hart	Dec. 16	Sean Ritchie	Dec. 17
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BIRTHDAYS:

Jerelyn Carlson	Dec. 16
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WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

John and Darlene Knoke	Dec. 14, 1969
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Attendance

Sunday, Dec. 7	8:30am	42
	11:00am	48
Advent Midweek 2	3:30pm	33
	7:00pm	<u>27</u>
TOTAL		150

GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS

November General Fund Tithes	\$ 42,820.52
November Expenses	<u>\$ 32,231.03</u>
Difference	+ \$ 10,589.49
Year-to-Date General Fund Tithes	\$ 186,794.75
Year-to-Date General Fund Expenses	<u>\$ 171,627.16</u>
Difference	+ \$ 15,167.59

DEDICATED OFFERINGS

November Dedicated Offerings	\$ 13,803.75
Year-to-Date Dedicated Offerings	\$ 41,947.37

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Office Phone: 503-665-8821 · Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

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