



*"He will tend His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs in His arms"*

Isaiah 40:11

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 10, 2023

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 comulgan 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: “A Joyful Homecoming”

As We Gather; In ancient days, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah to comfort His people with the assurance of pardon and a joyful return to their home. After the time of exile, He Himself would restore them, renew them, and return them to the land He had promised them on oath to their forefathers. As He was with His ancient followers, so He is with us. Our God is for us, not against us! In the mercy of our advent King, Jesus Christ, who came once and who will surely come again, we rejoice in His goodness and gather to receive all that He seeks to give.

Prelude

Welcome

Prepare the Royal Highway

- 1 Prepare the royal highway;
The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory
Foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord,
For He fulfills God's Word!

- 3 Then fling the gates wide open
To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him!
All nations, now adore Him! **(refrain)**
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom;
It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
For kindness so abounding: **(refrain)**

Prepare the Royal Highway, Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt, Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 27:13–14; 130:5

- P I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the
land of the living!
C **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take
courage; wait for the LORD!**

- P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C **and in His word I hope.**

Confession and Absolution

Based on Psalm 130

P With hope in the Lord's promises of renewal by His Word and Spirit, let us together confess our sins to Him.

C **Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord!**

P Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to my pleas for mercy!

C **If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, I would have no hope.**

P But with You there is forgiveness, therefore we place our trust in You.

C **Restore us, Lord God, and set us free from our sins.**

P Renew us in Your hope, that we may wait for Your salvation.

C **Because of Your steadfast love for us in Christ, redeem us from all our iniquities. Amen.**

P As we wait for Jesus' final coming, we place our hope and our confidence in the promises of His Word and find our home in the presence of His Spirit. Confessing our sins and turning away from them through lives of repentance, we are assured again this day of the Lord's steadfast love and plentiful redemption for us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Candle of PEACE

One of the hallmarks of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, "Peace on earth," in Luke 2:14.

The Hebrew word for peace, *Shalom*, goes far beyond not fighting with others or peace as we know it. The peace of God allows us to look at others through heaven's eyes and help guide the world to see God's here and not-yet here kingdom.

Peace from God, biblical peace, allows us to trust in God's promises (Proverbs 3:5), through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us.

Not surprisingly, the Bible has a lot to say about peace, as it attributes peace to Jesus Himself: the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). In fact, the word peace appears over 400 times in the Bible. Biblical peace also guards our hearts from the devil (Philippians 4:7), brings us joy (Proverbs 12:20), is a blessing from God (Psalm 29:11), and assists us during dire circumstances (Isaiah 54:10).

Why does this matter? We live in an eye-for-an-eye, revenge culture. We also live in scary times. But the peace of God transcends our circumstances and world. With this, we can be rest assured that He will come and make everything right once more. Our peace can also stir the curiosity of those who do not believe in Christ. They will see us exercise a spirit of tranquility, faith, and they will want to know the reason for our faith in shaky times. When they ask, we can have a reason at the ready. "I am not afraid because I have the peace of Christ."

**(sung) Light one candle for *hope*,
one bright candle for hope,
He brings hope to every heart,
He comes! He comes!**

**Light one candle for *peace*,
one bright candle for peace,
He brings peace to every heart,
He comes! He comes!**

Light One Candle, Text: Natalie Sleeth, 1930-92. Copyright © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc. All rights reserved.
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Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may rejoice in our eternal home; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
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

Isaiah 40:1-11 (ESV)

¹Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,

"Behold your God!"

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,

and His arm rules for Him;

behold, His reward is with Him,
and His recompense before Him.

¹¹He will tend His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs in His arms;
He will carry them in His bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

2 Peter 3:8-10; 13-14 (ESV)

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹³But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Lambs' Lesson

Pr. Jim Sprengle

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8 (ESV)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send My Messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make His paths straight,’”

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Prayer/Love in Action Requests Gathered

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

- D 5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry, Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. Composite, Text: Public domain

Sermon
"HEADING HOME"

Pr. Jim Sprengle
Isaiah 40:1-11

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.)

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Words and music by David Angerman & Joseph M. Martin
Ascension Choir

("Veni!" = Latin for Come!)

*Watchman, tell us of the night. Tell us of the coming Light.
Comfort, comfort ye My People. Sing of peace, thus saith our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their heavy load.
Comfort, comfort ye My people.
Speak unto Jerusalem. Comfort, comfort ye My people.
Sing them a song of peace. Tell them their warfare is over.
Veni, Veni Emmanuel! O veni Emmanuel. Behold the coming of the Lord!*

*Watchman, tell us of the night, hark the voice of one who crieth.
Tell us of the coming dawn, In the desert far and near.
Fill our hearts with hope and light. Calling to a world in darkness.
Fill our lives with joyful song. See the kingdom now is hear.
Veni, veni, veni Emmanuel! O veni Emmanuel. Behold the coming of the Lord!
Comfort, comfort ye My people, Sing of peace, thus saith our God.
Comfort, comfort ye my people. Sing them a song of peace.
Tell them their warfare us over, Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia!*

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People, Copyright © 2005, GlorySound and Malcolm Music, Division of Shawnee Press, Inc. Used by permission under CCLI # 759893. All rights reserved.

Prayer of the Church

P As we wait in love for the coming of our Lord, let us together, as His advent people, bring our prayers before Him.

Father in heaven, You prepare a heavenly home for all who trust in You and come into Your presence through faith in Your Son. By His coming into this world to save us from the devastation of our sins, dying and rising again to make us eternally Yours, we have been reconciled to You.

We praise You, Father, for this amazing gift of love and ask that Your Holy Spirit keep Your steadfast love secure in our hearts throughout our days of waiting. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Knowing that You have come once into this world, Lord Jesus, we are confident that You will come again. On that glorious Day when we are all gathered before You, when every knee will bow to You and every tongue confess Your holy name, we will receive the restoration of all things in heaven and on earth that Your Word has promised. Until Your final coming, O Lord, keep us secure in our salvation. Remind us that our waiting is because of Your patience, and that You call us to use this time we have been given to share Your precious Gospel with the world You died and rose again to save. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As wanderers in this land, O Lord, we experience various types of brokenness and pain, suffering and grief. We lift before You in prayer those we love, who are also loved by You. We pray for those in our families and connected to our family of faith who have special concerns of body and spirit, especially . . . Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comforting Spirit, fill our land, our homes, our workplaces, our schools, and all our interactions with Your blessings. Stir up our hearts to make known to all the wonders You have done, so that more souls may be brought to saving faith and many would join with us heading to our heavenly home. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, we give You thanks for all Your good gifts and for those celebrated this week..." Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Confident in our coming King and Savior, we entrust our prayers into the good and gracious hands of our sovereign God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who lives and reigns, both 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 upon request.)*

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.

Beautiful Savior (Contemporary)

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
Give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
Of death defeated and life without end.

Chorus

**Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion
And You reign, You reign over all.**

I long to be where the praise is never-ending,
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
Where countless worshippers will share one song,
And cries of 'worthy' will honor the Lamb! **(chorus)**

Beautiful Savior, CCLI Song # 2492216 by Stuart Townend. © 1998 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com, CCLI License # 759893

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

2 Peter 3:14

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in steadfast love sent Your only-begotten Son into this world of sin, we thank You that for His sake You look upon us "without spot or blemish, and at peace."

C **We praise You for the lasting home You give us as we trust in You.**

P We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

Psalm 130:5; Numbers 6:24–26

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C **and in His word I hope.**

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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Announcements

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

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns, Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt., Text: Public domain

Dismissal

- P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God!**

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.
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*Thank you to Lottie Guericke for the lovely altar flowers,
in memory of her husband, Lyle, to the glory of God.*

† ADVENT DINNERS WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13 AND 20

Dinners at 6:00pm followed by worship at 7pm. Dec. 13 is casserole potluck and Dec. 20 is Mexican potluck. Bring an item to share.

† JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Everyone is invited to join us December 17 in singing Christmas carols and sharing the love of Jesus to those who may not be able get out and enjoy the season. We will meet in the narthex following the late service. You can let Brad Hall know if you will be able to attend at: worship@alcportland.org or call the church office at: 503-995-8821.

† CRAFT DAY STOCKING STUFFING

Wednesday Dec. 20 at 2:00pm all are welcome to help stuff the stockings for My Fathers House!

† WOMEN'S RETREAT! HAVE YOU SIGNED UP?

Sign up right away as registrations are coming to an end! Seaside Oregon Beach Retreat, 2937 Sunset Blvd., Seaside, OR, the driveway is in the back of the house. Join us Friday, Jan. 12 through Sunday, Jan 14, 2024. Registration forms are available in the Narthex. Space is limited to 14 participants. Talk to Jan Oswald for more details.

† OUTREACH HOT CHOCOLATE AND DONUTS!

Saturday, Dec. 23 the Outreach board will be handing out hot chocolate and donuts in the parking lot between 8:30 and 11:00am! Want to help? Email the office at: office@alcportland.org

† 2024 FLOWER CHART

The 2024 Flower Chart is up and waiting for you to choose your special day. Check out the new chart across from the mailboxes and pick your date early!

† CHRISTMAS CHORALE-YOU ARE INVITED!

Concordia University Alumni and Friends Christmas Chorale

WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. *And you can join! Practices will take place Friday, Dec. 15, 7-10 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 16, 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.*

WHERE: St. Michael's Lutheran Church: 6700 NE 29th Ave., Portland, OR 97211 (across from Concordia's former campus)

WHO: Concordia alumni and friends are welcome to participate. Everyone is invited to attend the event!

† MAILBOXES

Mailboxes for members and regular attenders are available! If you are not sure if you have one, check the list on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes, to see if you are listed. If you need one, let the office know. Please check your mailbox often.

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests, please e-mail: office@alcportland.org or call 503-665-8821.

† PRAYER FOR OUR MILITARY

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and 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).

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUNDAY, DEC. 10, 2023

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	Herb Hoefler
Acolytes:	NEEDED	Lily Hodges
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis	Marcus Young
	NEEDED	Matthias McInaney
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	John Hazen
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	Rebecca Williamson
Greeters:	Sue Lewis	Christina Freeman
	Heather Gulde	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Julie Williamson
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Karla Deal
Flowers:	Both Services	Lottie Guericke
Counters:	Both Services	Bob and Elaina Ritchie
Sunday School	9:45am	Hana Laughton and Gina Kreps

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, DEC. 17, 2023

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Bruce Blubaum	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:	NEEDED	NEEDED
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Randy Schroeder	Marcus Young NEEDED
PowerPoint:	Rebecca Williamson	NEEDED
Audio/Visual:	Michele Sprengle	NEEDED
Greeters:	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Esperanza Gutierrez Margaret Hubbard
Readers:	Carlyn Staudt	J. E. Knox
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Flowers:	Both Services	Karen Zahursky
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson
Sunday School	9:45am	Carrie Graham and Michele Sprengle

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., DEC. 10 – SAT., DEC. 16

Sunday, Dec. 10	8:30am	Worship
2 nd Sunday in Advent	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	12:15pm	Chime Practice
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish w/ Comm.
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Dec. 12	2:00pm	Ladies Bible Study
	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 13	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	3:30pm	Midweek Advent 2 Worship
	6:00pm	Advent Dinner- Casserole Potluck
	7:00pm	Midweek Advent 2 Worship
Thursday, Dec. 14	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir
Friday, Dec. 15	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Youth Group

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., DEC. 17 – SAT., DEC. 23

Sunday, Dec. 17	8:30am	Worship with Communion
3 rd Sunday in Advent	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, Dec. 19	6:00pm	3:10 Group
Wednesday, Dec. 20	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together – Stuffing Christmas stockings
	3:30pm	Midweek Advent 3 Worship
	6:00pm	Advent Dinner- Mexican Food Potluck
	7:00pm	Midweek Advent 3 Worship
Thursday, Dec. 21		Newsletter items Due
	7:00pm	Choir
	6:00pm	Praise Team Practice
Friday, Dec. 22	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	Youth Group
Saturday, Dec. 23	8:30am	Outreach Event – Donuts and hot Chocolate handout

† MILESTONES - SUNDAY, DEC. 10 – SATURDAY, DEC. 16

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Brad Hall	Dec. 12	Larry Hart	Dec. 16
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BIRTHDAYS:

Cody Brown	Dec. 11	Sue Lewis	Dec. 11
Israel Zuriaga	Dec. 12	Jeff Latter	Dec. 13
Colleen Cordes	Dec. 16		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

John and Darlene Knoke Dec. 14, 1969

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The family of Judy Blubaum, The family of Miki Etzel, The family of Audrey Bauch, Jim Eckart, Carol Hoefer, Jordan Saunders, Gina Kreps, Cindy Linnemann, Karla Deal, Mike Fogarty, Alma Bangs, Randy Bryant's brother, Eileen Hatley, Virginia Jacob's brother (Robert), Esperanza Gutierrez' mother (Antonia), *Barbara Schrader, *Kevin McInaney, *Larry Hart, *Mike Hatley, *Lorraine Haggard, *Carolyn Barendse, *Home Bound.

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 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.

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