

# Second Sunday of Advent

## Repent!

December 8, 2024 • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

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### **As We Gather**

The ancient song says, "Oh come, thou branch of Jesse's tree." The Bible says, "A shoot, a branch, will come out of the stump of Jesse." (Isaiah 11:1) That branch is Jesus! Jesse was the father of King David; Jesus is his descendent, according to his human lineage. The Bible says that the **Branch of Jesse** will bring judgment when he comes again, punishing those who do evil but saving the weak who trust in him. The wolf and the lamb will live together in peace and all nations will rejoice.

We need to repent, that is, to turn back to God, before the second coming of Jesus Christ, the Branch of Jesse.

### **The Season of Advent**

The word "Advent" means "coming". Jesus Christ came once in order to save us. He will come again in glory. Are you ready?

The four Sundays before Christmas are "Sundays of Advent". It's a time to get ready for Jesus. It's a time to repent and to turn to our Savior in faith.

### **Prelude**

### **Words of Welcome**

Stand

### **Sharing God's Peace with One Another**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you" as a sign of our unity and reconciliation in the Holy Spirit. As we are forgiven by God, so we forgive each other. (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3)

## Opening Hymn Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel LSB 357, verses 1 and 4

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y  
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** The Bible says, "A shoot, a branch, will come out from the stump of Jesse." (Isaiah 11:1)
- C** **That branch is Jesus Christ.**
- P** Jesse was the father of King David and the ancestor of Jesus according to human lineage.
- C** **Jesus is the Branch of Jesse.**
- P** This Branch of Jesse will bring judgment. (Isaiah 11:3, 5)
- C** **Jesus will come again as our judge.**
- P** His words will be like a rod to punish those who do evil. (Isaiah 11:4)
- C** **But he will save the weak who trust in him.**
- P** On that day there will be peace everywhere. (Isaiah 11:6-9)
- C** **And all the nations will worship Jesus.** (Isaiah 11:10)
- P** We eagerly wait for Jesus to come.
- C** **Oh come, Jesus, Branch of Jesse!**

**P** The lion and the lamb will live together in peace. (Isaiah 11:6)

**C** **Oh come, Jesus, Branch of Jesse!**

**P** All the nations will rejoice together. (Isaiah 11:10)

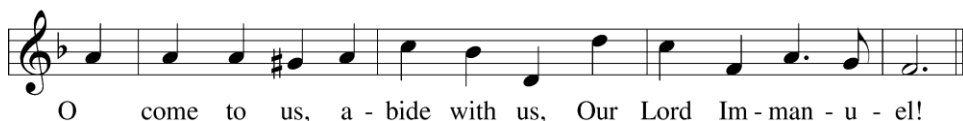
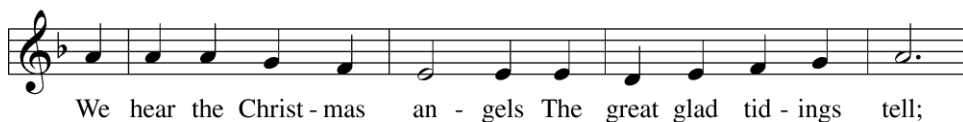
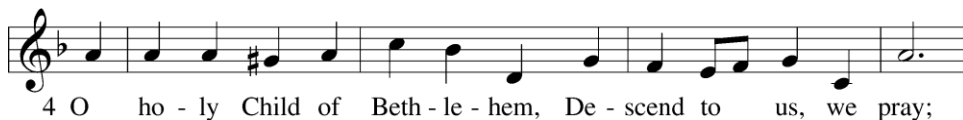
**C** **Oh come, Jesus, Branch of Jesse!**

### Prayer of Confession

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ has said that he will come again visibly to judge the earth. John the Baptist tells us: "Prepare the way for the Lord! Make straight paths for him! Repent, for the kingdom of God is near!" (Matthew 3:2-3)

**C** **Almighty God, we confess to you all our sins and wrongdoing. We acknowledge that we have offended you and deserve punishment. However, we trust in you, Lord Jesus, who came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15). Because of that, even though we have often failed, we trust in your wonderful promise of forgiveness.**

### Sung Prayer LSB 361, verse 4



### Words of Forgiveness

**P** Jesus Christ, in his great love, came to our world as a baby in a dirty manger in a poor stable. He came for one reason: to take away the sins of the world. Jesus died for our failures and rose from the dead to assure us that we have new life and will eventually be raised also. God himself wipes away our wrongdoing! Since you trust in Jesus, by his Word I tell you that you are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

**C** **Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Hymn of Praise: Hark the Glad Sound LSB 349, verses 1 and 4



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

## Hymn: Prepare the Royal Highway (LSB 343)



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!  
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

## The Advent Wreath

The word "Advent" means "coming". Jesus Christ came once in order to save us. He will come again in glory. Are you ready?

We light the candles on the Advent Wreath – a symbol of hope that Jesus the Light of the World is coming to us! Today we light two candles: the candle of Hope, for Christ is our Light and our Hope; and the candle of Peace, because through his death and resurrection Christ has made peace between us and God. *The first two candles of the Advent Wreath are lit.*

The Advent Wreath, like the colors and candles on the altar, is a symbol. It reminds us that Christ will come again visibly, and that we need to be prepared. The Advent Wreath is in the shape of a circle, because just as a circle has no end, Christ came to give us life without end. The Wreath has four colored candles, one for each Sunday before Christmas. The center candle is called the Christ Candle and is lit on Christmas Day itself. Just as we prepare to celebrate Christmas – Christ's first coming – the Advent candles remind us that we need to prepare for Christ's second coming in glory. We need to admit our failures to do God's will, ask for God's forgiveness, and live for him.

**Advent Wreath Song:** It's Coming! (Libro de Liturgia y Cántico 282)

Refrain: It's coming, it's coming, it's Christmas coming again!  
It's coming, it's coming, it's Christmas coming again!

2. Light a candle for peace, a candle-light for peace!  
Light a candle for peace, a candle-light for peace!  
And with the candle, bring to all the peace of the Lord.  
And with the candle, bring to all the peace of the Lord. (Refrain)

Sit

## Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:1-7b

*(The Lord sends his messenger so that we will be ready,  
for he comes to judge and to purify the world.)*

"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle Reading

Philippians 1:2-11

*(St. Paul prays for the believers in Christ, that God would prepare them for Christ's second coming.)*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

### Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



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



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

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

## Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-14

*(John the Baptist insists that everyone produce the fruits of repentance, in preparation for the coming of the Lord.)*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray together:

**☐ Move our hearts, Lord Jesus, to prepare a way for you. Come to us, forgive us, cleanse us, and stay with us. Through us, touch other hearts with your love, so that together we will be ready when you come as Judge of all the earth. In your own name we pray. Amen.**

Sit

**Song while Children Come to the Front:** Away in a Manger (LOSP 82)

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
  
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus. I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever. And love me, I pray!  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

### Children's Message

#### Hymn

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in; And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain



## Sermon

## Repent!

Stand

### Prayers and Petitions

While we wait for Jesus to come in glory, we pray and put before him all our needs, because he has promised to answer us and help us.

**P** Lord God, prepare our hearts for when Jesus comes again. Help us to resist the temptation to get swept up in the Christmas fever for things; instead, help us to show your love in everything we do. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer!**

**P** Heavenly Father, provide for our daily needs as you have promised. Give work to those who are unemployed. Give your help to those who are hungry or in need. Help us to follow your example and be generous in helping others. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer!**

**P** Jesus, our Savior, help those among us who are sick or hurt or lonely, or sad because they are missing someone who has passed away. Especially we pray for our family and friends who need your help: (*See our prayer list at the back of the bulletin*). Heal our hurts and give us your comfort, so that we can serve you this Christmas with joy. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer!**

**P** Holy Spirit, use us to touch the hearts of those who do not yet believe in Jesus. Raise up faithful leaders in the church. Bless our preschool and Sunday school teachers, our elders and council leaders, and everyone who serves. Prepare all of us so that we can share your Word with others. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer!**

**P** Lord God, bring peace to our country and to the nations of the world. We particularly pray that you would bring healing to Israel and the Middle East, and that you would bring the Jews back to faith in you, the Messiah. Bless and protect our leaders here in this country, as well as all who protect and defend our freedom and our well-being. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer!**

[Other petitions may be made here.]

**P** We leave all of our concerns in your hands, oh Lord, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

Sit

## Offering

The Bible says that wise men from the east worshipped Jesus after his birth. They “opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.” (Matthew 2:10, NIV) In the same way, our offerings are part of our worship, part of our response to God’s love. What we give is used to support the work of our church and missions throughout the world.

**Choir Anthem during the Offering** Oh, Blest is He That Came - David Von Kampen

*His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding.  
Oh, blest is he that came in God the Father’s name!*

*Prepare the royal highway. The King of kings is near!  
Let every hill and valley a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory foretold in sacred story.  
Oh, blest is he that came in God the Father’s name!  
Oh, blest is he that came in God the Father’s name!*

## Offering Prayer of Dedication

**A** **Oh Lord, you left behind all the glory of heaven to be born in a poor manger, in order to save us. In gratitude, we offer you these gifts. As you dedicated yourself totally to us, so help us dedicate to you all that we are and all that we have. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**Sung Prayer** LSB 370, verse 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh.  
Come, peasant, king, to own him!  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him!  
Raise, raise the song on high.  
The virgin sings her lullaby!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

## **New Members of Ascension: Omar and Judith Moreno Affirmation of Faith**

Pastor: Jesus Christ said: "*Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.*" (Matthew 10:32) Omar and Judith have studied the doctrines of the Bible which we teach in our church and they desire to publically affirm that they believe as we do and want to join with us in encouraging and supporting each other in following Jesus.

Pastor: Omar and Judith: at your Baptism you renounced the devil and all his works and all his ways. Therefore I ask you before God and these witnesses: Do you promise to continue to reject the devil and everything he stands for? (If so, please respond: "I do reject them.")

**R: I do reject them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? I invite the whole congregation to rise and to respond together with these brothers and sisters, using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**All: 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.**

P: Do you promise to stay strong in that faith and to share it with others? (If so, please answer, "Yes, with the help of God.")

**R: Yes, with the help of God.**

P: Do you accept the Bible as the Word of God, and do you promise to read it and hear it, and to put this Word into practice? (If so, answer, "Yes, I accept the Bible as God's Word.")

**R: Yes, I accept the Bible as God's Word.**

P: Do you accept as true the teachings of the Lutheran Church, which come from the Bible, and which you have learned in your classes? (If so, please answer, "Yes, I accept these biblical teachings.")

**R: Yes, I accept these teachings.**

P: As members of the church, do you promise to love your brothers and sisters, to study God's Word with them and to share the Lord's Supper with them? (If so, please answer, "Yes, with the help of God.")

**R: Yes, with the help of God.**

**P:** Are you willing to support the mission of the church with your prayers and with the gifts God has given you? (If so, please answer, "Yes, with the help of God.")

**R:** **Yes, with the help of God.**

**All:** **Heavenly Father, on this special occasion, we ask you to bless Omar and Judith who have confessed their faith. In the world around us there are many temptations and trials and things that discourage us from following Jesus. But your Holy Spirit encourages us and strengthens us. For this reason we ask you to give Omar and Judith wisdom and courage and strength. Give them also peace and patience and love. Help them to remain faithful to you, and be with them and with us always, even unto the end of the age, as you have promised. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Pastor: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom you have confessed and whom you have promised to serve, we receive you as communicant members of this congregation.

*The congregation stands.*

**All (members of the congregation): We, the members of this congregation, receive you as our brother and sister and as fellow members of our church in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless us and help us all to grow together as the body of Christ!**

**Prayer by All: Oh Lord, increase our faith and make us all one in you. Amen.**

**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;  
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.**

## Closing Prayer in Song **Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come** LSB 350, verses 1-2



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!

Text and tune: Public domain

### Closing Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Heavenly Father, go with me now as I leave this place. Help me to show Jesus' love in everything I do and say. Help me to share with others how Jesus came to save us and is coming again in glory. In Jesus' own name. Amen.**

### Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

LSB 183

- 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.**

# Closing Hymn

# Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God In the high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

### *Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Richard Schlak  
Organist: Ruth Ann Ostergren  
Elder: Ron Seiders  
Acolyte: Elizabeth Valdes  
Reader: Ron Seiders  
Ushers: Team 2

## Ascension News & Notes

### Ronald McDonald House



Please save the **aluminum pull tabs** from canned drinks and bring them to the kitchen area or the church office.

They are used by the Ronald McDonald House to provide a home away from home for hundreds of families with seriously ill children.



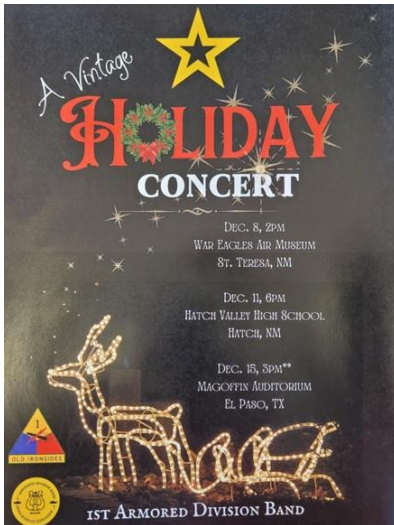
## Thanksgiving Food Drive

We wish to thank you for making our food drive a success. We had about 85 individual bags/boxes donated by the congregation. The money we received from Thrivent Financial allowed us to purchase 31 boxes of food from Sam's. The large boxes contained smaller quantities i.e. 1 box of can corned contained 8 cans. A box of pasta had 6 individual boxes and so forth. All of the food was taken to Ysleta Lutheran Mission to be distributed from their food bank. Thank you for assisting in providing needed food!



**New Member Reception for Omar and Judith Moreno will be on Sunday December 8 following the service in the Fellowship Hall.**

**The baby shower for Judith Moreno will also be on Sunday December 8 following the service in the Fellowship Hall.**



**COME AND JOIN US FOR "FREE" CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT THE WAR EAGLE AIR MUSEUM ON DECEMBER 8 AT 2:00PM. THE ADDRESS IS 8012 AIRPORT RD., SANTA TERESA, NM 88008.**





**THE ADVENT MIDWEEK SOUP SUPPER IS SET TO BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4 FROM 6:00 PM-7:00 PM AND THEN WORSHIP AT 7:00 PM. DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP! THE SOUP SUPPER DATES ARE 12/4, 12/11, AND 12/18.**

## Christmas at Ascension

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

Candlelight @ 5:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am

No bible class Christmas Morning



Tuesday, December 31  
@ 5:00 PM  
New Year's Eve

We will resume our regular  
schedule on Sunday, January 5,  
2025.



**COME JOIN US AFTER THE NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP SERVICE  
ON TUESDAY 12-31-24 FOR FELLOWSHIP AND DINNER AS WE  
USHER IN THE NEW YEAR! ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**WE HAVE RESERVED SPACE AT THE GREAT AMERICAN  
STEAKBURGER. ADDRESS: 701 S. MESA HILLS DR., EL PASO, TX  
79912 FOR 6:30 PM. PLEASE CALL ROBIN WIEGERT (915)581 -  
5566 OR BILLIE MEITLER (915)581 -5566 IF YOU PLAN TO  
ATTEND SO THAT WE CAN GIVE THE RESTAURANT A HEAD COUNT.**



**THE 2025 LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL FOR SUBSCRIPTION IS HERE. THE RENEWAL AMOUNT IS \$20.65 FOR THE YEAR. PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHECK TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY DECEMBER 29, 2024.**

**Thank you for donating Poinsettias for our sanctuary!**



Marjy	Brady
David & Kristal	<u>DeMartelaere</u>
Russ & Jean	DeWitt
Bob & Melanie	Gallagher
B.J.	Mason
Mike & Christy	Mielke
Mike & Charlene	Radach
Jan	Schlak
Gretchen	Schmalz
Dave & Donna	<u>Tuchenhagen</u>
Brad	Voge
Darwin & Gloria	Voge
Elliott & Ania	Werner
Don & Robin	Wiegert
Steve & Kathy	Wilmeth



Merry  
Christmas

Ascension Lutheran  
Preschool

Christmas Program

**DECEMBER 12**

**6PM**

\*Guests are limited to 4 per student





All Women of  
Ascension Lutheran Church  
are cordially invited to the  
Lutheran Women in Mission  
Christmas Party  
Saturday, December 14, 2024

10 a.m. to Noon

At the home of  
Maritza Schlak  
6317 Franklin Vista Drive  
Phone 915-238-3283

**Ornament Exchange**

**Wrapped Please!**  
*(Bring something you  
would like to receive)*



*Please bring a plate of your  
favorite brunch goodies  
to share with everyone*

Join us for  
**FOOD!**  
**FUN!**  
**FELLOWSHIP!**

 **Lutheran Women**  
*in Mission*

# Ladies' Night out

**THERE WILL BE NO LADIES NIGHT OUT IN DECEMBER. IT WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 15, 2025.**

## JOB OPENING

Ascension has an open paid position for an administrative assistant to our pastor and other church staff members.



The position is part time, working five to six hours per day on Tuesdays through Fridays, though some flexibility of schedule may be required.

Anyone interested in this position can contact the church office at [alc6520@swbell.net](mailto:alc6520@swbell.net).



## **This Week @ Ascension**

### **Sunday (December 8)**

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study  
10:00 AM Fellowship  
10:30 AM Worship  
11:45 AM Confirmation  
**11:45 AM New Member Welcome & Baby Shower**



### **Monday (December 9)**

**Church Office Closed**

### **Tuesday (December 10)**

12:00 PM Preschool Board (FH)  
6:30 PM Boy Scouts  
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study (FH)

### **Wednesday (December 11)**

10:00 AM Preschool Posadas  
**Preschool Teacher Christmas Lunch**  
**No Extended Care**  
6:00 PM Soup Supper  
7:00 PM Midweek Worship

### **Thursday (December 12)**

9:45 AM Women's Bible Study (FH)  
**Preschool Christmas Program @ 6:00pm (S)**  
6:00 PM Choir (Choir Room)

### **Friday (December 13)**

12:30-2:30 PM Preschool (FH)

### **Saturday (December 14)**

**10:00 AM LWML Brunch & Ornament Exchange @ Maritza Schlak's House**

## **Prayer Ministry      Philippians 4:6-7**

Please call the church office @ 915-833-1009 to include a prayer request or update for the bulletin. If you have a prayer request or update for the prayer chain, please e-mail Jan Schlak at [oveja6925@aol.com](mailto:oveja6925@aol.com).

### **Illness and Recovery:**

**Aubrey McDermott** (15-year-old with MS in hospital due to stroke); **Ken McLennan** (pray for upcoming heart procedure and peace, patience, and strength for his wife); **Barb Spott** (for recovery); **Melissa Reddick** (friend of Barbara Lewis diagnosed with inoperable cancer pray for peace and comfort); **Richard Neal** (husband of Martha Neal recovery from stroke and for peace and strength for Richard and Martha); **Abigail Kailukatis** (friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth for effective treatment); **Lupita Burke**(Ascension Preschool Teacher recovery from fracture); **Merle DeMartelaere** (father of David DeMartelaere correct diagnosis and treatment for for Edema and AFib); **Marcy LaFramboise** (friend of Connie Swinney recovery from Multiple Myeloma); **David Kwiatkowski** (friend of Connie Swinney recovery and treatment for brain cancer); **Gilbert Provencio** (for healing and correct diagnosis); **Mary Lou Provencio** (pray for peace and guidance); **Ruby Lugo** (sister of Jessica Acosta and co-worker of Sally Benitez and Kristal Wade for recovery from heart issues); **Troy Wade** (brother of Kristal Wade who lost his home in the Ruidoso Fire); **Maria Sotero** (mother of Leticia Behl diagnosed with uterine cancer and blood clots); **Jim Werner** (brother of Elliott Werner successful treatment of and healing from cancer); **Tom Wade** (father of Kristal Wade for recovery from surgery and a broken neck); **Brian Stickney** (recovery from cracked ribs); **Rebekah Livesay** (For healing and correct diagnosis); **Susanne Warren** (former member of Ascension recovery from surgery for a broken femur); **Joe Karl** (recovery from ACL surgery); **Dick Seiders** (father of Ron Seiders healing from cancer and recovery from hip surgery); **Jesus Rivera** (friend of Elliott Werner diagnosed with non-Hodgkins Lymphoma stage 4); **Mary Spott** (Barb Spott's niece Keighley Spott's mother heart related issues); **Ann Perdue** ( relief from Osteoarthritis); **Amanda Bowser** (friend of the Walker Family recovery from cancer); **Donna Welch** (sister of Candice Gebler heart issues); **Sherri Pfeifer Wilson** (niece of Vicki Pfeifer cancer); **Patty Jones**, (sister of Martha Neal-stage 4 breast cancer); **Robert and Karin Gaudet**, (restoring relationships); **Sean Sweeney**, (brain tumor); **Laurie Sterling**, (colon cancer); **Bruce Walker**, (being treated for Parkinson's); **Coby Clark and family**, continued cancer recovery); **Elizabeth Hinson**, (recovery from brain aneurysm); **Ryan Walker**, (cancer is in remission), **Mariella Kraus**, (cancer), **Kathy Kiphart**, **John Weiske**, **Bob Gallagher**, **Linda Seiders**.