

# Sunday After Christmas

## A Savior for an Evil and Unjust World

December 28, 2025 • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

---

### As We Gather

Herod the Great was so corrupt and so evil that he killed babies in Bethlehem to try to get rid of Jesus, whom he thought would grow up to be a rival for the throne. An angel warned Joseph to flee, and the family had to live as refugees in Egypt until Herod died. Jesus came to our unjust world and suffered among us in order to bring us forgiveness and salvation. He came at the right time, the time appointed by God – and he will come again to finally and fully bring an end to evil.

### 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, All Ye Faithful

Lutheran Service Book 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!



Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

- P** During this season of Christmas, we celebrate the love of God. God's love is more important than presents and decorations and even our families. God's love is stronger than our tears, our frustrations and our failures. God in his love has given us the best gift of all: himself. Jesus left heaven behind to become like us, to save us. For this reason we raise our voices and our hearts in worship today! We begin in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Prayer of Confession

- P** None of us deserve God's love. All of us have sinned again and again, that is, we have failed to love as we should. Before we go any farther in our worship, we stop for a moment to ask God to forgive us.
- 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

Lutheran Service Book 361, verse 4

Oh holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.  
Cast out our sin, and enter in. Be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.  
Oh come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

## Words of Forgiveness

**P** Jesus has given us the best Christmas gift of all: himself! Jesus came to our world to save us, to forgive us, and to give us a new life. The Bible declares that "Our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness, and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good." (Titus 2:13-14) Since you trust in Jesus as your Savior, I tell you that your sins and failures are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit!

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

**Psalm 54** (A prayer that God would put an end to evil and to our enemies: Satan, the world, and our sinful nature)

**P** Oh God, save me by your name,

**C** And vindicate me by your might.

**P** Oh God, hear my prayer;

**C** Give ear to the words of my mouth.

**P** For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life.

**C** They do not set God before themselves.

**P** Behold, God is my helper;

**C** The Lord is the upholder of my life.

**P** He will return the evil to my enemies.

**C** In your faithfulness put an end to them!

**P** With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you.

**C** I will give thanks to your name, oh Lord, for it is good.

**P** For he has delivered me from every trouble,

**C** And my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**A** Glory be to the Father, and to the ✠ Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Hymn of Praise: Joy to the World

Lutheran Service Book 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

## Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:15-17

*(Rachel – wife of Jacob and ancestor of the Israelites – “wept” when many Israelites were killed and others taken into exile. We also suffer tragedies in this world, but God says here that there is hope for the future.)*

Thus says the Lord:

“A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.”

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the Lord:

“Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the Lord, and they shall come back from the

land of the enemy. <sup>17</sup>There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country."

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

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

## Epistle Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

*(At the right time, Jesus came to save us and to make us God's children.)*

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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

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

Stand

**Song of Praise:** Let us All with Gladsome Voice      Lutheran Service Book 390 verse 1

Let us all with gladsome voice  
Praise the God of heaven,  
Who to bid our hearts rejoice,  
His own Son has given.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

*(Jesus came to our world and suffered because of evil men, to save us from evil.)*

When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that

region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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

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

## Prayer

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray together:

**C Lord Jesus, you know very well how much evil is in our world. Evil is all around us and sometimes we ourselves fall into doing what is wrong. Forgive us and help us to overcome the temptations and evil that surround us. Keep our thoughts and minds steady, always remembering your promise that one day you will return to eliminate all evil. In your own name we pray. Amen.**

Sit

**Hymn:** The First Noel

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 300

1. The first Noel the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!
2. They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far,

And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!

3. And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far.  
To seek the King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!
4. This star drew near to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!
5. Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!
6. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
Who made the heavens and earth of naught,  
And with his blood our life has bought.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!

## **Sermon**

Stand

### **Christmas Confession of Faith**

**☐ I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth – who sent his Son as my Savior at the very first Christmas.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, announced by angels, worshipped by the shepherds, served by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again to free us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit who brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas, and who continually works in my heart and leads me to**

**lay before Jesus all the treasures of my life, and to live under him as my King both now and forever. Amen.**

## **Prayers and Petitions**

- P** Lord Jesus, you have brought us peace with God. Let there be peace also between all people on this earth, particularly where there is fighting and hatred as in Israel and the Ukraine. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, bring peace on earth!**
- P** Lord God, help us to share the good news of great joy that the Savior has come. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, bring joy to the world!**
- P** Help those who are in need, for whom there is no room in the inn. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, bring help to the helpless!**
- P** Holy Spirit, renew us here in your church. Unite us in your truth and your love not only at Christmastime but every day of this new year. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, make your home in our hearts!**
- P** Lord Jesus, let your light shine on those who are grieving or sick or suffering in body or hurting in their hearts. In particular, we lift up to you our family and friends who are suffering: *See the prayer list at the back of this bulletin*. Let them trust in you and receive the help they need. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, bring hope to those who are hurting!**
- P** Heavenly Father, you sent Jesus to be born in a human family. Bless and strengthen our families, and help and guide those who are teaching our children your ways. We pray:
- C Christ the Lord, bring blessing to our families!**
- P** Rejoicing in your coming and trusting in your mercy, we commend to you all for whom we pray. In your own name, Lord Jesus.
- C Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** (Sung to the Melody of "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear", LSB 366)

**Our Father, Lord on heaven's high throne, most holy be your name.  
Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth - in heaven the same.  
Give us this day the food we need. Forgiven may we be.  
Into temptation do not lead. From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom! Unto you, in grateful love we bow.  
And yours the power, Lord let us view, your mighty presence now.  
The glory yours; your praise be sung, by angel hosts and men  
In every land, by every tongue, forevermore. Amen!**



## 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.

### Offering Options

You can contribute offerings using any of the following methods:

**In-Person donations:** You can place your donation in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.

**On-line Banking donations:** You can utilize the on-line bill pay option at your financial institution to donate to Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912.

**Mail donations:** Mail your check to the church office: Ascension Lutheran Church, 6520 Loma de Cristo, El Paso, TX 79912. The mail is checked daily.

**Other Electronic donation option:** You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at [www.alconnect.faith](http://www.alconnect.faith) or by scanning the QR code below. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofit organizations. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

**Donations via an app:** If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Mobile app. You can easily set up an account and donate through the app.  
*The ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. As a guest, please do not feel obligated in any way to make a contribution. We believe that any gift to the Lord should be uncoerced and from the heart — as a loving response to God’s grace.*



### 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

Lutheran Service Book 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!

## Song of Joy    Now Sing We, Now Rejoice    Lutheran Service Book 386, verses 1 and 3

1. Now sing we, now rejoice, now raise to heaven our voice!  
He from whom joy streameth poor in a manger lies.  
Not so brightly beameth the sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!
3. Now through his Son doth shine the Father's grace divine.  
Death was reigning o'er us through sin and vanity  
Till he opened for us a bright eternity.  
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!

## 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 (Sung to the tune of "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379)

- P** The Lord bless and keep you,  
Look with love upon you,  
Be gracious and cause his face to shine with peace!  
Glory to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!  
The Savior close beside us.  
God's love from harm to hide us.  
The Spirit's power to guide us, forevermore!
- C** **Amen.**



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!  
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

## **Worship Leaders**

Pastor:	Elders
Organist:	Ruth Ann Ostergren
Elders:	Andy Barber
Acolyte:	Rudy Valdes
Reader:	Andy Barber
Ushers:	Team 2
Altar Care:	Coordinated effort
Projectionist:	Jacob Canada

## **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).

## **Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones:**

We pray for peace, comfort, and hope for all those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones.

## **Illness and Recovery:**

**Bob & Melanie Gallagher**, Bob was released from the hospital but has difficulty moving around without his oxygen level suddenly dropping, (please continue to pray for better oxygen levels for Bob, and for peace and strength for both Bob & Melanie); **Krissy Miller**, had successful surgery recently (pray for healing); **BJ Schwab**, had a biopsy on her thyroid, (please pray for a good outcome on the results); **David Behl**, Steve Behl's brother, needs both a heart & a kidney transplant (please pray for patience for both David & his family as there is a long waiting list for organ availability as well as skilled doctors to be available for the transplant); **Michael Sheridan**, family of Gretchen Schmalz, doctors were unable to remove all of the tumor in a surgery he recently had; so he will be monitored (please pray that he gets rest & his mother is grateful for the prayers); **Jaxon Coles**, nephew of Kari Larson Decker, had an unexplained seizure, had an ambulatory EEG test and are awaiting the results to be read & to have a brain MRI to determine the cause (please pray for correct diagnosis & effective treatment); **Aaron Levenhagen**, Linda Canada's nephew & Cheryl Canada-Karl's cousin, back home after a surgery for a bowel obstruction, but is on a liquid diet, & continues to experience GI pain (please pray for healing & relief from the pain); **Norma Rust**, recovering from hip surgery at White Acres after a fall, & diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease (please pray for a good recovery from hip injury, & for strength as she & **Jerry**, and their son, **Doug** move forward with difficult decisions after receiving the diagnosis); **Wayne Woolery**, who is the chairman of

the board of directors of the Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute, asks to pray for his 12 year old grandson, **Reuben**, who is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; **Dorothy Lenz**, surgery to remove some lymph nodes showed no malignancy, but she will undergo more tests to be certain the parathyroid is not malignant (please pray for a good outcome); **Elizabeth Hinson**, Mary Lou Provencio's daughter, waiting on the pathology results for evaluation of a nodule on her thyroid (asking for God's mercy & favor that the nodule is benign); pray for **Rachel**, Elizabeth Hinson's daughter, who is hoping to find employment (pray that she finds a nursing job soon); **Gilbert Provencio**, Mary Lou's husband, who has not improved since the shunt placement, (pray for the neurologist treating him to be able to increase the cerebrospinal fluid to improve his walking gait & balance); **Bruce Walker**, father of Daren Walker, receives maintenance care for Parkinson's disease (please pray for strength & comfort for him and his family); **Kelly Alberson**, breast cancer (please pray for strength and comfort); **Cindy & Don Unsworth**, friends of former Ascension members Cathy & Randy Engel; Cindy is in hospice care for lung cancer (please continue to pray for God's will for Cindy and for peace & strength for her husband, Don); **David Kwiatkowski**, friend of Connie Swinney, continues on in receiving different treatments for brain cancer, (please continue to pray for successful treatment); **Sandy Spott**, daughter-in-law of Barb Spott, is being treated by radiation & medication for recurring breast cancer (please pray for successful treatment); **Laurie Sterling**, continues to undergo treatment for colon cancer (please pray for treatment to be successful); **Maisie Warsau**, Marjy Brady's daughter Lauren's friend, at a facility in Atlanta that works with specialized injuries (pray for strength and continued healing for Maisie, & for peace and strength for her family); **Barbara Brock**, sister of Becky Hite, Becky & Gary Hite (former members), Barbara is in the hospital & she is not in good condition (please pray for healing); **Abigail Kailukatis**, friend of Jan Schlak's daughter Elizabeth, is still in a wheelchair, & limited in activities (praise the Lord that she is doing a little better, and please continue to pray for healing); **Martha Neal**, will need further leg surgery to improve blood circulation (pray for healing); **Jennifer Solich**, past Ascension administrative assistant, diagnosed with a brain tumor, (please pray for successful treatment & strength to tolerate the medication); **Kirstin Hervin**, daughter of Mike & Christy Mielke, experiencing a recurrence of lupus affecting her kidneys & is receiving injections, (please pray that the treatment is effective with no side effects); **Andy Barber** (for pain relief radiating from neck to hands) & for his wife, **Suzette Barber** (pray for her as she copes with OCD & anxiety as a result of her condition); **Marsha**, friend of the Barber's, has a lump in her breast, (please pray for strength); **Aubrey McDermett**, 15-year-old with MS, in hospital due to stroke (pray for healing); **Patty Jones**, Martha Neal's sister in stage 4 breast cancer (pray for strength); **Sean Sweeney**, has a brain tumor (pray for strength); **Mariella Kraus**, has cancer (pray for healing); **Brian Stickney** (pray for continuing health issues that cause them to be homebound);

**Linda Seiders** (pray for continuing health issues); **Daniel Mendoza** rapidly losing kidney function (pray for strength).

**Praise and Thanksgiving:**

**Dick Seiders**, Ron Seiders father, received a second medical opinion revealing that the macular degeneration had not worsened to the point that he was losing his vision (praise and thanksgiving to God and grateful for everyone's prayers); **Sharon**, Melanie Gallagher's niece, cancer treatment was successful (give praise to God, & she is grateful for the prayers); **Coby Clark**, cancer is in remission (give thanks that he is doing well); **Barb Spott**, treatment for vertigo is working (give thanks for the relief from the condition).

**Ascension News and Notes**

**Flowers for today's service  
are provided by Ross & Maggie Provencio  
in honor of Michael Provencio's 18th birthday.**



**BOTH SETS OF FLOWERS ARE \$60.00.**

**NOTE: CONSIDER SHARING THE COST WITH SOMEONE ELSE.  
THEN YOU EACH PAY \$30.00**

**PLEASE PLACE YOUR CHECK IN THE OFFERING PLATE  
OR DROP IT OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.  
SIGN UP SHEET IS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

2025 Christmas Poinsettia Donors	
Barron	Radach
Behl	Schmalz
Brady	Schwab
Canada-Karl	Swinney
DeMartelaere/Wade	Tuchenhagen
DeWitt	Wagner
Gallagher	Werner
J. Schlak	Wiegert
Mason	Wilmeth
Mielke	

Thank you for donating Poinsettias for our sanctuary! Please remember to take them home after Christmas service.



**Altar  
Flowers**



7<sup>th</sup>: (Marjy Brady) In honor and praise to God!  
14<sup>th</sup>: (Voge) Celebrate Brad Voge's birthday!  
21<sup>st</sup>: (Wade) In Memory of Mom, Barbara Wade  
28<sup>th</sup>: (Provencio) Celebrate Michael's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

**New 2026 Sign-up Sheet  
Available for Altar Flowers  
in the Fellowship Hall**



**Dec. 28 — Michael Provencio**

**Dec. 29 — Gabby Karl**



**Dec. 28 — Tito & Diana Holguin**

**Dec. 30 — Steve & Leticia Behl**

**Dec. 31 — Primo & Taylor Martinez**





New Year's Eve Worship Service  
Wednesday  
December 31  
5:00 PM

We will resume our regular  
schedule on  
Sunday, January 4, 2026.



Come join us after the New Year's Eve worship service for fellowship & dinner  
as we usher in the New Year!

All are welcome!

We have reserved space at **The Great American Steakburger**

(701 S. Mesa Hills, El Paso, TX 79912)  
**for 6:30 PM.**

**Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at entrance.**  
Please sign-up to give the restaurant an accurate head count.  
Or call Robin Wiegert (915)581-5566/or the church office.



**THE 2026 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 JANUARY 9, 2026.**



**Thank you to everyone who contributed to the money needed to buy special hearing aids for our dedicated, and faithful servant, Ruth Ann Ostergren!**

*Thank you!*

# Ladies Fellowship Opportunities in January 2026



**Wed. Jan. 21, 2026**

**6 p.m.**

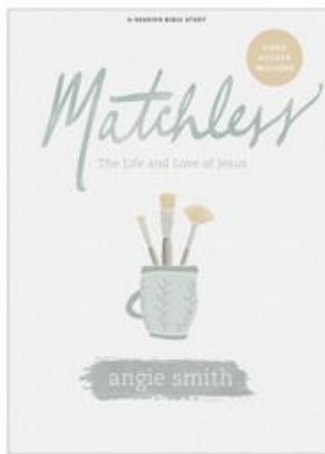
**Ardivinos Pizza**

**865 Resler**

**Please join us for food and fellowship!  
(Dutch treat)**

**>Contact Robin Wiegert (915-581-5566)  
for more information**

## **Tuesday Ladies Bible Study**



**Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> !**

**Join Ascension Ladies & Friends  
For Bible Study**

***Via Zoom***

**6:30 – 8 p.m.**

**Contact Anita Werner  
For more information**

## **This Week @ Ascension**

### **Sunday (December 28)**

No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study  
(Will resume on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>)

10:30 AM                  Worship

### **Monday (December 29)**

Church Office Closed

Pastor's vacation Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> -Jan.5<sup>th</sup>

No School (EPISD Winter Break Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>-Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>)

### **Tuesday (December 30)**

6:30 PM                  Boy Scouts

No Choir Rehearsal (Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>-Jan.3<sup>rd</sup>)

### **Wednesday (December 31)**

5:00 PM                  New Year's Eve Worship Service w/ communion

6:30 PM                  New Year's Eve Fellowship Dinner (at Great American Land & Cattle)

### **Thursday (January 1, 2026)**

New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

### **Friday (January 2)**

### **Saturday (January 3)**



HAPPENING THIS WEEK