

**GOOD AFTERNOON!**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING (December 24) *Merry Christmas!***



**Christmas Eve Services on Tuesday, December 24:**

3:45 p.m. Congregational Carols

4:00 p.m. Family Worship with Holy Communion  
and Children's Program

6:45 p.m. Congregational Carols

7:00 p.m. Festival Worship with Holy Communion

**On Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day** there will be a single worship service with Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

**The Church office will be closed** on Thursday, December 26.

**Worship Services next weekend** will be Saturday, December 28 at 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 29 at 10:00 a.m. Please note there will be only one service on Sunday, December 29.

**Holy Baptism** This Saturday, December 28, we will celebrate the baptism of Everlee Eickmann, daughter of Myles Eickmann and Braney Arnett, granddaughter of Dan and Kim McCormick, and great-granddaughter of Andy and Mavis Slifka, and Nathan and Marlene Eickmann. May God continue to bless these families!

**The Memorial Service** for Terry O'Connell will be Saturday, December 28 at 11:00 am. A meal will follow the service.

**New Year's Eve** will begin with a worship service at 3:00 pm, followed by a delicious dinner catered by Romano's at about 4:00 pm. Please sign up in the narthex to attend the meal. If you can help serve or clean up, there is a sign-up for that as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to conclude the year in worship and fellowship!

**When it's Time to Undecorate ...** we will need a few hands! If you can help, we will meet on Saturday, January 4, beginning at 8:30 am. Thank you!

**Kudos** to Curt Engle, whose homily during the Lessons & Carols service on Saturday, December 14 has had 307 views! You can find it here:

<https://www.alutheran.org/sermons/jesus-in-the-storm-mark-645-52/>

**Thank you** to everyone who volunteered and contributed to the Christmas Families program this year, the gifts have now been distributed and will be enjoyed by many local families, making their Christmas brighter! *Thank you especially to Dana Niederbrach for her coordination skills and dedication!*

**Pastor John is offering an Adult Instruction Class** on Saturday, January 11 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m, and Sunday, January 12, 1:00-4:00 pm. The two-part class is designed to teach the basics of Christian faith and the Lutheran denomination. There is no cost. The instruction book will be provided. Free refreshments!! If you are not a member of Ascension and would like to see what we believe (or even if you are a

member, and would like to have a refresher of Lutheran doctrine), you're invited to attend. Childcare is provided at no cost.

**Flowers Flowers Flowers!** The 2025 Flower weekly signup sheet is located on the bulletin board on the landing just down from the Narthex. Simply fill out your name, dedication for a special event, and write a check for the number of arrangements, each arrangement is \$27.00, the cost for both arrangements is \$54.00, this is the same cost as 2024. If you want to share your special event with another person that is perfect – we love to celebrate everyone's special day.

You are welcome to take your donated flowers home after the last service, or you can opt to give them another good deed. The Ladies of Circle IV will take the flowers left to the homebound and hospitalized members of our church to brighten their day!

You may pay for your flowers using the envelopes located below the sign-up sheet and place it in the weekly offering plate. It is particularly important to mark your check clearly "ALTAR FLOWERS" so the offering counters do not credit it to the General Fund, but to floral budget, the church does not have a floral budget, and all Altar Flowers are made possible by donations. Please remember to pay for your flowers by the Sunday you are dedicating them.

Thank you all for your flower donations and the beauty, which they bring to our Church.

**Homelessness Awareness and Action Task Force (HAAT Force)** After the closing of the Severe Weather Shelter Network last spring, the services the Shelter Network had been providing for homeless adults were transferred to the Homelessness Awareness and Action Task Force (HAAT Force). This organization was founded in 2010 out of a concern about homelessness in the South Metro Denver area. Today they serve a variety of individuals and families who are unhoused. SWSN served only adults and was a partner of HAAT Force and is now a part of their shelter program. This program is different from SWSN, in that it uses a motel model. Clients stay in motels when the weather is severe. They are also provided with meals.

HAAT Force needs are the same as those of SWSN. We are starting a food and supplies drive for them this weekend. You'll find a list of needs in your mailbox. Thanks in advance for all you do.

Ann Kaneko, [kanekoa43@gmail.com](mailto:kanekoa43@gmail.com), 720.289.6782 and Lori Rolling, [rollingbarn@gmail.com](mailto:rollingbarn@gmail.com)

**GriefShare** Beginning in 2025, the GriefShare 13-Week Class, "From Mourning to Joy," begins Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at Ascension Lutheran Church, 6:30-8:30 pm. Contact the church office, (303-794-4636); Sherry Hitztaler, [hitz2@comcast.net](mailto:hitz2@comcast.net), or [griefshare.org/findagroup](http://griefshare.org/findagroup) for more information. Please share this information with anyone you know who is hurting from grief. There is hope.

Thank you from Sherry Hitztaler and Linda Olsen, Co-Facilitators of ALC's GriefShare Programs.

**Bible Study with Pastor Don Ginkel** Merry Christmas! The group will resume their study of Acts on January 8. All are welcome!

**Saturday Afternoon Bible Study** There will be no class on Saturday, December 28. Please join us next Saturday, January 4 at 3:00 pm for the Lighthouse Bible Study, Wilderness Wanderings on Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, in Room 106. Email Curt at [Kengle0920@gmail.com](mailto:Kengle0920@gmail.com)

**Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith** Many speak of estate planning from the perspective of "What legacy are you leaving behind?" If we are honest and think about those who have passed before us, their value is not in being remembered after they are gone, but in the impact they made on each of us during their life. If you would like to discuss this with your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor and how that translates into your estate plan, contact... May you have a very blessed Christmas! Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfn.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfn.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Prayers:** Please pray for Rita Kratzer, at the death of her husband, Barry Kratzer, on Saturday, December 21; For Patti Heggen; For Jerry and Jean Gerdes, who have Covid; and for all those who are ill during this season; For Carmen Gutierrez, who will have back surgery on December 31; For Tommy Donovan, who suffered a broken femur in a ski accident; For health and strength for Rick Westra, Phyllis' son, as his cancer has returned; For John and Lori Rolling's friend, Shane Alexander; For Vicki Redden's brother-in-law, Pastor Kevin Peterson, and his wife, Julie; For Gwen Marshall, recovering from hip replacement surgery; For Scott Estes, son-in-law of Del Grau; For Crystal Sundet; For Lawrence Brown; For Judy Koester and Nalani, the Koester's great-granddaughter; For James Cooper, with pancreatic cancer; For those who are lonely or grieving during the holidays; For the people of Haiti, and for the children living there; For those affected by violence in Israel, Lebanon, Gaza, and Ukraine; For our beloved country, and for its leaders; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving** for Lori Pickering and her family, at the birth of her new grandson earlier this month!

**I would like to thank everyone** for all the Birthday Cards that were sent to me in Celebration of my 90<sup>th</sup>. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Blessings on the Celebration of Jesus' Birth and another year of His love. - Marlene Eickmann

**Flowers on the Altar** this weekend are given by Ann and Ron Kaneko, in joyful celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on December 27!

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Service Time</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	
Saturday, 12/21	4:00 pm	49	
Sunday, 12/22	8:00 am	68	
Sunday, 12/22	10:30 am	66	
			Total Weekend: 183

**Online Views** (as of December 24) for December 15: 307 views.

<b>Stewardship</b>	December 21-22	Year-to-Date (YTD)
Budgeted Revenue	\$12,600.00	\$639,200.00
Received Amount	\$25,323.00	\$670,014.00

**Calendar (Tuesday, December 24 – Tuesday, December 31):**

Tues. (12-24)		<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
	3:45 pm	Congregational Carols
	4:00 pm	Family Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion
	6:45 pm	Congregational Carols
	7:00 pm	Festival Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion
Weds.(12-25)		<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>
	10:00 am	Christmas Morning Worship with Holy Communion
Thurs.(12-26)		<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>
Sat. (12-28)	11:00 am	Memorial Service for Terry O’Connell
	4:00 pm	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sun. (12-29)		<b>FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>
	10:00 am	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Tues. (12-31)		<b>NEW YEAR’S EVE</b>
	3:00 pm	New Year’s Eve Worship Service
	4:00 pm	Catered Meal

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**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUA AM850 & kfuo.org:** Celebrate the season of Christmas with sacred music and songs during the 12 Days of Christmas, December 24th-January 6th. Regular programming will resume on January 7th.