

## GOOD AFTERNOON! WHAT'S HAPPENING (November 20)



### **Worship Schedule**

Worship times are 4:00 on Saturday afternoons, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Sunday School meets at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday. Please note, there will be no Adult Bible Class this Sunday, November 23, due to the Ladies Guild Craft and Bake Sale.

**My dear friends**, Your kindness and love shown to me and Marilyn this past weekend was quite amazing. I thank God that 20 years ago you issued a call to me to serve as your pastor. Together we have seen God granting us what we need for the day, the season, the year and even the decades. Thank you for your grace. Pastor John

**Mark Your Calendar**: Pastor John's next Adult Instruction / Confirmation class will be on Saturday, January 10, 9:00 to 1:00 and Sunday, January 11, 1:00 to 4:00.

**Miss a sermon? Want a printed copy of a sermon?** Want to watch a sermon? Pastor's video sermons are on Ascension's website and also on YouTube. Printed copies of sermons can be downloaded on our website and the sermons for the last 6 weeks are printed and available in the narthex. They can be found on the southside of the mailboxes.

**Ladies Guild Craft and Bake Sale!** We are preparing for our Annual Craft and Bake Sale which will be this Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Time to think about some yummy baked items, candies, canned goods, and craft items you would like to donate for the Guild sale. All members of Ascension are welcome to donate.

This is our biggest fundraiser for Missions!

Please bring your items to the church Saturday, November 22nd, 9 am - noon. And please have your items priced. Thank you! Contact: Charmaine Rohde 303-618-8889

**Canned Food Drive**: Due to the current delay of SNAP benefits in the community, one of our Extended Day Preschool parents is collecting all kinds of canned and imperishable food in November for Integrated Family Community Services. She asks that we continue to bring donations to the collection bin in the narthex, and we will make sure it gets to IFCS. Thank you for your generosity!

IFCS is always grateful for your food or money donations, find them at [www.ifcs.org](http://www.ifcs.org).

**Installation Service** Concordia Lutheran Church, at 13371 W Alameda Parkway in Lakewood, invites you to join them on Sunday Nov. 23rd at 4:00pm for the installation service of their new pastor, Joel Luckemeyer. Pastor Guy Roberts from Peace Lutheran in Arvada will be preaching.

**Seasonal help for our adult choir!** You're invited to join us to sing for our Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve services. Choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm.

**Our family Advent calendars** and resources will be available starting on November 22nd. Look for the table in the narthex for these supplies! Pick one up and guide your family through the anticipation for the coming of Christ both in the past and also in the future!

**Youth (7th-12th grades) are invited to our Christmas party** and lock-in on Dec. 12-13, 7pm-7am! We will be going to play laser tag and bowling. Then, look forward to an evening of Christmas-themed games, crafts, movies, devotion, and treats! Bring a \$5 white elephant gift and your sleeping bag plus pillow! Must RSVP with Stephanie.

**Our annual Christmas caroling to our homebound members** is scheduled for Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 pm. Share some joy and the love of Christ through song and your presence! Please sign up! Thank you!

**Christmas Sanctuary Decorating** Do you love decorating? Or do you just love Christmas? Please plan to join us in decorating our beautiful Sanctuary and Narthex. We will begin decorating at 8:30 am on Saturday, November 29. No ladder-climbing required!

**Ascension Christmas Families:** In November and December we support families who need a little help in the Christmas season. Forms have been placed in the narthex mailboxes. We need funds to buy presents and gift cards for gifts and for the Christmas meal. Checks should be made out to Ascension and please indicate that the gift is for Christmas Families. If you would like to help shop, please contact Dana Niederbrach (303.886.7860).

**The Poinsettia Ordering Chart** is on the landing Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Poinsettias are \$30.00 each this year, the same price as last year.

We have ordered **only 16 - Poinsettias**. Individuals can dedicate a Poinsettia for the Holiday Season, and the plants can be taken home after New Year's.

Envelopes for payments are located below the ordering chart. Please make sure that you place a check mark next to Poinsettias and note Poinsettias on your check.

**Advent by Candlelight - Wednesday, December 3, 6:00 pm:** Join us for a special evening of devotion and fellowship! Our dinner menu will be:

Tossed Green Salad, Italian Beef or Parmesan Chicken, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Green Beans & Bacon, Rolls & Butter, Christmas Cookies, Water and/or Coffee

Special devotions and music will take place between courses. The cost for the meal is \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. (Maximum \$30.00 per family) Attendance is limited to 110 people, please RSVP by signing up in the narthex by November 26.

**Elves are needed** to help set up Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon - Dec. 2nd and 3rd, and then to help cook, finish preparations, serve and clean-up on Dec. 3rd. We need cookie makers! If you would like to make something for dessert - we would love to sample your baking skills. Please text or call Laurie Mullane at 303-794-7937 or email LJMullane@msn.com if you would like to volunteer to help or make cookies.

Would you like to be a table decorator? We need decorators for 15 round tables of 6-7 and 2 rectangle tables of 8. Each table will be decorated with items from your own home. This includes plates, napkins, silverware, glasses, tablecloth (the church has white ones available for use) and centerpiece. Tables may be decorated Tuesday (1-6 p.m.) or Wednesday (before Noon). For more details - please contact Lisa Wert by phone or text 720-980-9446, or email [lisajeanschilling@msn.com](mailto:lisajeanschilling@msn.com) if you would like to be a Table Decorator. If you can't be a Table Decorator but have items that would make a beautiful table, contact Lisa for pick-up. You can decorate more than one table.

This is going to be a memorable evening and we look forward to seeing you!

**December 7th Voters' Meeting Elections- December 7, 12:00 pm**

Voters' Meeting Agenda:

Opening Prayer and Devotion

Roll Call and/or Registration of Voters Present

Presentation of the Minutes

Pastor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Elections

Reports of Board Chairmen and Committees

Unfinished Business

Patio Committee Recommendation

New Business

Nominations for Synod President, Vice-President, and Regional Vice-President

2026 Proposed Budget

Adjournment

Closing Prayer

**God's Creation Calendars** are here! \$10 for a beautiful 2026 calendar with Scripture verses and stunning pictures. Proceeds will go towards the youth summer mission trip to LVR next summer! Thank you for supporting our youth! Available in the narthex.

**Extended Day Preschool** What a fun and engaging week we had!

We had chapel with Pastor John, which is always a highlight for the children. Our lessons focused on the importance of friendship and sharing, as well as the meaning of Thanksgiving. We also discussed miracles, specifically learning about the boy who shared his small lunch with 5,000 people.

The Butter Braids have arrived and were distributed yesterday, so we hope you enjoy many delicious breakfasts next week!

Today marked our last day of class before the Thanksgiving break. We celebrated with a pizza party and watched A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving. We know many of our students are excited to either visit relatives or welcome out-of-town guests.

We hope you all have a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving holiday. 🍁

**HAAT Force – Check your Mailboxes!** HAAT Force (Homelessness Awareness and Action Task Force) began their 2025-2026 season on October 1. We are having a supplies drive for them to help them serve their clients. A list of their needs has been placed in your mailbox. At this time, they are well-stocked with food items, so much of the list is for clothing. They serve families as well as individuals, so you'll notice some children's items on the list. Thank you in advance for your support! Questions? Contact Ann Kaneko – 720.289.6782 (cell)

**Prayers and Assistance Needed!** Rocky Mountain District President Rev. James Maxwell has requested assistance on behalf of Pastor Nathaniel Brown and his wife Laura, of the Minnesota North District. Pastor Brown serves 3 parishes in Minnesota. He and his wife will arrive soon and will be staying here in Denver, far from home, through the holidays, in order that their soon-to-be newborn baby will be able to have needed surgery and post-surgery care right away after birth at Children's Hospital-Aurora. Here are some ways to help Pastor Brown and Mrs. Brown while they are in town:

- Gift Cards - Nathan and Laura have a need for gift cards to cover expenses while they're in Denver. The following gift cards would be immensely helpful: Visa gift cards (for gas), King Soopers, and restaurants. Here's a [link to a few local spots](#) near the hospital if you'd like to choose a particular restaurant.
- Any gifts intended for the Browns should be directed to Pastor Nathaniel Brown and can be mailed to Our Father (6335 S. Holly Street Centennial, CO 80122). [Here's a link to his Venmo](#) account.
- [Here's a link to their Caring Bridge website](#). You need a free account to view updates.

Update from Pastor Brown: *"The heart has 4 chambers normally. Baby Brown has Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, so the left ventricle is underdeveloped. He or she will have a "Norwood Procedure" immediately after birth.*

*Baby is still doing good, The temporary relocation has been overwhelming for us. But it has been made infinitely easier being part of the Body of Christ.*

*A Pastor in the Denver area had a child with a similar heart defect as us, so he spearheaded the Denver support to arrange a place to stay, any gift cards that come in.*

*Laura and I have gone to two different congregations these past two weekends. My wife Laura has said that it is strange walking into a congregation that we have no connections to, and to have people praying for us. And it is very strange. There is no doubt about that. But that isn't really true, that we have no connection to this place. Laura, Baby, and I have had the same Jesus die for our sins as these congregations in Denver, as well as the three congregations I serve, and the elders are doing the services in my stead. Laura and I (and soon Baby too), have been washed in the same Baptismal waters as the strangers who have given us gift cards randomly that we won't*

*meet until the resurrection of the dead, when Christ our LORD returns in glory. This is the Body of Christ. And it is overwhelming to experience first hand.*

*A lot of people have asked what they can do, and that is incredibly caring. The first and most important thing you can do is pray. Prayers for Baby to be healthy are incredible. Prayers for us to keep our sanity in the midst of this chaos and through a temporary relocation are needed. Prayers for my three congregations have been my prayers every day. The gift cards, and the Venmo donations are wonderful, especially from strangers that we haven't met. But right now, the money is doing okay, and that might change after Baby is born and has heart surgery. But what I have seen help Laura and I the most is to reach out and talk with us. If you want our contact info, please email me at [revnathanielbrown@protonmail.com](mailto:revnathanielbrown@protonmail.com), and tell me your preferred way of contact, and I will gladly send that info back to you."*

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study with Pastor John** is taking a hiatus for Thanksgiving Eve, Advent and Christmas. We will meet again on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

**New Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel:** The group is now studying 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians, focusing on a chapter a week. Please join them each Wednesday at 10:00 am in Room 106.

**Ascension Quilters** meet on Fridays at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, all are welcome! Come see what it is all about! Call Jackie Adams for info, 303-798-5161

**Saturday Afternoon Bible Study** Join us this Saturday afternoon, at 3:00 pm, for our Lifelight Bible study on the book of Acts, with a focus on evangelism. Anyone is welcome to join! Email Curt at [Kengle0920@gmail.com](mailto:Kengle0920@gmail.com)

**Young Adult Bible Study** The Young Adult Bible Study will meet again on Friday, December 12, at Jenna and Michael Lawrenz' house. The group is doing a Bible study by Louie Giglio. For more information, please call or email Jenna at 303-913-3512 or [jenna.lindeman@cune.org](mailto:jenna.lindeman@cune.org)

**We can face competing priorities when we think about planning our estates someday.** The big decision to make is whether an estate plan is merely a legal/financial activity or is it an activity of faith. An estate transfer can be a simple financial transaction, harsh and cold. Or the transference of gifts to family or ministry can be a faith guided, prayer covered, activity including specific plans to shower others with the grace of Jesus. Your Ascension Gift Planning Counselor can help you keep this focus. Contact Jason Jones at [Jason.Jones@lfnd.org](mailto:Jason.Jones@lfnd.org) or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

**Flowers on the Altar** for this weekend are given by Linda Achziger, in loving memory of her parents, Edward and Edna Achziger.

**Happy Birthday!** To Carol Haeffele, who celebrated her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 13, and to Viola Raasch, who will be 97 on November 23<sup>rd</sup>! May God continue to bless these wonderful ladies with good health and happiness!

**From the Evangelism Committee – Thank You!** Thanks to everyone who brought Halloween costumes to donate to the children at Little Raven Elementary near Ascension – the school appreciates your generosity. Thank you also for the goodies provided to the children last week! – Anita Baresel

**Prayers:** For Gayla and Larry Buethe's grandson, Landon; For Janet Parrott, in hospice care as her health is declining; For Del Grau, who has an infection, and for Del's son-in-law, Scott Estes, who has Krohn's disease and Lupus; For Faith Lawson, with cancer; For Margaret, Carmen Gutierrez's daughter, with a broken tibia; For Phyllis Westra, who is hospitalized at Swedish with pneumonia, and mourns the death of her son Rick, who died on November 13; For Pat Westra, nephew of Flo, whose wife Gerry died of brain cancer on Sunday, November 9; For Cindy Fowler and her sister, Peggy Daniel, at the unexpected death of their cousin, Darrell Kirchner, in South Dakota on Monday, November 10; For Starla Moltz; For Susan Price, at Encompass Health with pneumonia; For Bill Burchett, who has a fractured vertebra from a fall; For 3-year-old Jordan Loptien, great-granddaughter of Don and Marilyn Loptien and Rita Kratzer. Jordan is in treatment for leukemia. For Al and Madonna Forney's grandson, C.J. Earhart, whose cancer has returned; For little Charlie James Niederbrach, grandson of Scott and Dana Niederbrach, born three months early; For Michael Lawrenz's grandmother, who is battling cancer; For the people of Haiti, and for the children living there; For peace in the Middle East and Ukraine; For wisdom and discernment for world leaders; For God to send His Holy Spirit on all believers for strengthening of faith and witness.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving:** For the safe arrival of Don and Marilyn Loptien's new grandson, Jett Edward, first child of their daughter, Kayla, and her husband, Andrew. Jett was born on Wednesday, November 19 in Alliance, NE, weighing 6 pounds 3 ounces! Many blessings to him and to the Loptien family!

**Time again to rise up as prayer warriors** for the women and men in prisons. Prison Fellowship has a program called Grow InPrison. They have 229 small groups in different facilities with 5000 participants in 2024. Specific prayer requests:

That those in the Grow program will see transformation in their life as they turn to our Great Physician, Comforter and Counselor. That they will open both their hearts and minds to Christ and walk in His purpose.

For those who are being released that they will stay faithful to Christ and be witnesses for Him as they find home churches and ministries.

Also, pray for Prison Fellowship to find open doors at new prison facilities and donations to provide Bibles and curriculum. At this time of Thanksgiving, I am so very grateful for your faithful prayers, your dedication to our needs and your walk with Christ through Ascension. Pax Christi, Jude

| <b><u>Attendance</u></b> | <b>Service Time</b> | <b>Attendees</b> |            |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|
| Saturday, 11/15          | 4:00 pm             | 57               |            |
| Sunday, 11/16            | 8:00 am             | 107              |            |
|                          | 10:30 am            | 78               |            |
|                          |                     |                  | Total: 242 |

**Online Views** (as of November 18) for November 9: 139 views.

| <b><u>Stewardship</u></b> | November 15-16 | Year-to-Date (YTD) |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Budgeted Revenue          | \$14,000.00    | \$636,000.00       |
| Received Amount           | \$40,693.00    | \$644,030.00       |

**Calendar (Saturday, November 22 - Sunday, November 30):**

|               |                |  |
|---------------|----------------|--|
| Sat. (11-22)  | 9:00 am – Noon | Set up for Ladies Guild Bake & Craft Sale      |
|               | 3:00 pm        | Saturday Bible Study                           |
|               | 4:00 pm        | Traditional Worship with Holy Communion        |
| Sun. (11-23)  | 8:00 am        | Traditional Worship with Holy Communion        |
|               | 9:15 am        | Ladies Guild Craft & Bake Sale                 |
|               | 10:30 am       | Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion       |
| Mon. (11-24)  |                | EDP Thanksgiving Break                         |
| Tues. (11-25) |                | EDP Break                                      |
|               | 9:30 am        | Ladies Bible Study                             |
|               | 7:00 pm        | Elders Meeting                                 |
| Weds.(11-26)  |                | EDP Break                                      |
|               | 10:00 am       | Bible Study with Pastor Ginkel                 |
|               | 7:00 pm        | Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service               |
| Thurs.(11-27) |                | <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b> – Church Office Closed |
| Fri. (11-28)  |                | EDP Break – Church Office Closed               |
| Sat. (11-29)  | 8:30 am        | Sanctuary Decorating                           |
|               | 3:00 pm        | Saturday Bible Study                           |
|               | 4:00 pm        | Traditional Worship with Holy Communion        |
| Sun. (11-30)  |                | <b>FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT</b>                  |
|               | 8:00 am        | Traditional Worship with Holy Communion        |
|               | 9:15 am        | Adult Bible Class / Sunday School              |
|               | 10:30 am       | Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion       |