

receive, experience & share God's endless love

# **News & Updates**

January 2024

## IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

You will be notified by Constant Contact email in the event of any building closings or service cancellations. If you know someone who is not currently signed up for the Newsletter in Constant Contact, please let them know. They can sign up by contacting the office at officealc900@gmail.com.

## **Pastor's Corner**

The Glory of Epiphany

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 24-25 (NRSVUE)

When we think of Epiphany, we often think of the Feast of Epiphany on January 6. This is the day where we read together from the



Gospel of Matthew how the Magi—these wise and rich intellectuals from the East—traveled to visit baby Jesus in Bethlehem. But Epiphany is much more than simply one day in the church. It is a good theme that can lead us all the way to Ash Wednesday.

For six Sundays, we get to dwell in the epiphanies which reveal to us the glory of God through Jesus Christ. Starting with Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River and ending with the transfiguration, the lectionary begs us to contemplate how the glory of God is all-powerful, all-knowing, both out-of-time and yet completely in control of all time. It is *this* glory which comes down to not only meet us, but will reach its pinnacle of power on the cross. This season of time after epiphany will beg us to examine what it means to glorify the God who loves us this way.

As we move through these weeks of worship together, I invite you to contemplate on the following: Who is God *for you*? And how does your experience and knowledge of God influence your understanding of Jesus?

May we walk through these days with wonder and joy for how the glory was made known to us through Christ.

Pr. Kayla

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**



Please save the date for our annual congregational meeting:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, directly after worship at 11AM.

All are invited to attend as we celebrate what God has done

in this past year of ministry together and prayerfully discern what God is calling us to do in this new year.

#### **FAMILY NIGHT**

Our next Family Night will be Monday, January 15th at 5:45PM - 7:15PM. This is an interactive way to worship, serve our neighbors, and *be* together. Designed for all ages and all people. Come worship with us!





### THANK YOU!

On behalf of Ascension's Staff, thank you for your generous year-end gift to each of us. It is a joy to be in ministry together!

# **Pray for our Nominating Committee**

As the ALC Nominating Committee begins their work to support the mission of the Ascension Lutheran Church, please remember to be in prayer for them.

Gracious God, our Nominating Committee will hold their first meeting this week. We give you thanks for those who serve on this committee. Inspire and guide them as they prayerfully consider leaders for our congregation who will lead us towards fulfilling your mission. Open our hearts to serve you as leaders and to support those called to lead. In Christ, we pray. Amen