

**December 29, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Christmas**  
**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**  
**Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino**

*"Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ's love"*



**Prelude, Welcome, Greeting and Announcements**

**Invitation to Worship**     *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*     Hymn #60

Leader: Let us pray together,

**All: Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the life of Jesus who came to share our humanity and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*Leader: The students and pastor at the University of Oxford, England, developed this special celebration. The traditional hymns, song and familiar scripture readings help us hear again the story of God's loving purpose from the first days of our sin until the glorious salvation brought to us through the baby Jesus.*

***A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** is the Christmas Eve service held in King's College Chapel, University of Cambridge. The Festival was introduced in 1918 to bring a more imaginative approach to worship. It was first broadcast in 1928 and is now broadcast to millions of people around the world. The service includes carols and readings from the Bible.*

*The opening carol is always 'Once in Royal David's City'. We will begin with that carol today and continue with traditional hymns and some of our own musical selections. Please enjoy.*

**First Lesson:** Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19. God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

**Carol:** *"Once in Royal David's City"*     Red Hymnal #41 vs 1 & 2

**Second Lesson:** Genesis 22:15-18. God's promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.

**Carol:** *"Make Room"*

**Third Lesson:** Isaiah 9:2-7. The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

**Carol:** *"His Name is Wonderful"*

**Fourth Lesson:** Micah 5:2-5a. The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.

**Carol:** *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*     Hymn #41 vs 1 & 2

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 1:26-35, 38. The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.

**Carol:** *"Mary's Boy Child"*

**Sixth Lesson:** Luke 2:1-7. *Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.*

**Carol:** ***“What Child is This?” with “This Is Our God”***

**Seventh Lesson:** Luke 2:8-16. *The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.*

**Carol:** ***“The First Noel”*** Hymn #56 vs 1 & 2

**Eighth Lesson:** Matthew 2:1-11. *The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.*

**Carol:** ***“Star of the East”***

**Ninth Lesson:** John 1:1-14. *John unfolds the great mystery of Emmanuel, God with us, becoming like us, to live among us.*

**Carol:** ***“Immanuel with What a Beautiful Name”***

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**Sharing of the Peace**

Leader: Now may the peace of the baby Jesus be with all of you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

**Prayers of the People of God**

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Following each petition, the following words may be used)*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**Congregation: Hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**Christmas Blessing**

**All: May Jesus, Mighty God, establish and uphold us in righteousness. May Jesus, Prince of Peace, sustain us in love. May Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, grant us wisdom and grace, now and forever. Amen.**

**Closing Song**            ***“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”***            Hymn #70

**Sending**

Leader: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**All: “Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ’s love.”**

**Postlude**

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED, OUR SERVICE BEGINS!**

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**\*\*Please place your offering in the basket at the back of the sanctuary as you enter or exit.\*\***

## **December 29 - January 5, 2024 Announcements**

### **TODAY, December 29**

8:30 am - Bible Study  
9:30 am - Lessons and Carols  
Worship Service  
After Worship Fellowship/  
Birthday Sunday

### **Monday, December 30**

6:30 pm - NO Bible Study



### **Tuesday, December 31**

NEW YEAR'S EVE  
9:00 am - NO Bible Study

### **Wed, January 1, 2025**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!  
NO Confirmation or Church  
School

### **Sunday, January 5**

8:30 am - Bible Study  
9:30 am - Worship Service  
After Worship - Fellowship  
Meal: Scalloped  
Potatoes & Ham



**Welcome to all visitors!**

Thank you for worshipping with us today.  
Please sign the guestbook in the entryway.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- ❖ **January 12, 2025 -**
  - Tree Un-Trimming after Worship
- ❖ **January 19, 2025 -**
  - Annual Meeting and Potluck after worship
- ❖ **February 1, 2025 -**
  - Pizza Making
- ❖ **March 14, 2025 -**
  - Fish Fry



### **Life's Milestones Donations**

Received last Sunday for Special Projects:

- Loud offering - \$26.00
- Member Donation - \$500.00



### **SCRIP Cards**

Consider giving prepaid Scrip cards as gifts and you'll be earning money for Ascension while you, your family and friends shop. Please complete a sheet found in the back of the church and return it to Carrie, Rita or Denise.

All proceeds go to the Special Projects Fund. Thank you for supporting this program. You are making a difference!



### **\*\*ANNOUNCING A NEW FUNDRAISER\*\***

## **2025 FUNDRAISER**

***Give a little, give a lot,  
Give for our new parking lot!***

**January Question:**  
**What is the total of your birth year numbers added up? (If I was born in 1971, I would add up the numbers - - 1+9+7+1=18. Therefore I would give \$18.)**





### Attention Committee Chairs

All committee reports for the Annual Meeting need to be emailed to Denise in the church office by Monday, January 6, 2025. Thank you!



### Prayer List

Alice Mueller, Dave & Sally Richter,  
Pat Zuiches, Arnie Kloes, Russell Kloes,  
Beck & Rosie Pues, Carl Schoettler,  
Linda Ogi, Kevin Conradt  
The Family of Connie Rohrer (Dave & Lois Rohrer's  
Daughter-in-law)

*\*\*Please contact Denise in the office if you would like a name added to the prayer list. Names will be listed for a month unless you indicate otherwise. \*\**



### Prayers for the Congregation

The Champions of Prayer are hoping that you will join us in praying for every member of our Ascension Family. Each Sunday we will list the names of those you should hold up in prayer for the week. **In the months with 29-31 days, we would ask that you continue praying and ask God to guide and protect our churches and church leaders, our military, our country, the world leaders of all nations and other concerns that are personal to you.** The power of prayer is amazing and we know we will see and feel the love of others on the day we are prayed for. We invite you to join us in our prayer walk and daily conversations with God.

### 5th Week of December

Protection for our churches and church leaders, Our Military, Our Country, World Leaders of all nations, and all concerns that are personal to you.

<u>Sunday, December 29, 2024</u>	<u>Sunday, January 5, 2025</u>
<b>9:30 AM Lessons &amp; Carols Worship Service</b>	<b>9:30 AM Worship Service</b>
Communion: <i>No Communion</i>	Communion: Pastor Marcia Sabin
Reader: Pastor Mark Sabin	Reader: Denise Klemp
Money Counter: <i>Volunteer</i>	Money Counter: Ruthann Meiers
Altar Care: Jean Conradt	Altar Care: Jean Conradt

If you are unable to be here on the date you are assigned, please find a replacement. Thank you.

### **Our Mission Statement:**

*"Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ's Love"*

**Church Office Phone** 715-758-8312

**Church EMail:** [ascensionavarino@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionavarino@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.ascensionavarino.com](http://www.ascensionavarino.com)

**Pastor Mark Sabin:** Cell: 715-340-3670 Home Phone: 715-445-2097

**Visitation Pastor Marcia Sabin** Cell: 715-340-5951

**Church Office Hours:**

Tuesday 1:00-5:00 pm