

May 2nd, 2021
5th Sunday of Easter



8470 Landen Drive Maineville, Ohio

*At Abiding Word
We gather around the Word (worship)
We grow in the Word (education)
And we share the Word with the world (outreach).*



Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Synod
513.677.9357 abidingword.com

Pastor -Troy Jacobs

937.503.3333 welstroyjacobs@yahoo.com

Welcome!

To all who have gathered here this morning we welcome you in the name of Christ our Lord. Through him we have access to God in boldness and confidence. (Ephesians 3:12) As a safety precaution there will be no after service coffee or refreshments. If you would like to socialize responsibly before and after the service, please use the fellowship hall. To allow for social distancing, please don't linger in front of the kitchen and bathroom.

Lutheran Worship

The Lutheran church is a liturgical church. Lutherans believe that the gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saved sinners, but also the power God uses to create and strengthen faith in Jesus. Lutheran worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. Through the sermon, Lord's Supper, in specially selected Bible readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and confessions, the liturgy points to Jesus as the Savior of all.

As we adjust to live worship

We are taking many precautions to make our regular Sunday service as safe as possible. In keeping with our Governor's mandate, please wear a facemask while inside the building. Masks are available on the table by the bulletin announcements, if you forget your mask. If you socialize before or after the service please do so outside or in the fellowship hall. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding worship or ministry please inform Pastor or our elder, Ken Leib.

HYMN: HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR



1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing Star! The na - tions see and
 2 O high - est joy by mor - tals won, True Son of God and
 3 O might - y Fa - ther, in your Son You loved me ere you
 4 Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, be - gin - ning
 5 Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of



hail a - far The light in Ju - dah shin - ing.
 Mar - y's Son, The high - born King of a - ges!
 had be - gun This an - cient world's foun - da - tion.
 with - out end, The first and last, e - ter - nal!
 mu - sic ring In God's high prais - es blend - ed.



O Da - vid's Son of Ja - cob's race, My Bride - groom
 In your blest bod - y let me be, E'en as the
 Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in
 And you at length— O glo - rious grace— Will take me
 Christ will be with me all the way, To - day, to -



and my King of grace, For you my heart is pin - ing.
 branch is in the tree, Your life my life sup - ply - ing.
 spir - it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.
 to that ho - ly place, The home of joys su - per - nal.
 mor - row, ev - 'ry day Till trav - 'ling days are end - ed.



Low - ly, Ho - ly, Great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious
 Sigh - ing, Cry - ing For the sa - vor Of your fa - vor
 What bliss Is this! He is liv - ing, To me giv - ing
 A - men, A - men! Come and meet me, Quick - ly greet me!
 Sing out, Ring out Tri - umph glo - rious, O vic - to - rious



Prince of gra - ces, Fill - ing all the heav'n - ly pla - ces.
 Rest - ing nev - er Till I rest in you for - ev - er.
 Life for - ev - er; Noth - ing me from him can sev - er.
 With deep yearn - ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing.
 Chos - en na - tion; Praise the God of your sal - va - tion.

Stand

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

FIRST LESSON

ACTS 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road--the desert road--that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 67



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God. Let all the peo - ple praise you.

- M: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us,
C: **that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.**
- M: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you.
C: **May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.**
- M: May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you.
C: **Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us.**
- M: God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.
C: **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**

REFRAIN

SECOND LESSON

1 JOHN 3:18-24

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Verse of the Day:

C: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord. Alleluia. (John 14:6 cf. NIV)

GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: WITH HIGH DELIGHT LET US UNITE



1 With high de - light Let us u - nite In songs of sweet
 2 True God, he first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
 3 Let prais - es ring; Give thanks and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, Each take your part,
 all sub - du - ing. His en - e - my Shall van - quished lie;
 ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us free
 His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall be
 To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall his love



For - ev - er, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
 Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Said he, who
 Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
 gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
 free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.
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Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART (448 448 44 44 8) *Cinquante Pseaumes*, Geneva, 1543, alt.

Live in Jesus' Love

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Financial offerings are a regular, proportionate, and joyful response of love by members of a Christian congregation. Our offerings are given to further the work of God's kingdom here at Abiding Word and around the world through the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to support our ministry.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, you sent your Son into the world not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. When he had offered the one sacrifice for sins, you raised him to glory. Grant us a sure faith in him that we also may possess the blessed hope of eternal life. For the multitude of your mercies, we thank you, and pray that we may ever be mindful that every good and perfect gift is from above.

We thank you for the revelation of your divine truth in Jesus Christ. Pour your Spirit upon us that he may guide us into all truth. We thank you for the gift of your Church and the fellowship of believers. Keep us united in the bond of peace, shower your blessings upon us, protect us from all our enemies, and prosper all our labors. Open our minds to see the work you laid before us to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations.

We thank you for the gift of our homes. Let your Spirit dwell in each house that love and tranquility, joy and consolation, strength and virtue may reign in undiminished glory. For the gifts of our daily bread and all things needful for the wants and support of this present life, we give you thanks.

For your people, we pray, O Lord. Heal the sick, strengthen the weak, and give comfort to the weary. Show them the power and strength of your unfailing love.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

Hear our prayers and grant that finally we may be received into everlasting communion with you and your only Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN: THIS IS MY WILL



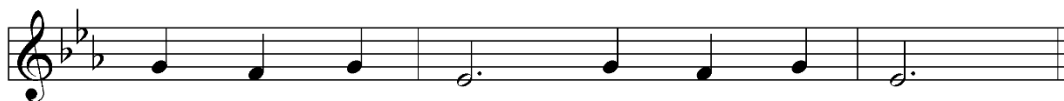
1 "This is my will, my one com - mand,
 2 "No great - er love can an - y have
 3 "I call you now no long - er slaves;
 4 "You chose not me, but I chose you,
 5 "All that you ask my Fa - ther dear



That love should dwell a - mong you all.
 Than that one die to save his friends.
 No slave knows all the mas - ter does.
 That you should go and bear much fruit.
 For my name's sake you shall re - ceive.



This is my will, that you should love
 You are my friends if you o - bey
 I call you friends, for all I hear
 I chose you out that you in me
 This is my will, my one com - mand,



As I have shown that I love you.
 What I com - mand that you should do.
 My Fa - ther say, you hear from me.
 Should bear much fruit that will a - bide.
 That love should dwell in each, in all."

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Tune: SUANTRAI (LM) Gaelic melody, c. 19th century.