

March 6, 2022  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent



Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**  
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**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.

***SERIES THEME CRUSHED***

When someone is devastated or defeated or despondent we speak of him being "crushed." It could be due to some agonizing loss or unrealized dreams. It could be due to carrying a crushingly heavy load of guilt over some past mistake. In a broken world, it is simply a matter of time before we feel crushed. This is why we need Lent. The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring: "lengten," when the days grow longer. For 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. Believers humbly acknowledge that sin is the ultimate source of all the crushing moments in life. Our sin even crushed Christ. Yet, on Easter Sunday, Jesus took up his life again. Our Savior crushed both death and the serpent's head. Yes, Lent is a solemn season. But it is also a season of great hope. With the psalmist we say, "The Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit."

**UNCOVERED MESSENGERS: OUR TEMPTATION IS CRUSHED BY CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE**

It was a custom known as "battle by champion." Two opposing armies would each send out their best warrior to fight each other. That is what we see this week. The demons send their champion: Satan. Humanity's best warrior, Jesus Christ, steps forward to meet him. In this fight he does not use his divine power. He uses the same weapon we have, God's Word. Because Christ fought the battle against Satan as one of us, he won that battle for all of us. Jesus is our perfect substitute. Even as the devil still seethes in rage against us, we can face him and his temptations unafraid, confident that our champion has already won the victory.

*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: Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

*Be seated*

## FIRST READING

## 1 SAMUEL 17:4-11,32-40,45-49

<sup>4</sup> A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span. <sup>5</sup> He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels <sup>6</sup> on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. <sup>7</sup> His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

<sup>8</sup> Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." <sup>10</sup> Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." <sup>11</sup> On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

<sup>32</sup> David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him."

<sup>33</sup> Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."

<sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, <sup>35</sup> I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. <sup>36</sup> Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. <sup>37</sup> The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."

<sup>38</sup> Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. <sup>39</sup> David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them.

"I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. <sup>40</sup> Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

<sup>45</sup> David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup> This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. <sup>47</sup> All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

<sup>48</sup> As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. <sup>49</sup> Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

**SECOND LESSON**

**HEBREWS 4:14-16**

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**M:** The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work. (1 John 3:8)

*Stand*

**GOSPEL**

**LUKE 4:1-13**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

<sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup>The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup>If you worship me, it will all be yours.”

<sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

<sup>9</sup>The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup>For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

<sup>11</sup>they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

<sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

**M:** This is the gospel of our Lord.



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

*Be seated*

**SERMON**

**HEBREWS 4:14-16**

**HOLD FIRMLY TO YOUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST**

*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. Your offering may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrance. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to support our ministry.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

*Be seated*

<b>HYMN: BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE</b>
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*We will not sing the repeated final phrase.*

*Stand*

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: A - men.

### 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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

<b>HYMN: JESUS, STILL LEAD ON</b>
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