

August 28, 2022
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



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) Please join us for the picnic after the service.

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.

HARD TRUTH

“Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem” (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. If you expect Jesus to use these final teaching opportunities to share happy thoughts, you don't know him well. With a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even if we do not want to hear them. As Jesus teaches hard truth, he challenges conventional wisdom. He reverses the normal and natural order of things. This should not surprise us, considering this Teacher's life and work are the opposite of what one would expect. When the truth is hard to hear, the first temptation is to deny it. We cannot do that with Jesus' teaching, for he never lies.

When the truth is hard to hear, the second temptation is to simply ignore it. To do that with Jesus is to court eternal death. Thus, Jesus' words contain an urgent warning: Listen! Take to heart what Jesus says! For his Word, though it contains hard truth, gives eternal life.

THE HUMBLE WILL BE EXALTED; THE EXALTED WILL BE HUMBLD

Everyone knows that humility is a positive trait and pride is a negative one. So, why bother talking about what we already know? Because in spite of that knowledge, we still helplessly fall into the trap of pride. We cannot help but think that our ascent to the exalted status we desire is our responsibility. We even take our exaltation into our own hands, either by treating poorly those we believe we can stand on top of or by showing favoritism to those we believe can provide us with upward mobility. Rather than minimizing pride as a sin that is common or harmless, Jesus' words today confront us with this hard truth. Those who exalt themselves will be humbled by God. But Jesus also gives us the promise we need to be freed from pride's trap. Our exaltation doesn't need to be our responsibility because Jesus has already made it his. Those who humble themselves Christ will exalt.



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Glad - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en To our
 4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f'ings Which on
 5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine of your
 hum - blest char - i - ty In your own mys - te - rious
 ev - 'ry hand we view Chan - nels are for gifts and
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 sen - tence, "You have done it un - to me."
 of - f'ings Due by sol - emn right to you,
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That you
 Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we
 Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the
 you, at length be - lieve That more hap - py and more
 need what we can do, Say - ing by your poor and
 may not choose but pay Lest that face of love and
 stay our souls on you; But, oh, best of all your



e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.
 bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
 need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"
 pit - y Turn from us a - noth - er day.
 gra - ces, With your love our love re - new.

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.



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God Through all our
3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther



hands and voic - es, Who won - drous things has done,
life be near us, With ev - er - joy - ful hearts
now be giv - en, The Son, and him who reigns



In whom his world re - joic - es, Who from our
And bless - ed peace to cheer us And keep us
With them in high - est heav - en, The one e -



moth - er's arms Has blessed us on our way With
in his grace And guide us when per - plexed And
ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore! For



count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
free us from all ills In this world and the next.
thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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.

FIRST READING

PROVERBS 25:6-7a

Solomon provides common sense about humility and pride.

⁶Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
and do not claim a place among his great men;

⁷it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.

PSALM 112B

How blessed are you who fear the Lord, Your joy is found in his commands,
Your children shall be known abroad, Their fame shall spread across the lands;
Prosperity shall they receive, Their goodness last beyond their deeds,
God's light eternal casts its beam On acts of generosity.

How blessed are you who fear the Lord, Your faith remains secure and strong;
When trouble threatens all around, Your steadfast heart to God belongs.
Against the foe, you find relief, You lavish gifts on those in need,
As wayward hearts observe your ways, But leave dismayed, with nothing gained.

SECOND READING

JAMES 2:1-13

James teaches that showing favoritism treats others with judgment rather than mercy, putting us at risk of receiving the same from God.

¹My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of

breaking all of it. ¹¹For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

LUKE 14:1, 7-14

Jesus teaches some ways to demonstrate humility and promises that those who humble themselves will be exalted.

¹One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior,
 2 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us,
 3 Bind us all as one to - geth - er
 4 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers,



Source of life and truth and grace, Word made
 King of love and Prince of Peace; Hush the
 In your Church's sa - cred fold, Weak and
 So may we for oth - ers live. Free - ly



flesh, whose birth a - mong us, Hon - ors
 storm of strife and pas - sion; Bid its
 health - y, poor and wealth - y, Sad and
 have your gifts been grant - ed; Free - ly



all our hu - man race, You our head,
 cru - el dis - cords cease. By your pa -
 joy - ful, young and old. Is there want -
 may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold



who, throned in glo - ry, For your own will
 tient years of toil - ing, By your si - lent
 or pain or sor - row? Make us all the
 and yours the sil - ver, Yours the wealth of



ev - er plead: Fill us with your love and
 hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered thirst for
 bur - den share. Are there spir - its crushed and
 land and sea; We but stew - ards of your



pit - y; Heal our wrongs and help our need.
 plea - sure; Stem our self - ish greed for gain.
 bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.

Christian Conduct in the World

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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O Lord God, we praise you for the glorious gospel of your grace. You sent your Son to die for our sins and rise again on the third day that we through him might be saved. Grant that we may ever repent of our sinfulness, turn to you for forgiveness, and be cleansed of all iniquity. Give us true humility of spirit. And so that we be neither barren nor unfruitful in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ, fill our hearts and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Bestow the Holy Spirit upon your Church, O Lord, that we may go forth into all the world bearing your precious gospel and preaching Jesus Christ among all nations for the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

Pour out your blessings on our homes. Lead all parents to train up their children to know, love and fear you, that all may live together in peace, kindness and understanding.

Hear the prayers of the afflicted, the sorrowful and those who mourn, the needy and the homeless, the wounded and all in pain, the anxious and the despairing, and lead them by your mercy out of all their adversities.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here

These and all other things necessary for us, grant by the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ, the bright Morning Star of our salvation. 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.**



1 For the fruit of his cre - a - tion, Thanks be to
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's
 God. For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks



be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
 will be done. In our world - wide task of car - ing,
 be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, Fu - ture
 For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, In the
 For the truths that still con - found us, Most of



needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
 har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 all that Love has found us, Thanks be to God.

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Tune: AR HYD Y NOS (84 84 888 4) Welsh melody, 18th century.

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.



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.



1 May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior And the
2 So may we a - bide in un - ion With each
3 Now with all the saints in heav - en Thanks and



Fa - ther's bound - less love With the Ho - ly Spir - it's
oth - er and the Lord, Gath - ered here in blest com -
praise to you we sing, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



fa - vor Rest up - on us from a - bove.
mun - ion By the pow - er of his Word.
Spir - it, Three in One, our tri - une King.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-2, alt.; Carroll T. Andrews, b. 1918, st. 3, alt.
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Tune: STUTTGART (87 87) Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716, alt.