

October 23rd, 2022
Twentieth 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
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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) Join us after the service for coffee. To allow for social distancing, please don't linger in front of the kitchen and bathroom.

HOLY COMMUNION

Our worship service is open to all. The forgiveness received in the Lord's Supper is proclaimed to all throughout the service. However, the Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is to be received by those who have been instructed about its meaning and the unity it expresses.

*For this reason, we ask that guests speak with the Pastor
before partaking of the Holy Supper.*

So that you can be sure that unity of faith and teaching exists we invite you to participate in a Bible Information Course. This class will prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper with us. Please contact Pastor about class times.

FAITH DEMONSTRATED THROUGH TOTAL DEPENDENCE

Last week we heard Jesus ask, "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8). As we consider Jesus' question, it might be easy to assume that any decrease in faith we observe in the world corresponds with an increase in secularism and disdain for God's Word. That type of unbelief certainly can be observed in our world. However, today we see there is another type of unbelief, a type that looks upright and moral. The absence of the faith Jesus seeks isn't always complete and total rejection of God or the Bible or even Jesus. It is possible for someone to have respect for Scripture and Christ, yet ultimately trust in his own goodness when it comes to his relationship with God. It is natural for us to want to believe that our relationship with God revolves around our obedience to his commands. We desperately desire to believe that, if we just apply the right spiritual advice and effort, we can earn God's approval and eternal inheritance. This, too, is unbelief, just as much as paganism or secularism. This week Jesus uses God's law for its chief purpose: to expose sin and crush our natural pride. In Christ's hands God's law is a powerful tool used to shape in us the faith he seeks—one totally dependent on God to do what only he can do.

*The service continues with **The Service: Setting One** on page 154 of the hymnal.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord, keep your household, the church, in continual godliness, and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; 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 READING**DEUTERONOMY 10:12-22**

In his farewell address, Moses reminds the Israelites that they always have been and forever will be totally dependent on God's grace.

¹²And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

¹⁴To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. ¹⁶Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. ¹⁷For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. ¹⁸He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. ¹⁹And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. ²⁰Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. ²¹He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. ²²Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

SECOND READING**1 JOHN 2:15-17**

St. John encourages us to love and depend on our heavenly Father, not the world.

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 18:18-30

What is impossible with man is possible with God. That is why we are totally dependent on him.

¹⁸A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’”

²¹“All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

²²When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

²⁸Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

²⁹“Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

<i>HYMN: WHAT IS THE WORLD TO ME</i>	<i>717</i>
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SERMON on LUKE 18:18-30

Mission Impossible

The service continues on page 162.

<i>DISTRIBUTION HYMN: IN THIS HOLY, BLEST COMMUNION</i>	<i>669</i>
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<i>HYMN: LORD, NOW YOU LET YOUR SERVANT</i>	<i>951</i>
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The service continues on page 170.

<i>HYMN: WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS</i>	<i>828</i>
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