

November 6th, 2022
Twenty-second 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).*



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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) Please join us for coffee after the service. To allow for social distancing, please don't linger in front of the kitchen and bathroom.

THE RESURRECTION PRODUCES COMFORT FOR THE DYING

Jesus has reached his journey's end. Earth was never his permanent home. His plan had always been to forge a way out for himself and his people. After dedicating nearly half of his gospel to the journey Jesus resolutely began (Luke 9:51), Luke signaled when it had reached its completion (Luke 19:28). As the church recalled during the first half of the year, Jesus' departure to his final destination is now complete.

While Jesus has reached his journey's end, we have not reached ours. Jesus has departed, but he has left us behind to wait and watch for his return. As we wait and watch, we have perhaps no greater gift from Jesus than the gift of hope. Hope produces joy amid sorrow and perseverance amid suffering. Hope produces patience and endurance. Not just any hope will do, however. The better future to which we look forward must be good enough that we are content as we wait for it. The better future to which we look forward must be certain enough that we are confident as we watch for it. During the remaining weeks of the church year, we will hear some of Jesus' words spoken closest to his departure. As we do, they will give us exactly that kind of hope.

The future Jesus has in store for us at his return begins with a resurrection. The Christian hope is not for some immaterial eternity in some nebulous, spiritual realm. The Christian hope is the reunion of body and soul and an eternity in a new, physical realm. Jesus did not come to pave the way to some sort of consolation prize, an eternity to which our souls could escape and leave the irreparably broken, physical world behind. He came to make all things new and restore them to what they were always intended to be. He departed to his heavenly home, body and soul together. Because he did, he has paved the way for a similar exodus for all who believe in him.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Living God, your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace to lay hold of your promises and live forever in your presence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



FIRST READING

ISAIAH 65:17-25

¹⁷“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.

The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create,

for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.

¹⁹I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people;

the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.

²⁰“Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days,

or an old man who does not live out his years;

the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child;

the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat.

For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people;

my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;

for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them.

²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

²⁵The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox,

and dust will be the serpent’s food.

They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,”

says the LORD.

SECOND READING

REVELATION 22:1-5

¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.
Alleluia.

Stand

GOSPEL

LUKE 20:27-38

²⁷Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question. ²⁸“Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁹Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless. ³⁰The second ³¹and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children. ³²Finally, the woman died too. ³³Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?”

³⁴Jesus replied, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. ³⁵But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, ³⁶and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God’s children, since they are children of the resurrection. ³⁷But in the account of the burning bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord ‘the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ ³⁸He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.”

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY: WHAT JOY TO JOIN THE CHORUS

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SERMON

LUKE 20:27-38

Is There Life After Death?

- 1. Man’s reason denies it (vv. 27–33)**
- 2. Jesus describes it (vv. 34–36)**
- 3. Scripture teaches it (vv. 37, 38)**

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

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.

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.

**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.

