

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent



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 service for coffee. Also, join us for Sunday School at 10:45 and Adult Bible Study at 11:00 am.

### **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.*

**HYMN: WHEN IN THE HOUR OF UTMOST NEED**

**723**

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

### **FIRST READING**

**2 KINGS 4:17-37**

<sup>17</sup>But the woman became pregnant, and the next year about that same time she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her.

<sup>18</sup>The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. <sup>19</sup>He said to his father, "My head! My head!"

His father told a servant, "Carry him to his mother." <sup>20</sup>After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. <sup>21</sup>She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

<sup>22</sup>She called her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return."

<sup>23</sup>"Why go to him today?" he asked. "It's not the New Moon or the Sabbath."

"That's all right," she said.

<sup>24</sup>She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, "Lead on; don't slow down for me unless I tell you." <sup>25</sup>So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! There’s the Shunammite! <sup>26</sup>Run to meet her and ask her, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?’ ” “Everything is all right,” she said.

<sup>27</sup>When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, “Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why.”

<sup>28</sup>“Did I ask you for a son, my lord?” she said. “Didn’t I tell you, ‘Don’t raise my hopes?’”

<sup>29</sup>Elisha said to Gehazi, “Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don’t greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy’s face.”

<sup>30</sup>But the child’s mother said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her.

<sup>31</sup>Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy’s face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, “The boy has not awakened.”

<sup>32</sup>When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. <sup>33</sup>He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. <sup>34</sup>Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy’s body grew warm. <sup>35</sup>Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

<sup>36</sup>Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, “Call the Shunammite.” And he did. When she came, he said, “Take your son.” <sup>37</sup>She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.

## **PSALM 130F: FROM DEPTHS OF WOE I CRY TO THEE**

**(Page 708)**

### **SECOND READING**

**ROMANS 8:11-19**

<sup>11</sup>And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

<sup>14</sup>For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup>The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. <sup>17</sup>Now if we are children, then we are heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

<sup>18</sup>I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

**GOSPEL****JOHN 11:17-27, 38-45**

<sup>17</sup>On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup>and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup>“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

<sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

<sup>24</sup>Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup>and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

<sup>27</sup>“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

<sup>38</sup>Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup>“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

<sup>40</sup>Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

<sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

<sup>43</sup>When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup>Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

**HYMN: O GOD, O LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH****571****SERMON on 2 KINGS 4:17–37***The service continues on page 162.***DISTRIBUTION HYMN: SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS****663****HYMN: LORD, NOW YOU LET YOUR SERVANT****951***The service continues on page 170.***HYMN: CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER****502**