

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
24<sup>th</sup> 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. Join us for Sunday School at 10:45am and Bible Study at 11:00am.

### **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.*

### **THEME OF THE DAY** **A TIME FOR WATCHFULNESS**

Imagine you are planning to take the family out to dinner. You all have to wait on someone to get ready. Minute after minute passes. What can happen in that situation? It is easy to focus on something else and completely forget the original goal. When that family member is finally ready, you've become immersed in a movie. Or perhaps, as you were waiting, you grew drowsy and fell asleep.

As we wait for Christ to return, as day after day passes, it can be easy to get distracted, to lose vigilance, to become spiritually drowsy. God forbid that Christ should return and find us spiritually asleep. Today we are reminded that the time in between Christ's first and second coming is a time for watchfulness. The Church prayers, "Lord God, keep us every watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven."

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**CONFESSION**

CW 154

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **♪ GLORIA♪**

**1 To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth,  
for God has shown his favor in Jesus' holy birth!  
Almighty God and Father, our humble thanks we bring;  
we worship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**2 O Lamb of God exalted, you take all sin away;  
extend to us your mercy and hear us as we pray.  
With God the Holy Spirit, at God the Father's throne,  
you reign, O Christ, forever, for you are Lord alone!**

## **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be Seated*

## FIRST READING

## ISAIAH 52:1–6

<sup>1</sup>Awake, awake, Zion,  
clothe yourself with strength!

Put on your garments of splendor,  
Jerusalem, the holy city.

The uncircumcised and defiled  
will not enter you again.

<sup>2</sup>Shake off your dust;  
rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem.

Free yourself from the chains on your neck,  
Daughter Zion, now a captive.

<sup>3</sup>For this is what the LORD says:

“You were sold for nothing,  
and without money you will be redeemed.”

<sup>4</sup>For this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

“At first my people went down to Egypt to live;  
lately, Assyria has oppressed them.

<sup>5</sup>“And now what do I have here?” declares the LORD.

“For my people have been taken away for nothing,  
and those who rule them mock,”  
declares the LORD.

“And all day long  
my name is constantly blasphemed.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore my people will know my name;  
therefore in that day they will know  
that it is I who foretold it.

Yes, it is I.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 90D: O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST**

**CW 820**

## **SECOND READING**

## **1 THESSALONIANS 5:1–11**

<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup>for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

<sup>4</sup>But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup>For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup>He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. Alleluia.

## GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 25:1–13

<sup>1</sup>“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup>The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

<sup>6</sup>“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

<sup>7</sup>“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

<sup>9</sup>“ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

<sup>10</sup>“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

<sup>11</sup>“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

<sup>12</sup>“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

<sup>13</sup>“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

***HYMN: WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING***

**CW 486**

**SERMON on ISAIAH 52:1–6**

*Stand*

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated*



## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord God, heavenly Father, of whom and through whom and to whom are all things, to you be glory forever and ever.

We thank you, O Lord, for all your blessings: for our creation and all that exists; for the priceless gifts of body and mind and the daily provision for all the necessities of life; for the joys of home, family and friends; but above all we thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus Christ, by whom you have saved us from wrath and appointed us to salvation and eternal life. Grant that we may be filled with his Spirit and produce the fruits of faith, hope, and compassion, that we may honor you with our lives.

Open the eyes of your Church to see that Christ the Bridegroom from heaven is near and to labor with diligence by proclaiming your Word with all boldness, that many may yet be saved to the glory of your Name.

Defend our homes from the corrupting influences of the world, the devil and our own sinful flesh. Keep our parents in faith and our children in affectionate obedience.

We pray for all sorts and conditions of people, but especially for the afflicted. Lift up the weary and the wounded, touch the sick and the diseased, strengthen the aged and infirm, give hope to the depressed and the anxious, guard the frightened and oppressed. By your power give them in Christ Jesus light for their darkness and joy for their sadness.

*Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken here*

Finally, O Lord, grant us patience, that when your Son appears, we may inherit your heavenly kingdom which abides forever. In his name we pray. Amen.

# THE SACRAMENT

*Stand*

## PREFACE

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## ♪ SANCTUS ♪

**1 Sing, “Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts on high,  
your everlasting glory fills earth and sea and sky.”  
Our voices cry, “Hosanna!” Lord, hear our humble plea:  
in mercy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.**

**2 Hosanna in the highest! How blest is Christ our King,  
who died as our Redeemer, eternal life to bring!  
How blest are you, Lord Jesus, now coming in God’s name!  
“Hosanna in the highest!” our grateful hearts proclaim.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil’s power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my T body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my T blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## **♪ AGNUS ♪**

**1 O Lamb of God, once lifted high upon a cross to bleed and die,  
in perfect love you took our place—bestow on us your saving grace.**

**2 O Lamb of God, your sacrifice has cancelled sin, has paid its price;  
your perfect love will never cease—have mercy, Lord, and grant us peace.**

*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

***HYMN: JESUS COMES TODAY WITH HEALING***

**CW 668**

Stand

***HYMN: LORD, NOW YOU LET YOUR SERVANT***

**CW 951**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

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 T give you peace.

**Amen.**

***HYMN: ALL I HAVE IS CHRIST***

**CW 580**

## Acknowledgments

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