

December 13th, 2023
2nd Midweek Advent Service



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!

We welcome you in the name of Christ our Lord. Through him we have access to God in boldness and confidence. (Ephesians 3:12) As a safety precaution there will be no after service coffee or refreshments. If you would like to socialize responsibly before and after the service, please use the fellowship hall. To allow for social distancing, please don't linger in front of the kitchen and bathroom.

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.

EVENING PRAYER

Page 215 of Christian Worship

HYMN: O REJOICE, ALL CHRISTIANS LOUDLY

366

Sung in place of the song on page 216.

PSALM 85

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

- ¹ You showed favor to your land, O LORD;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- ² You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins. *Selah*
- ³ You set aside all your wrath
and turned from your fierce anger.
- ⁴ Restore us again, O God our Savior,
and put away your displeasure toward us.
- ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger through all generations?
- ⁶ Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷ Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
- ⁸ I will listen to what God the LORD will say;
he promises peace to his people, his saints—
but let them not return to folly.
- ⁹ Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰ Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- ¹¹ Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.
- ¹² The LORD will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.
- ¹³ Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his steps.

READING**LUKE 1:39-56**

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
even as he said to our fathers."

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

<i>HYMN: MY SOUL NOW MAGNIFIES THE LORD</i>	976
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SERMON ON LUKE 1:39-56

<i>HYMN: HOLY IS YOUR NAME</i>	956
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The liturgy continues on page 221 of Christian Worship.

<i>HYMN: LORD, SUPPORT US ALL DAY LONG</i>	796
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