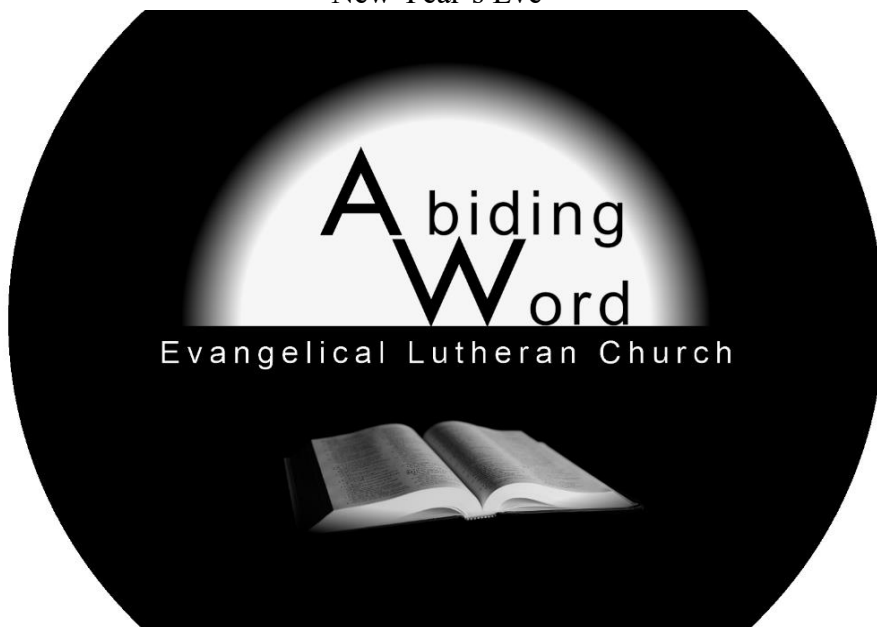


December 31, 2023
New Year's Eve



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
513.677.9357 abidingword.com

Pastor -Troy Jacobs 937.503.3333 welstroyjacobs@yahoo.com

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. Sunday School and Bible Class will resume next Sunday.

New Year's Eve is a great time to review and remember. Consider using the following prompts for great way to end the year and begin the new one.

We remember the birth of Jesus and our Christmas celebration *Luke 1:31-33; 2:7-11,19*

We remember Jesus revealed in his Epiphany as the Son of God by his great miracles
Matthew 8:24-26; 8:2-3; 15:22,28; John 11:43-45; Matthew 15:30-31

We remember Jesus sacrificed for our sins *Isaiah 53:4-6; John 19:30*

We remember the joy of celebrating the Easter *Matthew 28:5-8; John 11:25-26*

We remember our Lord's ascending to heaven *Acts 1:9-11; Ephesians 1:20-23*

We remember Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit *Acts 2:1-4,38; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 12:3*

We remember the preaching of God's Word in our church, those who were baptized this year, our own Baptism, and the Lord's Supper
2 Timothy 3:15-17; Matthew 28:19; John 3:5-6; Titus 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

We remember those who were confirmed this year and our own confirmation.
Revelation 3:20-21; 2:10b

We remember those who were married this year, our own wedding anniversary, and the joy of family
Ephesians 5:22-25,28; 6:1-4

We remember the Lord's help in time of sickness, trouble, or temptation
Romans 8:31-32,37-39

We remember those who now are living in heaven *John 10:27-30*

We give thanks and rededicate ourselves to Christ for the coming year. *Joshua 24:14-18*

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE DIALOGUE WITH CONFESSION

M: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

C: **Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity you are God.**

M: For a thousand years in your sight are like a day,

C: **Like yesterday that has gone by, or like a watch in the night. *Psalm 90:1,2,4***

(sung) **Across the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are fleeting.
We deck your altar, Lord, with light, In solemn worship meeting,
And, as the year's last hours go by, We raise to you our earnest cry,
Once more your love entreating. (CW 367:1)**

M: The LORD knows the days of the blameless. Their inheritance will last forever.

C: **They will not be ashamed in time of disaster. In days of famine they will be full.**

M: The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD.

He is their stronghold in times of stress.

C: **The LORD helps them and delivers them. He delivers them from the wicked. He saves them, because they have taken refuge in him. *Psalm 37:18,19,39,40***

(sung) **We gather up in this brief hour The mem'ry of your mercies.
Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow'r Our grateful song rehearses,
For you have been our strength and stay In many a dark and dreary day
Of sorrow and reverses. (CW 367:2)**

M: Who is a God like you, who forgives guilt, and who passes over the rebellion of the survivors from his inheritance?

C: **He does not hold onto his anger forever. He delights in showing mercy.**

M: He will have compassion on us again. He will overcome our guilty deeds.

C: **You will throw all their sins into the depths of the sea. *Micah 7:18,19***

M: Heavenly Father, you take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. With repentant hearts, therefore, we confess our sins to you, and we ask you for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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 Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**(sung) Before the cross, subdued, we bow, To you our prayers addressing,
Recounting all your mercies now And all our sins confessing.
We ask you, Lord, this coming year To keep us in your faith and fear
And crown us with your blessing. (CW 367:2)**

M: God has said: I will never leave you, and I will never forsake you.

C: **So then we say with confidence: The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid.
What will man do to me?**

M: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

C: **We do not have a permanent city here, but we are looking for the city that is coming. *Hebrews 13:5,6,8,14***

**(sung) Then, gracious God, in years to come, Whatever may betide us,
Right onward through our journey home, Oh, stay at hand to guide us,
Nor leave us till, at close of life, Safe from all peril, toil, and strife,
Heav'n shall enfold and hide us. (CW 367:5)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Eternal God, we commit to your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to your blessing and love the times to come. In the new year, abide among us with your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BE SEATED

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 51:1-6

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the Lord:

Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; ²look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was only one man, and I blessed him and made him many. ³The Lord will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the Lord. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

⁴“Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation:

Instruction will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations.

⁵My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail.

PSALM 90

Psalter page 457

SECOND READING

JAMES 4:13-17

¹³Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” ¹⁴Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” ¹⁶As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.

GOSPEL

MARK 11:1-10

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

820

SERMON

ISAIAH 51:1-6

Stand

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

M: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

C: Every day I will praise you and extol your name.

M: It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.

C: You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.

M: You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they.

C: You know what we need, and you give us all good things.

M: Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself—all these come to us from your generous hand.

C: We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.

M: We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

C: Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace.

C: We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close. 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.

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.



C: A - men.

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated