

February 25, 2024  
Second 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**  
513.677.9357      abidingword.com

Pastor -Troy Jacobs    937.503.3333    [welstroyjacobs@yahoo.com](mailto: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) Join us after the service for coffee. Also join us for Sunday School at 10:45 and 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.*

### ***RETHINKING SUFFERING UNDER THE CROSS***

We know that the cross was an instrument of torture and execution. However, Scripture also uses the term "cross" to refer to any suffering that one endures because he is believer: the painful denial of the desires of the flesh; ridicule and persecution from unbelievers; etc. This is one reason people reject religion. They see Christians struggling in life with these crosses, while non-Christians often seem perfectly happy. Even the prophet Jeremiah asked, "Why do all the faithless live at ease?" (12:1).

Today, Jesus asks us to rethink suffering under the cross. It is not pointless pain. Our crosses are not how we pay for sin. Jesus already did that on his cross. Our crosses are not redemptive, but they are constructive. Any suffering unbelievers face is only bad, a foretaste of worse to come. But the suffering believers face under the cross is only good, a way Christ connects us tightly to himself with fire-tested faith.

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

**CONFESSION**

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*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 + 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.**

## **♪ GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH ♪**

CW 157

**Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,**

**we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory,**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.**

**You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.**

**For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.**

**You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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

**JOB 1:13–22**

<sup>13</sup>One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, <sup>14</sup>a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, <sup>15</sup>and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>16</sup>While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>17</sup>While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>18</sup>While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, <sup>19</sup>when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>20</sup>At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship <sup>21</sup>and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,  
and naked I will depart.

The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;  
may the name of the LORD be praised."

<sup>22</sup>In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING**

**ROMANS 5:1–11**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup>For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup>Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

## GOSPEL

MARK 8:31–38

<sup>31</sup>He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup>But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

<sup>34</sup>Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup>What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup>Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup>If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

***HYMN: LORD, THEE I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART***

***CW 817***

**SERMON on ROMANS 5:1–11**

*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**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you created all things, both visible and invisible, by your mighty Word. Help us understand that the whole world is in your hand, and that you have set your seal of ownership on us, and put your Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

We give thanks, O Father, that you have not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ. You have called us to receive him in faith; may we open our hearts to this gracious indwelling. In him you have given us the ultimate example of love; may we walk in his steps. You have called us to worship him; may we give him our love, our praise and our adoration.

Grant that our homes may be dwellings of your Spirit. Make all who reside in them increase and abound in love toward one another. To all mothers give the grace of spiritual wisdom; to all fathers the gift of gentleness; to all children the spirit of obedience.

Grant a rich measure of comfort and patience to our sick and dying. Console those who mourn. Give courage to those who fear. Warm their hearts and dry their tears with the firm assurance of your healing power and faithful love.

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

O Lord, have mercy upon all who are here in your house this day. Forgive our transgressions. Support the weak. Correct the disobedient. Against all evil and adversity that may vex our souls or bodies, grant us your aid. These things we ask in the name of your Son who gave his life as a ransom for all. 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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## ♪ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ♪

CW 167

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:**

**heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## 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 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 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.**

### **♪ O Christ, Lamb of God ♪**

CW 169

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your  
peace. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

<i><b>HYMN: DRAW NEAR AND TAKE THE BODY OF YOUR LORD</b></i>	<i><b>CW 661</b></i>
<i><b>HYMN: WITH ALL MY HEART I PRAISE YOU. LORD</b></i>	<i><b>CW 658</b></i>

Stand

<i><b>HYMN: LORD, NOW YOU LET YOUR SERVANT</b></i>	<i><b>CW 951</b></i>
--	----------------------

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 + give you peace.

**Amen.**

<i><b>HYMN: HIS ROBES FOR MINE</b></i>	<i><b>CW 568</b></i>
--	----------------------

### Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.