

August 31st, 2025
12th 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) Please join us for coffee after the service. Also join us for Bible Class at 11:00am.

WOUNDS THAT HEAL

THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES WILL BE HUMBLD

Everyone knows that humility is a positive trait and pride is a negative one. So, why bother talking about what we already know? Because in spite of that knowledge, we still helplessly fall into the trap of pride. We all desire acclaim, recognition, and praise. Jesus' sharp words this week teach us that seeking exaltation in futile and fleeing ways will only result in receiving the opposite. Those who attempt to exalt themselves will eventually be humbled by God. In contrast, Jesus promises that those who leave their exaltation to God will receive honor and glory far greater than any that can be awarded in this life. Our exaltation does not need to be our responsibility, because Jesus has already made it his.

310 Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him, pre - pare for him the
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; turn not from me a -



day; pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, who
best; cast out what would of - fend him, this
high; be - neath his feet in ter - ror the
side, and help me to re - ceive you this



takes your sins a - way. To us by grace a -
great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the
haugh - ty soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and
bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger



lone the truth and light were giv - en; the prom - ised
way: the low - ly val - leys rais - ing, the heights of
right, that heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion and makes true
low come now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing your



Lord from heav - en to all the world is shown.
pride a - bas - ing, his path all e - ven lay.
prep - a - ra - tion— it is the Lord's de - light.
prais - es glad - ly and forth your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1649-1644; (st. 1-3): Dr. Arthur T. Russell, 1866-1874, alt.; (st. 4): Dr. unknown, alt.
Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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

Amen.

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.

652 Lord, Have Mercy



1 For what we have done and left un - done we fall on your
(2 For) what you have done, your life of love you per - fect - ly



count - less mer - cies. For sins that are known and
lived, we praise you. Though tempt - ed and tried, you



those un - known we call on your name so ho - ly.
fixed your eyes; you fin - ished the work God gave you.



For en - vy and pride, for clos - ing our eyes; for
And there on the tree, a King a - mong thieves, you
(3 For) hearts that are cold, for seiz - ing con - trol; for



scorn - ing our ver - y neigh - bor. In
bled for a world's be - tray - al. You
scorn - ing our ver - y mak - er. In



thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how
 loved to the end, our mer - ci - ful friend; how
 thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how



deep - ly we need a Sav - ior. *Refrain I*
 pure and for - ev - er faith - ful. *Refrain II*
 deep - ly we need a Sav - ior. *Refrain II*

Refrain I



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,



Lord, have mer - cy on us. 2 For

Refrain II



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,



Lord, have mer - cy on us. on us. 3 For

Text: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; James Tealy, b. 1971; Matt Boswell, b. 1979

Tune: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; James Tealy, b. 1971; Matt Boswell, b. 1979

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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.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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

⁶Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
and do not claim a place among his great men;
⁷it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.

PROVERBS 25:6,7A

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 144A When We Face Impending Warfare

Sung to the tune of Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

1 When we face impending warfare
or when battle clouds the day,
you alone can give us wisdom
for the part we have to play.
When before the tide of hist'ry
mortal frailty stands revealed,
we depend on you to help us,
loving God, our rock, our shield.

2 Will you sit aloof and silent
while the nations rage and fight?
Will you tolerate injustice,
God whose ways are truth and light?
Will your mercy not deliver
those who turn to you in prayer?
Will new anthems not be written,
songs to thank you for your care?

3 When at last the conflict eases,
when these days of battle end,
may we share with all the nations
the abundant gifts you send.
Then shall all our children flourish,
then our homes will be secured;
but our greatest joy and honor
will be knowing you, our LORD.

Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, alt.

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SECOND READING

JAMES 2:1–13

¹My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” ⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

LUKE 14:1,7–14

¹One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON

PROVERBS 25:6,7A

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.**

Offering *(At this time our usher will bring our thank offering to the Lord.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the president of our synod, for the president of our district, for all pastors and teachers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, Lord.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, Lord.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

For those who do not yet believe and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the gospel, we pray to you, Lord.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, Lord.

For a blessing on human labor and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, Lord.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart and show forth your glory in all we do, we pray to you, Lord.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

For ourselves, for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, Lord.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our lives to Christ our God.

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.**

Be seated

HYMN: OH, HOW GOOD IT IS

731

Stand

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through 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.

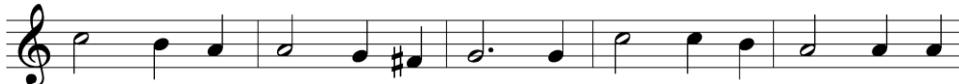
Amen.

Be seated

850 It Is Well with My Soul



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my
4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll— what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re - sound, and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so, it is well with my soul.



Refrain
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

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