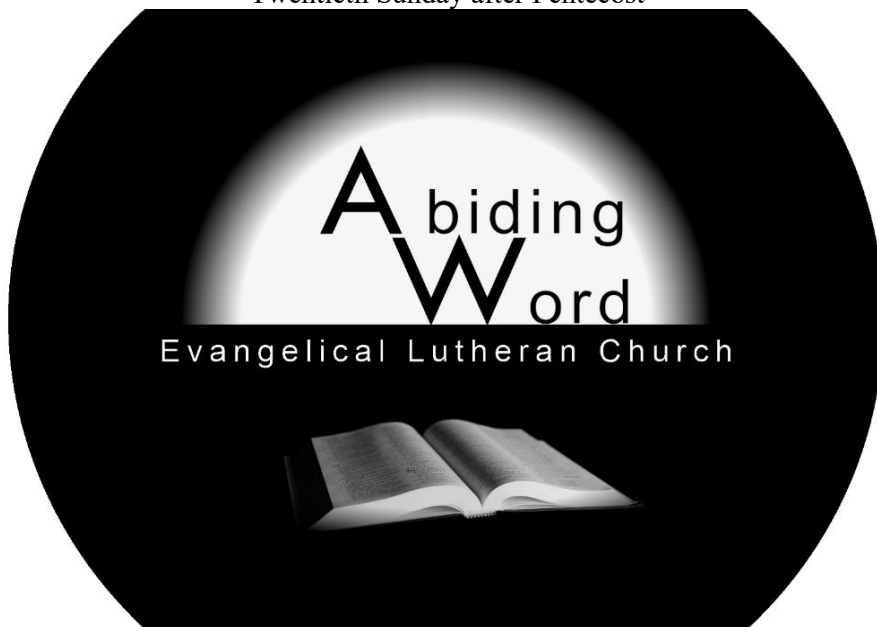


October 11, 2026
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



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. Sunday School classes begin at 10:45am and Adult 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.**

THE BEGINNING OF THE END – IT'S TIME TO INVITE THE UNWORTHY

Don't you hate it when someone has prepared an excellent meal, but travel delays mean that certain friends or relatives don't get to enjoy it? Sometimes there are no leftovers, and an opportunity is lost.

God has prepared an extraordinary spiritual meal for all people. It is received by faith. But it is not offered forever. The day will come when body and soul are separated, and those who do not believe in Jesus as their Savior will not share in his blessings. It's the beginning of the end. Now is the time to issue the invitation!

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**Almighty God, merciful Father,
I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.
In what I have done and left undone,
I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.
I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.
I am truly sorry for my sins.
I repent of them.
I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

Silence for meditation

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**Cleanse me from my sins.
Release me from my guilt.
Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

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.

Glory Be to God on High



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



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus 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; re-ceive our prayer.



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



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you invite us to trust in you for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of your judgment but by the greatness of your mercy; 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 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare
a feast of rich food for all peoples,
a banquet of aged wine—
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,
the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears
from all faces;

he will remove his people's disgrace
from all the earth.

The Lord has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say,

“Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.

This is the Lord, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

84C How Pleasant *sung to the tune for O God from God, O Light from Light*

**1 How pleasant and divinely fair,
O LORD of hosts, your dwellings are!
With great desire my spirit faints
to see the shining hosts of saints.
My flesh would rest in your abode;
my weary heart cries out for God:
“My God! My King! Why should I stay
far from the joys of endless day?”**

**2 The sparrow has a place to rest,
and for her young provides a nest,
but will my God to them alone
pour out his mercy from the throne?
Blest are the saints who dwell on high
around your throne, above the sky;
their brightest glories shine above,
and all their work is praise and love.**

**3 Great God, attend, while Zion sings
the joy that from your presence springs;
to spend a day within your courts
exceeds a thousand days apart.
You are our sun, you bless our day;
and you our shield, to guard our way
from all assaults of hell and sin,
from foes without and fears within.**

**4 All needed grace you will bestow,
and crown that grace with glory too;
you give all things, and you withhold
no heav’nly good from upright souls.
O God our King, whose sov’reign sway
the glorious hosts of heav’n obey,
display your grace, exert your pow’r,
till all on earth your name adore.
Text: Isaac Watts, alt.
Text: Public domain**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 1:16-17

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 22:1–14

¹Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵“But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ ¹⁰So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

¹³“Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

¹⁴“For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

<i>HYMN: JESUS, YOUR BLOOD AND RIGHTEOUSNESS</i>

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SERMON on ROMANS 1:16-17

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.**

OFFERING

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty God, heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for the glorious Gospel of your Son, Jesus Christ. We confess that by our own power, thinking, or choices, we are completely unable to make ourselves right with you. But we rejoice that in the Gospel, your own perfect righteousness is revealed—a righteousness given to us as a free gift from start to finish, received by faith alone.

C: Lord, preserve this saving truth among us, and grant us a faith that lives entirely by your grace.

M: Holy Spirit, worker of faith, we pray that you would keep us from ever being ashamed of this Good News. In a world that often rejects your truth, pours contempt on your Word, or demands that we earn our own way, give your Church bold confidence. Remind us continually that the Gospel is not weak, but is your very power to rescue, deliver, and save everyone who believes.

C: Fill our hearts with your power, and remove all fear or shame from our witness.

M: Lord of the Church, bless the global mission fields of our synod and the work of our local congregations. Embolden our pastors, teachers, missionaries, and every believer to clearly proclaim this message of justification by faith to all people. Protect your visible Church from false doctrines that obscure the work of Christ, and keep us faithful to your pure, unadulterated Word.

C: Send out your light, and let the message of Christ find open hearts in our communities and across the world.

M: Merciful Savior, you are the source of all life and healing. Look with compassion on all those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit (*especially...*). Ground their hearts in the ultimate assurance that because they are declared righteous in your sight, they are your beloved children forever. Grant them patience in their trials and the constant comfort of your presence.

C: Lord, let your comforting grace sustain them through every weakness.

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

(Brief silence for personal prayer)

M: As the righteous shall live by faith, we entrust our lives, our church, and our future into your hands, confident that you hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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:

♪ **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

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.**

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: I COME, O SAVIOR, TO YOUR TABLE

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Stand

950 Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

**1 Lord, bid your servant go in peace, your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn this child so long foretold.**

**2 This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.**

**3 With saints of old, with saints to come, to you we lift our voice;
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest be honor, love, and praise.**

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**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 you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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.

HYMN: THY STRONG WORD

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