

December 16th, 2020
3rd 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).*



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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) 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.

As we adjust to live worship

We are taking many precautions to make our regular Sunday service as safe as possible. In keeping with our Governor's mandate, please wear a facemask while inside the building. Masks are available on the table by the bulletin announcements, if you forget your mask. If you socialize before or after the service please do so outside or in the fellowship hall. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding worship or ministry please inform Pastor or our elder, Ken Leib.

SERVICE OF LIGHT

M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C: **and the day is almost over.**

M: Be our light and scatter the darkness,
C: **and hear our evening hymn of praise.**



1 O Trin - i - ty, most bless - ed light, O U - ni -
2 To you our morn - ing song of praise, To you our
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be And to the



ty of sov - 'reign might, As now the fi - ery sun de -
eve - ning prayer we raise; May we your glo - ry ev - er -
Son e - ter - nal - ly, Whom with the Spir - it we a -



parts, Oh, shine your light in - to our hearts.
more In low - ly rev - er - ence a - dore.
dore For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Text: attr. St. Ambrose, 340–97; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: O HEILIGE DREIFALTIGKEIT (LM) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, alt.

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

Be seated

C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

P: We light three Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Light of the world. He came to defeat the prince of darkness.

C: **We remember Jesus who came in answer to his people's prayers. John proclaimed him the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.**

P: We hear his call to see the light.

C: **We light three Advent candles as a sign of our trust and confidence.**

Three candles are lit.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

PSALM 73

M: Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

C: **You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.**

M: Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

C: **My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

M: Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.

C: **But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.**

ALL: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Silence for meditation.

M: Lord, God grant us your Holy Spirit that we may believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LESSON

ISAIAH 12

In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, O LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.

The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

⁴ In that day you will say:

“Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

M: The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out: Come, Lord Jesus, come.



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

Stand

SONG OF MARY

C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-joic-es in God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor on his low-ly ser-vant. From this day all gen-er-a-tions will call me bless-ed. The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name. He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the

proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y

from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.

He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich

he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the

help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his

prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,

to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice learning, and health to this and every place,

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil,

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

C: **Thanks be to God.**

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

C: **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.

PRAYER FOR ADVENT SEASON

O heavenly Father, we give you humble and joyful thanks for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for the salvation you have provided for all people in him. With contrite hearts we turn to you, O God. We acknowledge our transgressions and confess that we have failed to do the good which we ought to have done, and that we have done the evil which we ought not to have done. Stir us to a renewed sense of our sin and depravity. Awaken us to our need for daily repentance. Come, forgive and renew us.

We pray for the wounded in spirit, for the sick, and for the distressed in heart, that you would shine on them with your healing power. For all strangers, all travelers, and all who are away from home in any service or calling, we ask you to accompany them with your light and joy. For the aged, the dying, and those who mourn, be gracious and give them the perfect peace of your holy child, Jesus.

Silent prayer.

Finally, grant that our hearts may be a fit dwelling place for your Son, and that we may know the joy of his presence, the blessing of following in his steps, and the glory of that crown which he has promised to all who are his through faith. In his name we pray. Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part
ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Be seated

HYMN: ABIDE WITH ME



1 A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 4 Thou on my head in ear - ly youth didst smile,
 5 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour.



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 Earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way.
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in thy wings,
 And though re - bel - lious and per - verse mean - while,
 What but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea;
 Thou hast not left me oft as I left thee.
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?



Help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me!
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me!
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 On to the close, O Lord, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me!

6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still if thou abide with me.

7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
 Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!