

December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas



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) 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.

**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.* So that you can be sure that unity of faith and teaching exists we invite you to participate in a Bible Information Class. This class will prepare you to receive the Lord's Supper with us. Please contact Pastor about class times.

**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.

# OPENING HYMN: NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our  
 2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to  
 3 Now through his Son doth shine      The Fa - ther's grace di -  
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly



voice;      He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor  
 thee.      Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O  
 vine.      Death o'er us had reign - ed      Through  
 ground?      Where the an - gels sing - ing      With



in a man - ger lies;      Not so bright - ly  
 pure and ho - ly Child;      Through thy grace and  
 sin and van - i - ty;      He for us ob -  
 all his saints u - nite,      Sweet - est prais - es



beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
 mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
 tain - ed      E - ter - nal joy on high.  
 bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
 Draw me un - to thee!      Draw me un - to thee!  
 May we praise him there!      May we praise him there!  
 Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.  
 Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO (66 66 66 55) German melody, 14th century, alt.

*Stand*

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

C: **Amen.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

C: **Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

P: 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.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### GLORY BE TO GOD



C: **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.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be seated*

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING

ISAIAH 45:20-25

"Gather together and come; assemble, you fugitives from the nations. Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood, who pray to gods that cannot save. Declare what is to be, present it-- let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.

"Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone are righteousness and strength.'" All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame. But in the LORD all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.

### PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 111

#### *Refrain*



Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done mar - vel - ous things.

P: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

C: **Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.**

P: He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

C: **The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.**

P: He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever— holy and awesome is his name.

C: **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.  
To him belongs eternal praise.**

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, Is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

#### *REFRAIN*

## NEW TESTAMENT

## COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

**C: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.** (Colossians 3:15a)

*Stand*

## GOSPEL

## LUKE 2:25-40

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

**P:** This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C:** **Praise be to you, O Christ.**



## **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 fully 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*



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his  
 2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine A ser - vant's  
 4 A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our  
 5 He serves that I a lord may be— A great ex -



high - est throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 form to take; In want and low - li - ness must die Who  
 flesh and blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His  
 change in - deed! Could Je - sus' love do more for me To



gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.  
 maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.  
 help me in my need, To help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door  
 Of paradise today.  
 The angel guards the gate no more;  
 To God our thanks we pay,  
 To God our thanks we pay.

## SERMON

ISAIAH 45:20-25

### God Has Truly Kept His Word!

1. A Word in which believers find righteousness and strength
2. A Word proclaiming salvation to all people

*Stand*

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

## OFFERING

*Financial offerings are a regular, proportionate, and joyful response of love by members of a Christian congregation. Our offerings are given to further the work of God's kingdom here at Abiding Word and around the world through the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to support our ministry.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

O Lord God, Father in heaven, in the fullness of time you sent your Son to be the Light of the world and to gather from all nations of the earth a redeemed people. We give you praise and thanks for having so graciously provided for us and for our salvation. We thank you that through faith in your Son Jesus Christ we have received adoption as children, that we may call you “Abba Father”, assured that you are most truly our loving Father and that we are your own dear children.

O Father most loving, grant that we who were under the yoke of sin, may in Christ be guarded against the temptations of the devil and the world around us. Empower us by your Spirit to perform works fit for repentance, and to faithfully do your will with a glad heart. Let your grace rest upon us that we may be strong in the Spirit, filled with wisdom and grow in all that which finds favor in your sight.

Let the brightness of your glory shine upon all who feel the need of your almighty aid. For our sick, our wounded, our hurt, our troubled, our fallen, and our absent fellow believers we pray. Give to them whatever they may need: soundness of body, strength of faith, or security of hope. In Christ grant them all the assurance of your salvation.

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

Hear us, O Father, in these our petitions. Direct and govern our hearts that we may be preserved in the one, holy, Christian faith unto life everlasting. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer** (*sung to Away in a Manger*)

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!  
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same  
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone;  
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven’s high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;  
As we forgive others, our sins take away;  
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;  
From evil deliver your children most dear.**

**For yours is the kingdom; o’er all things you reign.  
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.  
To you be the glory, resounding again  
From all of creation, forever! Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. When the time had fully come, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

**HYMN: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice**

**34 vv. 1,4**

**Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!**

**Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite  
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.  
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN: O Little Town of Bethlehem**

65 vv. 3,4

How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him still The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Please exit your pew from the right as you come forward for communion. Six communicants will come to the railing at a time (3 on the left railing; 3 on the right). Please stand in front of the first pew until the bread and wine are at the railing. Exit the railing to your left and dispose of the cups.*

**THANKSGIVING**

*Stand*

**SONG OF SIMEON - *Nunc Dimittis***

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.

C: **Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

P: 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: **Amen.**

HYMN: LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; Fill our hearts with  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For the gos - pel's  
 3 So when - e'er the sig - nal's giv - en Us from earth to



joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,  
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion  
 call a - way, Borne on an - gels' wings to heav - en,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. Oh, re - fresh us,  
 In our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,  
 Glad the sum - mons to o - bey, May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 ev - er faith - ful To your truth may we be found.  
 may we ev - er Reign with Christ in end - less day.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Tune: NEW ULM (87 87 87) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.