

February 14, 2021
Last Sunday after Epiphany - Transfiguration



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) 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.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**Blessed Jesus, at your Word
We are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear you,
By your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love you solely.**

RESPONSES

Psalm 119:97-99,103

M: Oh, how I love your law!

C: **I meditate on it all day long.**

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: **for they are ever with me.**

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: **for I meditate on your statutes.**

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: **sweeter than honey to my mouth!**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

C: **so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**
2 Timothy 3:16,17

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his 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.

**Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light from Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;
Help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your people raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.**

Absolution

M: God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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.

**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Praise to you and adoration!
Grant that we your Word may trust,
Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing your praises yonder.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.
Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; 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

2 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the Lord has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

³ The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “but do not speak of it.”

⁴ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the Lord has sent me to Jericho.”

And he replied, “As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

⁵ The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” he replied, “but do not speak of it.”

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.”

And he replied, “As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on.

⁷ Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

¹⁰ “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise not.”

¹¹ As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more.

Refrain

Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-
 lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

- M: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?
 C: **The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.**
- M: “Let us break their chains,” they say, “and throw off their fetters.”
 C: **The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.**
- M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,
 C: **“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**
- M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:
 He said to me, “You are my Son;
 today I have become your Father.
 C: **Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.**
- M: You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”
 C: **Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
- M: Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling.
 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way,
 for his wrath can flare up in a moment.
 C: **Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**
- 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

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12-4:2

¹² Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. ¹³ We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. ¹⁴ But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶ But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: **Alleluia. Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him." Alleluia.** (Mark 9:7b)

Stand

GOSPEL

MARK 9:2-9

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

M: This is the gospel of our Lord.

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

NICENE CREED

C: 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.

Dt. 6:4

2 Cor. 6:18

Is. 51:13

Col.1:16

1 Cor. 8:6

Jn. 3:18

Heb. 1:2,5

Jn. 1

Jn. 10:30

Jn. 1:3

1 Th. 5:9

Jn. 6:38

Lk. 1:35

Gal. 4:4

Mk. 15:15

1 Cor. 15:3-4a

1 Cor. 15:4b

Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim.4:1

Lk. 1:33

Job 33:4

Jn. 15:26

Jn. 4:24

2 Pet.1:25

Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20

Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38

1 Cor. 15:21-22

Rev. 22

Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O GOD FROM GOD, O LIGHT FROM LIGHT



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
 2 Deep in the proph-ets' sa-cred page, Grand in the
 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of
 4 Sing to the Lord a might-y song; Sing to his



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav-en's
 po-ets' wing-ed word, Slow-ly, in type, from
 pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and
 name, his glo-ries tell! Sing, heav'n-ly hosts, your



glo-ry bright The song of praise for-ev-er rings.
 age to age The na-tions saw their com-ing Lord;
 now a-bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
 praise pro-long, And all on earth, your an-them swell!



To him who sits up-on the throne, The Lamb once
 Till through the deep Ju-de-an night Rang out the
 Lift up your heads, O might-y gates! So sang the
 Wor-thy the Lamb for sin-ners slain! For-ev-er



slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry
 song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
 an-gel hosts a-gain. Lift up your heads—your
 let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb en-



he has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, A-men.
 splen-dor bright, Re-ech-oed now, "Good will!" A-men.
 King a-waits. We lift them up, A-men, A-men.
 throned to reign; Glo-ry and pow'r! A-men, A-men.

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

- M: O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.
- C: Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.**
- M: Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.
- C: Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.**
- M: As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.
- C: Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.**
- M: God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.
- C: Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.**
- Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*
- M: Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.
- C: May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. 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.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

M: 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 till 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 *Sanctus* Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: CW 130

**O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts soon high,
And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry.**

**Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage— Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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."

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

C: **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD - *Angus Dei* John 1:29



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

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.



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way
 2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -
 3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how
 4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -
 5 Christ says, "Come, all you that la - bor, And re - ceive



God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and
 cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the
 you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be -
 tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup -
 my grace and fa - vor; Those who feel no pain or



woe He saved us from the e - vil foe.
 bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
 lieve, Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
 pose You need not him who died and rose.
 ill Need no phy - si - cian's help or skill."

6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the souls who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.

7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
 Unto us such food has given
 And, to mend what we have done,
 Gave into death his only Son.

8 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 Surely you will be his guest
 And at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSER HEILAND, DER VON UNS (88 78) Klug. *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535, alt.

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON - *Nunc Dimittis* *Luke 2:29-32*

Tune: CW 93

**O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised Incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever three in one:
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

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

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

M: 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

M: 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.**

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather in this house of worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word "alleluia," which means, "praise the Lord."

So now, for a time, we say, "Farewell to Alleluia." We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The alleluias will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord. May we use this quiet season to reflect on our sins and long for the rising of your Son in glory.

HYMN: ALLELUIA, SONG OF TRIUMPH

TUNE: CWS 753

**Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;
Saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.**

**Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord,
With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored,
And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.**

**Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.**

**May our hymns be filled with longing—hear us, Holy Trinity—
As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,
When we shall once more be singing alleluia joyfully!**