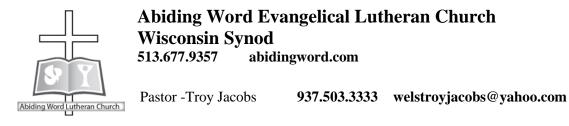


8470 Landen Drive Maineville, Ohio

At Abiding Word We gather around the Word (worship) We grow in the Word (education) And we share the Word with the world (outreach).



### 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. Sunday School begins at 10:45am and Bible Study at 11:00am.

# THE NEED FOR FOLLOWERSHIP FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST CELEBRATE THE SERVICE OF OTHERS

This week we continue to consider the interplay of pride and service. Last week the disciples were arguing among themselves. This week they are jealous of someone outside of their group who joined the work. Each of our readings today reminds us who the real enemy is. It wasn't the complaining Israelites or the prophets who hadn't come out with the rest (First Reading). It wasn't the man driving out demons who wasn't a disciple (Gospel). It isn't our brothers or sisters we're tempted to judge (Second Reading).

The real enemy is not the person working in God's name in a different way-it's Satan and his temptations. Our strength, leadership, and service flow from our relationship with Christ, a relationship of humble submission. As we continue in this series describing followers of Christ, notice the unity that results when we remember that we are followers of Christ and so happily share the service.

Stand

- M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

### **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

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



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### NUMBERS 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

#### FIRST READING

<sup>4</sup>The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, "If only we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. <sup>6</sup>But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!"

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people of every family wailing at the entrance to their tents. The Lord became exceedingly angry, and Moses was troubled. <sup>11</sup>He asked the Lord, "Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their ancestors? <sup>13</sup>Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' <sup>14</sup>I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If this is how you are going to treat me, please go ahead and kill me—if I have found favor in your eyes—and do not let me face my own ruin."

<sup>16</sup>The Lord said to Moses: "Bring me seventy of Israel's elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the tent of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people what the Lord had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied—but did not do so again.

<sup>26</sup>However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."

<sup>28</sup>Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"

<sup>29</sup>But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them

- M: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19C LORD, YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF EVERLASTING LIFE

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#### SECOND READING

#### **JAMES 4:7–12**

<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

<sup>11</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. <sup>12</sup>There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL

#### MARK 9:38-50

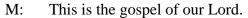
<sup>38</sup>"Teacher," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

<sup>39</sup>"Do not stop him," Jesus said. "For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, <sup>40</sup>for whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

<sup>42</sup>"If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where " 'the worms that eat them do not die,

and the fire is not quenched.' <sup>49</sup>Everyone will be salted with fire.

<sup>50</sup>"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other."





#### SERMON

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

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### 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

NUMBERS 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

### Stand

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



Be seated

## HYMN: OH, HOW GOOD IT IS

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