

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

November 14, 2021

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November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

Prelude ~

Welcome & Announcements ~ This morning, we welcome Lay Worship Leader, Ed Whitbred. Lay Distributors, Analee Cree & Judi Pacileo and Howard Lyon as the substitute organist.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG ~ Hear I Am to Worship

VERSE



1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness, o - pened my eyes, let me -
2. King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed, glo - rious in heav - en a -



— see. — Beau - ty that made this — heart a - dore — You,
- bove. — Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted,



hope of a life spent with ____ You. ____
all for love's sake be - came ____ poor. ____

So, here I am to



wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God. .



____ And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er wor - thy, al - to - geth - er

Last time to Coda



won - der - ful to me. ____

And I'll nev -



- er know ____ how much ____ it cost ____ to see ____ my sin ____ up - on ____

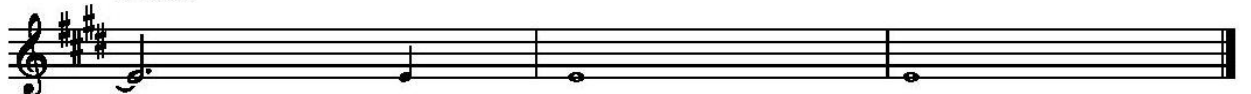


D.S. al Coda

____ that cross. ____ And I'll nev - ____ that cross. ____

So, here I am to

Coda



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord



God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



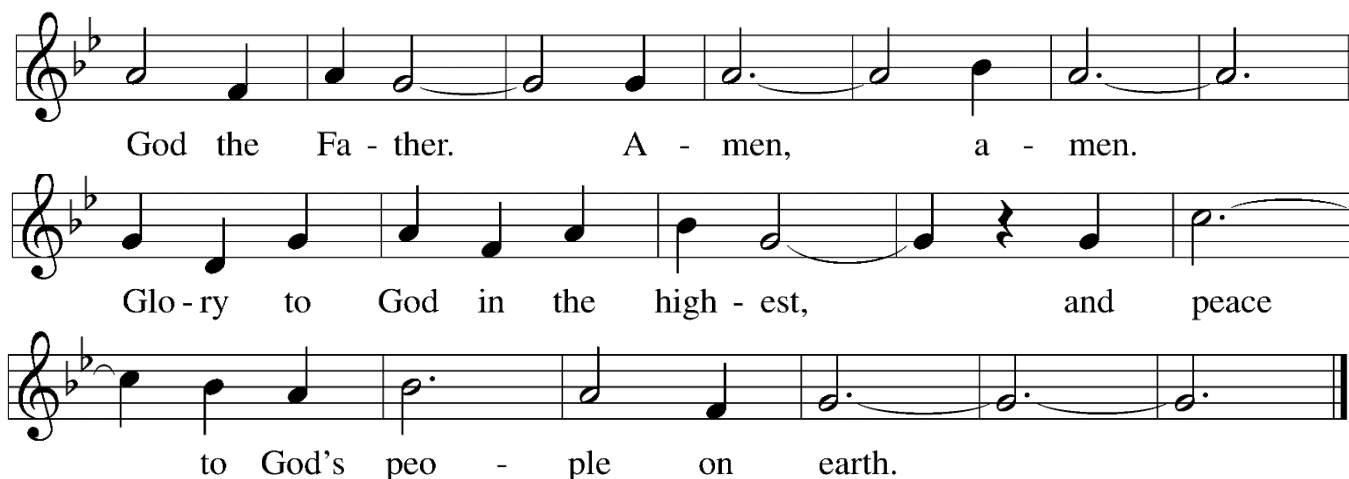
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus



Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



Prayer of the Day

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism.

Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

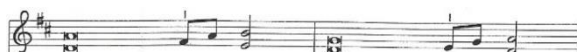
¹"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 16

Sung Responsively

Tone 1



¹Protect me, O God, for I take ref- ¹uge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- ¹bove all other."

²**All my delight is in the godly that are ¹in the land,
 upon those who are noble a- ¹mong the people.**

³But those who run after ¹other gods
 shall have their troubles ¹multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings ¹to such gods,
 never take their names up- ¹on my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion ¹and my cup;
 it is you who up- ¹hold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a ¹pleasant land;
 indeed, I have a ¹rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who ¹gives me counsel;
 my heart teaches me night ¹after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD al- ¹ways before me;
 because God is at my right hand, I shall ¹not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave,
nor let your holy one | see the pit.

¹¹You will show me the | path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
for | evermore.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

¹¹Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," ¹³and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, ¹⁶"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," ¹⁷he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

The gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ²Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴“Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ~ ELW 438 *My Lord, What a Morning*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need. *A brief silence.*

God our creator, you show us the path of life. Bless faithful people everywhere with humility as they extend compassion to those who have experienced harm in religious spaces. Cultivate healthy congregations that tell of and enact your reconciling love. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God our constant, you love our universe from beginning to end. As the seasons change, protect animals that migrate and hibernate. Bring them safely to a sheltered place and a more abundant season. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God our ruler, you write your law on human minds and hearts. Give wisdom to all elected leaders and officials to govern with insight and compassion. Make them mindful of the well-being of all people so that your world will flourish. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God our stronghold, you are present amid disaster. We pray for those affected by natural disasters. Come to the aid of all survivors of earthquakes, famines, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, and the first responders who support them. Calm their fear, supply their need, and be the solid ground beneath their feet. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God our guide, you are greater than we can imagine. Surround congregations with your expansive inclusion. Be present in the midst of disagreements, differences, and questions. Unite people of diverse viewpoints in the love of Christ. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our beginning and our end, your beloved people shine like the brightness of the sky. We thank you for the lives of all who rest in your eternal mercy, from famous saints to the people we have loved. Assure us of your resurrection promise. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, especially those we name before you aloud or in our hearts. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly greets each other from their pew space, then is seated

OFFERTORY HYMN - ELW 692 *We Are an Offering*

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER - STEWARDSHIP

Blessed are you, O God, Maker of all things. We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us Ourselves, Our time, Our possessions - Signs of your gracious love. Use us and what we have gathered in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Distribution

(At this service of worship, we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion through the distribution of the elements blessed at a previous celebration. Our Lay Distributors of Holy Communion were selected by the congregational council, received instruction, and were appointed by our synodical bishop. They serve this congregation during times of pastoral vacancy so that we may continue to receive communion as Christ's body here at Abiding Hope Lutheran Church.)

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

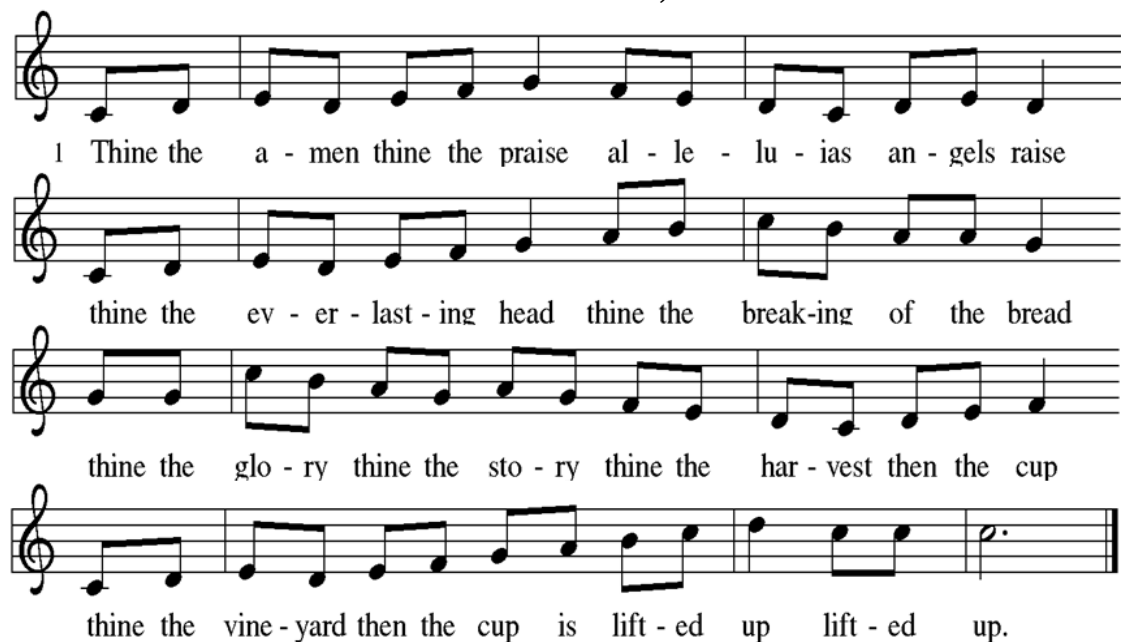
Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Elements

Communion Hymn ~ ELW 628 *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* v.1,3,5

Post Communion Canticle ~ *Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise*



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break-ing of the bread
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.

The assembly stands

Prayer after Communion

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ~ ELW 880 *O God Beyond All Praising* v.1,3

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude ~

GOSPEL MESSAGE - The Promise of Apocalypse

A joke made the rounds in bookstores in the spring of 2020: "Post-apocalyptic fiction has been moved to our current affairs section."

The genre of apocalyptic is much like modern science fiction—stories set in surreal landscapes with plot twists that hold up a mirror to the challenges of our own time. Much of the Bible was written by, for, and about people living through persecution, political unrest, suffering, and uncertainty about the future. As we move toward the season of Advent, Jesus

frames wars, rumors of wars, earthquakes, and famines as the birth pangs of an emerging new creation. There are always wars and rumors of wars, disasters, and upheavals.

The good news is that God is present in all of it. God shows up in the pain, taking it seriously and holding it gently. And God is present above it all in the cosmic story that is so much larger than the daily news. Furthermore, God is present in the moments of joy that always find a way to break through—for life is always more than its worst moments, even in war zones, crises, and pandemics.

Throughout the centuries, the symbol of hope in religious art is the anchor. God is holding the anchor of hope, holding the line that runs through every human soul, holding for us the hope that will not let us go. Apocalyptic brings these layers together: the cosmic story of the universe, the noise and upheaval of our own generation's crises and birth pangs, and that solid anchor of hope. Our sacred texts are lenses to open our eyes and minds to uncover and notice how God is present among us in the most bewildering moments of our lives.

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Parish Notes ~ November 14, 2021

Please pray for: Cheryl Petrone, Irene Owens Jack Milne (father) & friends of Michele Milne, Pastor Gesler, Al & Carol. Nick, the grandson of Bill & Sharron Sontheimer. Pastor Washill, Judy Nordin, John & Jacque Holmberg, Judi Pacileo, Joe Pacileo, Bishop Lozano, Bob Pacileo, Carrie Fiske, Evelyn Senger, Jack & Marjorie Wonner, Joyce Hersperger, Teresa Burgess. *Names will remain on our printed lists for four weeks unless renewed.*

Vacation: Pastor Karen will be on vacation from November 14 through November 22. If you need emergency pastoral care, please call **Pastor Kim Hirsch of Lamb of God, at 814-825-8830.**

Fall/Winter Schedule for In-Person Worship: Sunday service is offered @ **8:30a and 10:30a.** The 10:30a service will live-stream on Facebook and then posted to the AHLC web page. **Please check parish notes for Sundays that worship may have a different time.**

Adult Choir: Wednesday evening @ 6:00p.

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9:30a-3:30a Wednesday 9:30a-12:30p

Hymns: The ELW & WOV hymnals have been returned to the pews for your use.

Only the hymn #'s and titles will be listed in the bulletin. Music and words for hymns from other sources will continue to be printed.

Bishop Lozano, Pastor Gesler, Pastor Washill: Prayers are powerful and are requested to be continued along with cards and notes, which can be the medicine one needs on days when it is hardest to keep strong. They'll be forwarded on several times. Boxes are in the narthex.

Next week, Nov 21st, is Christ the King and Commitment Sunday Worship. We folks of Abiding Hope are on a journey. Together we are growing in faith, joy, hope and generosity. We follow Jesus on this path of discipleship with one another. You should have received your Stewardship packet in the mail this past week. Please take a moment to read through this material and prayerfully consider your thankful response for God's abundant blessings. Then bring your 2022 Estimate of Giving/Pledge Card to place in the offering plate on Nov 21, or mail it to the church office on or before this day. Thank you for supporting the worship, service, and outreach actions of Abiding Hope's ministry and mission. Your gifts of time, talent, and financial resources are appreciated - encouraged, shared, and carefully managed. Stewardship! A sacred trust and a solemn duty to care for all that God has made and shared with us.

Cody's Wheels of Hope. With donations received, new bicycles and other wheeled toys are given to children with life threatening illnesses. CWOH is raffling off a Gift Card Basket on November 22nd. It will contain cards for several area businesses worth at least \$1300. Tickets are \$2.00 each. If you would like to get in on the fun see Cindy Filson on Sunday mornings. You can also write to cindy@cwoh.org or call at 814 460-8228. Also, the website for Cody's Wheels has a PayPal button you can use to pay for tickets

Missing any plates or bowls in your home kitchen? They may be at church! Unmarked items are on the coat rack near the church office. Please **take your items** home with you. After Thanksgiving the Items will be donated.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for worship, a sign-up form is on the table in the narthex. The costs of the flowers remain the same as before, **\$20.00 per arrangement.** Flower order is called-in on Tuesday.

CURRENT FUND REPORT

October Income:	\$ 9,160.94	Year to Date Income:	\$112,582.15
October Expenses:	\$10,161.83	Year to Date Expenses:	\$ 84,742.27
October Difference:	-\$ 1,000.89	Year to Date Difference:	\$ 27,839.88
Year to Date Budget:		\$121,197	