

Sixth Sunday of Pentecost ~ July 17, 2022

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

Pastor: Rev. Karen Parsh - 814.881.3266 - pastorparsh@gmail.com

2402 W. Grandview Blvd. Erie PA 16506 - ahadministrator@hotmail.com

814.868.8685 - www.abidinghopeerie.org - FB: abidinghopelutheranchurch



Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 866 *We are Marching in the Light of God*

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 ~ *Sing of the Lord's Goodness* v. 1, 4

Verses



1. Sing of the Lord's good-ness, Fa - ther of all wis - dom,
2. Pow - er he has wield - ed, hon - or is his gar - ment,
3. Cour-age in our dark-ness, com - fort in our sor - row,
4. Praise him with your sing - ing, praise him with the trum - pet,



1. come to him and bless his name. Mer - cy he has shown us,
2. ris - en from the snares of death. His word he has spo - ken,
3. Spir - it of our God most high; so - lace for the wear - y,
4. praise God with the lute and harp; praise him with the cym-bals,



1. his love is for - ev - er, faith - ful to the end of days.
2. one bread he has bro - ken, new life he now gives to all.
3. par - don for the sin - ner, splen - dor of the liv - ing God.
4. praise him with your danc - ing, praise God till the end of days.

Refrain



Come, then, all you na-tions, sing of your Lord's good-ness, mel-o - dies



of praise and thanks to God. Ring out the Lord's glo-ry, praise him with



your mu - sic, wor-ship him and bless his name.

PRAYER of the DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 15

Response Spoken

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

**⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the
innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

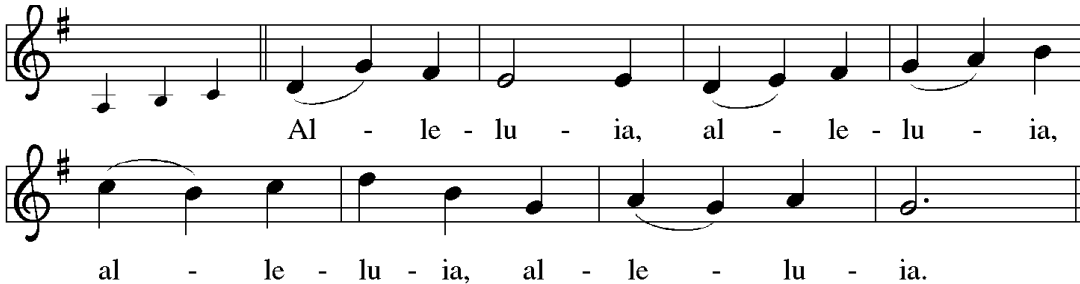
SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 10: 38-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 10. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." **Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN of the DAY ~ WOV 783 *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God*

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.
A brief silence.

Ever-present God, in Christ you fill all things. As your church gathers to hear your word, share your meal, and receive your blessing, teach us to welcome strangers as we have been welcomed by you.
God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you created all things, visible and invisible. Teach humankind to honor and protect all creation, including living things that remain hidden from our eyes such as air, atmosphere, molecules, and microscopic creatures. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you reconcile all things. Motivate those in power to end enslavement, dehumanization, or brutality of any kind and to protect and improve the lives of Indigenous peoples. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you bring peace. Assure all who are worried and distracted by many things of your constant presence. Soothe those suffering in mind, body, or spirit. Sustain all who are afflicted, especially, Dick, Ed, Lew & Jane, Roger & Irene, Darcée, Norma, the Gresh Family, Peggy, Nicole, Cheryl, Mark, Sam & Dorothy, Karri, Bonnie, Judi, Karen, Milo, Ruth, Don, Judy, Carrie, Evelyn, Joyce, Jack & Marjorie. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In Christ you make your word fully known. Inspire this worshiping community to abide fully in your word as we sit at the feet of Jesus. Bless the ministry of teachers and Bible study leaders. God of grace,

hear our prayer. *Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In Christ you brought forth the firstborn from the dead. We give thanks for the saints you have gathered at your table. Gather us with them in your eternal glory. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Please be seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING & PRESENTATIONS

OFFERING HYMN ~ ELW 692 *We Are an Offering*

OFFERING PRAYER ~ Please pray together.

Let us pray. **Merciful God**, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

S108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

At Abiding Hope all believers are welcome to share Holy Communion at the table of the Lord.

After receiving the bread, you may receive wine from the chalice poured into individual glasses or you may choose pre-poured grape juice as an alternative. Gluten free wafers are also available upon request.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen

LAMB of GOD

S 112

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

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN ~ ELW 728 *Blest Are They*

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our † Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER ~ *Please pray together.*

We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 671 *Shine Jesus Shine*

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

GOSPEL MESSAGE ~ Intentional Attention

We set the table just so. We light fresh taper candles. We mop the floor and put out the best china. We carefully attend to the recipe, being sure to exclude any allergens and to include tons of home-cooked flavor. Many of us have been taught how to be hospitable to guests in our home. In fact, there's a whole industry dedicated to hospitality and making others feel welcome in new places! But today we are reminded that hospitality is not just a matter of attention to detail, but of attention to the individual guests too. Though this text is often used to pit Mary and Martha against one another in the hearts of hearers (with Mary often winning that contest), perhaps it is less about either/or and more a both/and situation. Jesus is on the scene, and Martha is so busy trying to make him feel welcome that she neglects to pay attention to him. Certainly, he is the focus of her work (she wants the place ready for him!), but when it comes to Jesus, his words are at a premium, and Mary devotes her attention to making him feel welcome by making him feel heard. Martha is not wrong in her desire to create the right environment. Her intention is right. Being welcoming is serious business and takes time and effort (and she could probably use her sister's help to get the work done!). But what good is a clean house and a good meal at the expense of the guests being seen, heard, and truly known?

For heavenly hospitality in homes, churches, and communities, it is not enough to set the table and invite the guests. They must be listened to, heard, and given attention. Both intention and attention must be considered for true hospitality to be shown. In Jesus, God shows humanity both.

Abiding Hope Town Hall meeting immediately following today's service.

PARISH NOTES ~ July 17, 2022

Please pray for: Sheryl Williams & Family on the passing of Sheryl's mother, Shirley Wolbach. Dick Stoker, Ed Tropper, Lew & Jane Penna, Roger & Irene Owens, Darcée Anthony -Lon Jenkins' sister, Norma Squire, the Gresh Family, Peggy Kaeberlein, Nicole Woomer, Cheryl Tufts, Mark Pacileo, Sam & Dorothy Elder, Karri Pacileo, Bonnie Gebhardt, Judy Nordin, Karen Shick, Milo Mariotti, Ruth Hinkson, Don Fuller, Judi Pacileo, Carrie Fiske, Evelyn Senger, Jack & Marjorie Wonner, and Joyce Hersperger.

SUMMER SCHEDULE for In-Person Worship: Only one service @ 9:30a until Sunday, September 4. Both 8:30a & 10:30a worship will return on Sunday, September 11. The service will live-stream on Facebook and then post to the AHLC web page. Please check parish notes or our web site for any time changes that may occur during this time period.

Outdoor Sunday Worship, Family Picnic, Collection of School Supplies: August 14, worship at 9:30a will take place outdoors, lower level of church parking area, followed by a family picnic. Hot dogs/rolls, condiments, drinks provided. A tureen dish or dessert to share is welcomed. If you wish, bring a lawn chair(s). Donations of school supplies for a local grade school are welcome.

Ladies Dining Out: Thursday, July 21 @ 5:00p, Sunset Grill on beautiful Edinboro Lake. Music beginning @ 6:30p. Join the group for a casual evening of good food, conversation and a few laughs. Dutch treat, no agenda. Please RSVP to Jacque Holmberg by July 19 @ 814-490-4470. If you need a ride or are willing to drive, please let Jacque know. Riders/drivers will meet @ 4:30p - AH upper parking area.

ERIE GIVES 2022: Tuesday, August 9 from 800am to 800pm

It's that time of year! Erie Gives is right around the corner and Abiding Hope is asking for your help.

- Minimum gift amount = \$25. No max! Each donation will be enhanced with a prorated match.
- Only Visa, MasterCard and Discover will be accepted.
- All check donations will receive the prorated match just like online donations Checks must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation.
- All check donations must be accompanied by a Check Donation Form. Download the form online at <http://www.ErieGives.org> or they're on the table in the narthex
- Checks must be **received by The Erie Community Foundation** (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) **no later than Monday, August 8, 2022.**
- After donating, you will receive an email receipt which should be saved for tax purposes

Abiding Hope joined Erie Gives in 2018: 29 donors, \$14,487.81. 2019: 34 donors, \$19,329.91. 2020: 27 donors, \$17,504.26. 2021: 23 donors, 20,208.97. This giving day has been incredibly successful or AHLC. Please help us continue that success in 2022.

Thank you for considering a donation to Abiding Hope through Erie Gives.

For additional information there is a flyer on the table in narthex, read the **July Life Together** newsletter, go online at www.abidinghopeerie.org or <http://www.ErieGives.org>. You may also contact Pat Wenzel (Financial Secretary) or any council member.

KAFP Project Dignity: July item ~ laundry products. Basket in "cry room" for your donation.

Office Hours: Mon & -Tue 9:30a-3:30p, Wed 9:30a-12:30p. If office is not staffed, leave a message, your call will be returned. For immediate pastoral assistance, call Pastor Karen at 814-881-3266. Pastor is in the office on Tuesdays, 10:00a and by appointment.

Bethany Outreach: Doing some wardrobe cleaning out and updating? Remember your gently used clothing, shoes, household items, toys, children's items can be donated. All items are given out without charge. Thank you for your continued support. Analee Cree -814-397-6168.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, the weekly sign-up form and request form are on the table in the narthex. Single arrangement may be purchased or two people may share the same week. Arrangements are **\$20.00 each**. Please place the **completed request form and payment** in the offering plate or to the office at least two weeks, but no less than one week prior to your chosen Sunday.

**Altar Candles are given to the Glory of God,
In Memory of Gordon and Mark Wunch, from Carol Wunch**

CURRENT FUND REPORT

June Income:	\$ 4,538.01	Year to Date Income:	\$46,519.93
June Expenses:	\$10,895.66	Year to Date Expenses:	\$62,224.34
June Difference:	\$-6,357.65	Year to date Difference:	\$-15,704.41
		Year to Date Budget:	\$ 63,270

WORSHIP LEADERS ~ July 17, 2022 ~ 9:30am

Videographer	Analee Cree
Greeter/Coffee	June Morey
Lector/Prayers	Nancy Cuning
Comm Assist/cups	Mary Randall
Comm. Assist/wine	Jacque Holmberg
Communion tray	John Holmberg
Presenter	Jeanne Tropper
Presenter	Kayla Miller
Usher	Andy Saska
Usher	Dave Cuning
Counters	Lois Kuhns
	Dave Cuning