

*First Sunday of Lent ~ February 18, 2024*

*Abiding Hope Lutheran Church*

2402 W. Grandview Blvd. Erie PA 16506 – 814.868.8685

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor 814.881.3266 – [pastorparsh@gmail.com](mailto:pastorparsh@gmail.com)

Coordinator of Music – Sheryl Williams



On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

### **GATHERING**

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

*Please stand*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN - ELW 325 *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

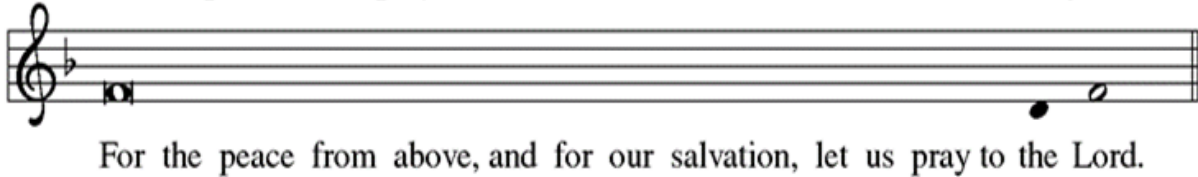
## GREETING

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.**

## KYRIE



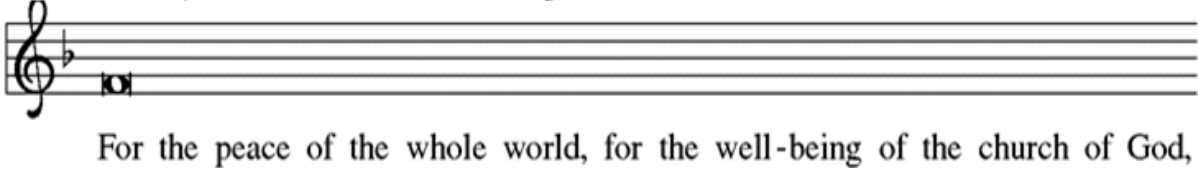
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



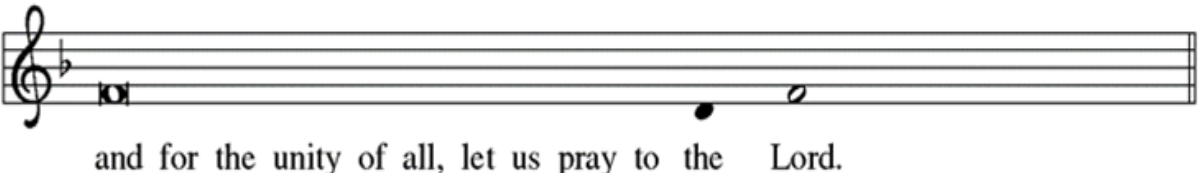
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



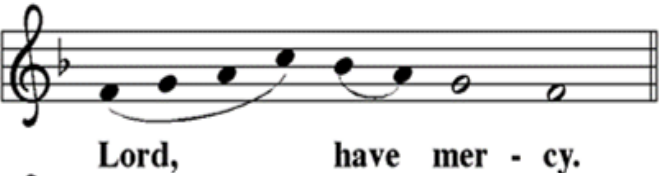
Lord, have mer - cy.



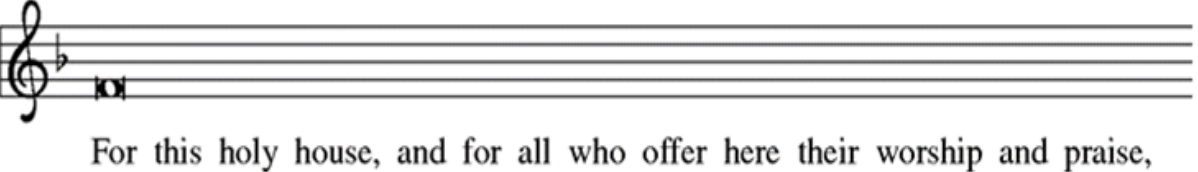
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



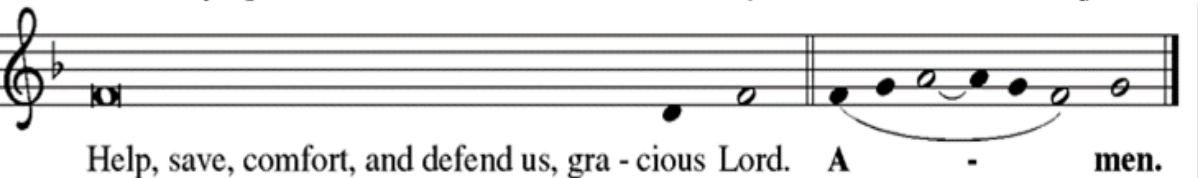
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## 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.* **Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

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

*Please be seated.*

### **FIRST READING: GENESIS 9: 8-17**

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

<sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: 25:1-10 Sung Responsively Tone 9**

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,  
I lift | up my soul.



<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22**

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1: 9-15**

The holy gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

**HYMN of DAY - ELW 304** *Christ, When for Us Your Were Baptized*

## **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 for the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *A brief silence.*

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people especially that of Martin Luther, renewer of the church, whom we commemorate today. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our help, you care for your beloved children. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, or convalescing, especially: Ruth, Darcee, Susan & Megan, Family & Friends of Joe. Ed R. Damian & Marcia, Pastor Karen & Dave, Diana, Don & Skip, Tammy and Evelyn.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

*Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Please be seated*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS**

**OFFERING - Choir:** *Be Still, My Soul* -P. Rodriguez

**OFFERTORY HYMN - Create in Me**

Cre - ate in me \_\_\_ a clean heart, oh God, \_\_\_ that I might serve \_\_\_  
You; \_\_\_ Cre - ate in me \_\_\_ a clean heart, oh God, \_\_\_ that I might be re -  
-newed. So fill \_\_\_ me and heal \_\_\_ me, and bring me \_\_\_ back to \_\_\_  
You. \_\_\_ Cre - ate in me \_\_\_ a clean  
heart, oh God, \_\_\_ that I might serve \_\_\_ You.

**OFFERING PRAYER** Let us pray together.

**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please Stand*

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

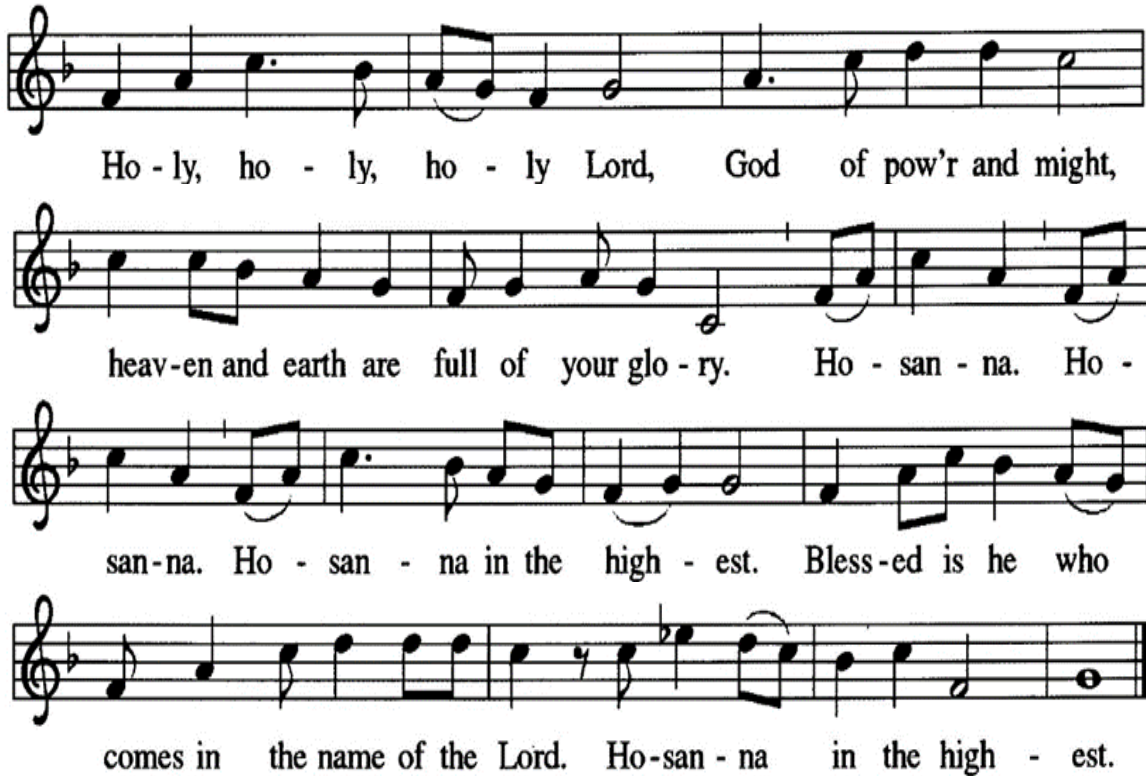
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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 and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.  
Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

At Abiding Hope all believers are welcome to share Holy Communion at the table of the Lord. After receiving the bread, (gluten free) you may receive wine from the chalice poured into individual glasses or you may choose pre-poured grape juice (in center of tray) as an alternative.

### **LAMB of GOD**

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.

*Please be seated*

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen.**

### Communion Hymns -ELW 613 *Thy Holy Wings*

#### *When We Are Tested*



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

## PASTORAL BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God, **at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

### **BLESSING**

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN - ELW 624** *Jesus, Still Lead On*

### **DISMISSAL**

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

### **POSTLUDE**

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### **PARISH NOTES ~ February 18, 2024**

[ahadministrator@hotmail.com](mailto:ahadministrator@hotmail.com) - [www.abidinghopeerie.org](http://www.abidinghopeerie.org) -

FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

**Sunday, February 18 - Annual Congregational Meeting after 9:30 worship**  
to review 2023 Annual Report and discussion old and new business.

**Please pray for:** Ruth Hinkson, Darcee Anthony, Susan & Megan Huff, Family & Friends of Joe Bennett, Ed Randall, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don & Skip Kleckner, Diana Stoker, Pastor Karen & Dave Parsh, Tammy Sharp McIntyre, and Evelyn Senger.

**Wednesday, February 21:** Mid-week **Lenten worship** begins for **each week** of Lent @ **6:00p** following the **"Soup Supper"** @ **5:30p**. A form to sign up to **bring soup and/or bread** is on the middle table in the narthex.

**Wednesday, February 21: Prayer Warriors,** 1-3p meet in the sanctuary for a brief prayer. Following the prayer, you may stay in the sanctuary to quietly pray or choose to use the "Quiet" room.

**Sunday February 25: Choir – 9:00 & 10:45a. Bible Study-10:45a. Confirmation class @ St. Paul's 10:45a.**

**Saturday, March 2: Maple Sugaring at Lutherlyn Saturday Safaris.** A great way for all ages to spend some time learning about nature in the woods! \$10/person for a 2 ½ hour program. [www.lutherlyn.com/safari](http://www.lutherlyn.com/safari).

**Easter Lilies/KAFP Easter Donations:** The price for an Easter lily plant is \$8.50. If you wish to place a plant on the altar for Easter Sunday, a form for ordering plant(s) or donating to KAFP is on the table in the narthex. **Deadline dates** are on the form.

**Little Free Library:** We are pleased there is activity. Currently, books for adults are needed—fiction or nonfiction, as well as lots of bookmarks! Individual cereal cups or packets of oatmeal, dried fruits and granola bars would be welcomed. There is a box in the Heritage Room for donations. Thank you for your support.

**Capital Funds Campaign:** The sound system is installed and working. Contributions (in any amount) are still being accepted to help reach our goal. We are at a standstill! The chart for the donation progress is in the narthex. Please note on your checks that your gift is for the "Sound System". Thanks to those who have contributed.

**Narthex & Fellowship Hall TV monitors:** We now have TV monitors on both levels thanks to members' amazing donations and Andy Saska's skillful installation. It will be a useful addition to our Bible studies and Speaker Series events as well as for promotion of upcoming events and items of interest.

**Bethany Outreach:** Please remember the **collection of used clothing and household items** is ongoing as well as pairs of shoes in good condition for **Chosen**. Drop off in the Heritage Room. Thank you! Analee Cree.

**Are you on Facebook?** Be sure to "friend" Abiding Hope and when you see an AHLC post, and LIKE and SHARE the post to help promote events at AHLC.

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, 9:30a-3:30p. Wednesday, 9:30a-12:30p.

**Altar Flowers:** Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up sheet and request forms on table in narthex. Arrangements-**\$20.00 each**. Place the **completed form and payment** in the offering plate, or to the office at least two weeks, no less than one, prior to your chosen Sunday.

**CURRENT FUND REPORT**

January Income	\$ 7,266.89	Year to Date Income	\$ 7,266.89
January Expenses	\$11,524.95	Year to Date Expenses	\$11,524.95
January Difference	\$-4,258.06	Year to Date Difference	\$ -4,258.06

**Worship Leaders - February 18, 2024**

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall
Lector/Prayers	Penny Gresh
Assisting Min/Acolyte	Donna Holder
Comm. Assist/cups	Carol Korn
Communion tray	Judi Pacileo
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Presenter	Connie Kerr-Vogt
Usher	Rick Penn
Usher	Andy Saska
Counters	Lois Kuhns & Rich Filson