

Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 21, 2024

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

Rev. Karen Parsh 814.881.3266 pastorparsh@gmail.com

2402 W. Grandview Blvd. Erie PA 16506

Coordinator of Music – Sheryl Williams



The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ Ten Thousand Reasons


CHORUS 1a



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O _____ my soul; Wor-ship His ho - ly name. .



— Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name. .

2nd time to Coda 

VERSE 1



1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing,



it's time to sing Your song — a - gain. — What - ev - er may — pass, and what -



-ev - er lies be - fore — me, — let me be sing - ing when the

18

D.S. al Coda



eve - ning comes.

Bless the

Coda

VERSE 2



2. You're rich in love and You're slow to an - ger. Your



name is great and Your heart is kind. _ For all Your good-ness, I will keep on sing - ing; _



Ten thou-sand rea - sons for my heart to find.

CHORUS 1b



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O _____ my soul;



Wor-ship His ho - ly name. _ Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll



wor-ship Your ho - ly name. _ 3. And on that day, when my



strength is fail - ing, the end draws near, and my time has come; _ Still, my soul will sing Your



praise un - end - ing _ ten thou-sand years, and then for - ev - er -

CHORUS 1b

-more! Bless the Lord, O my soul, O _____ my soul;

Wor-ship His ho - ly name. _____ Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll

wor-ship Your ho - ly name. _____ Bless the wor-ship Your ho - ly name, .

_____ wor - ship Your ho - ly name, _____ Lord, I'll

wor-ship Your ho - ly name. _____

ENDING

Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name, .

_____ wor - ship Your ho - ly name, _____

wor - ship Your ho - ly name. _____

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 ~ *This is the Feast* V.1,3 Women ~ V.2,4 Men

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



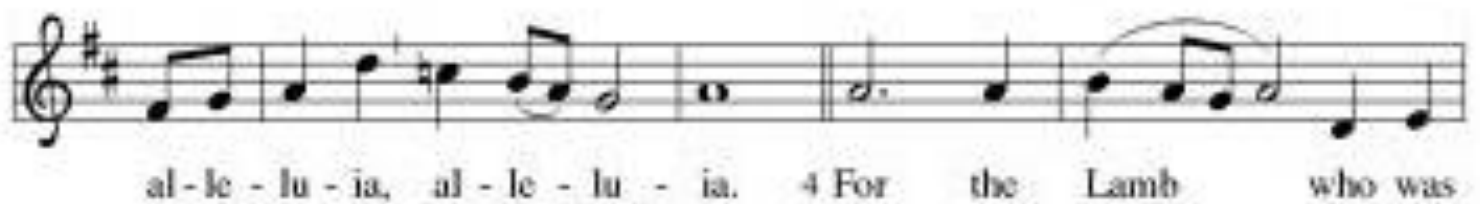
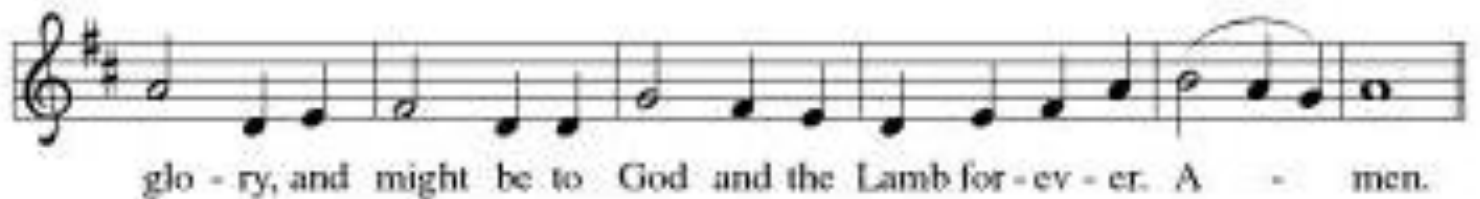
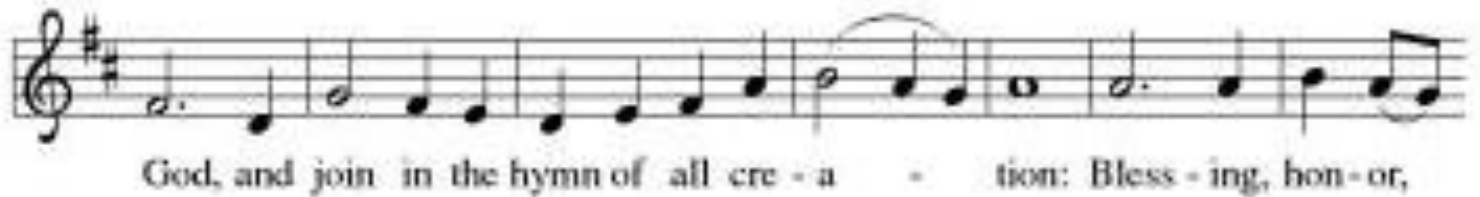
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

HYMN of DAY – cont'd



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. **O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

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

Please be seated

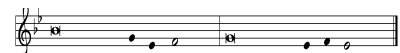
FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

Psalm: 23 Sung Responsively

Tone 7



¹The LORD | is my shepherd; I shall not | be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
shall | fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they | comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my
life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**


SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to John, Chapter 10. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

cont'd

¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

Please be seated

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand

HYMN of DAY ~ **ELW 385**

Good Christians, Friends, Rejoice and Sing v.1,4

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.* Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with grief, illness and compromised immune systems, especially: Family & Friends of Brian, Harry, Bill & Carol, Dan, Diane, Shirley, Don H., Maury, Matt & Sally, Ruth, Stephanie & Family, Damian & Marcia, Pastor Karen & Dave, Tammy, Evelyn. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated

PRESENTATION of GIFTS

OFFERING ~

Please stand

OFFERTORY HYMN ~ ELW 531 *The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing*



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plau

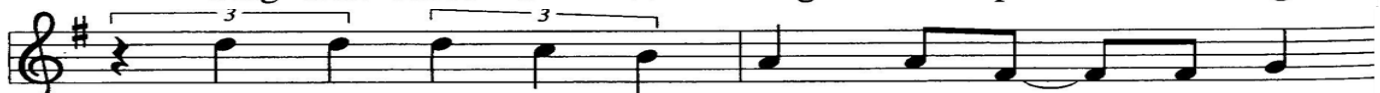


and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

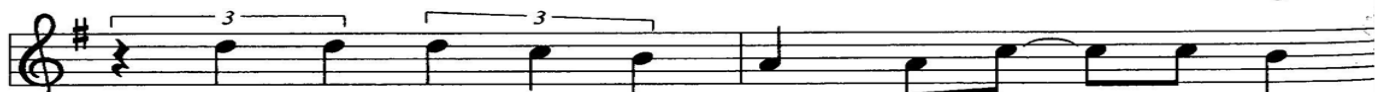
Refrain



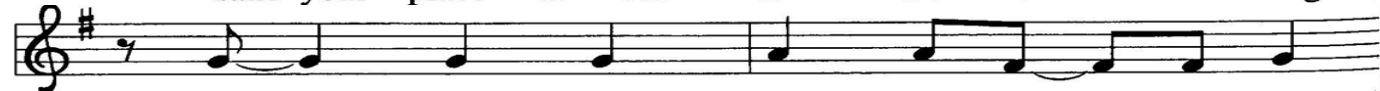
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



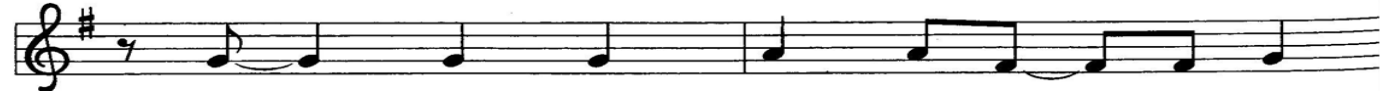
Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

OFFERING PRAYER

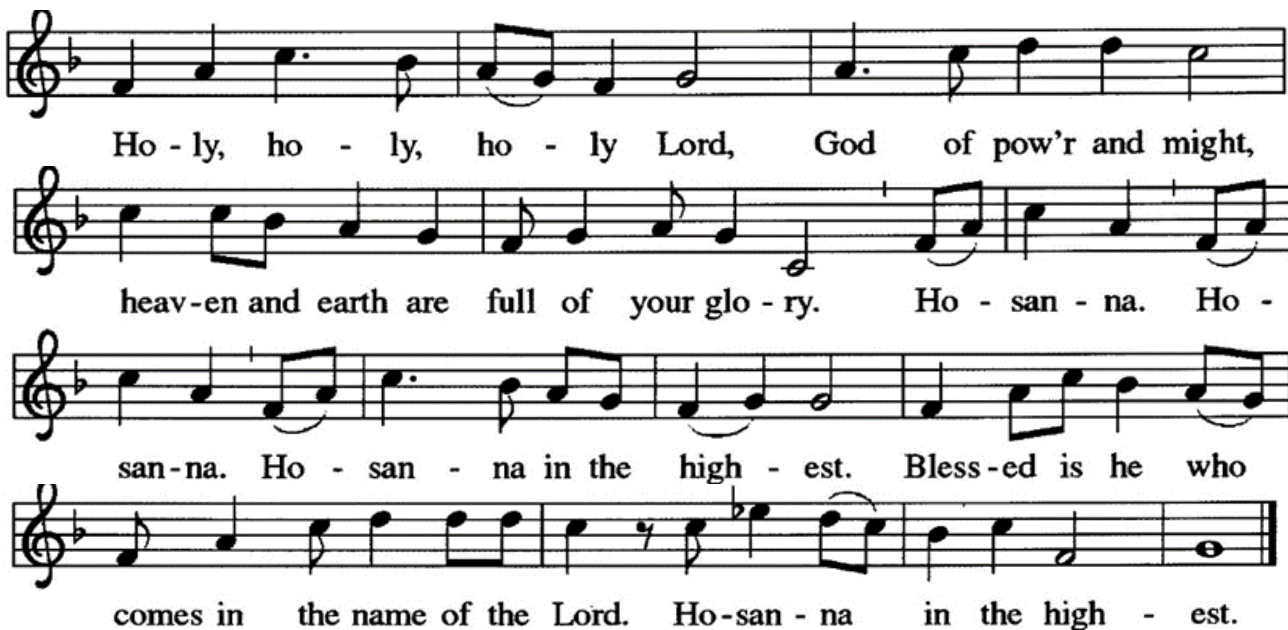
Let us pray together. **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Please be seated

INVITATION to COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

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.

COMMUNION

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

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS ~ ELW 481 *Come to the Table*
ELW 780 *Shepherd Me, O God*

PASTORAL BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together. **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

Please Stand

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ~ *Build a Longer Table*



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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PARISH NOTES ~ April 21, 2024

Phone: 814-868-8685 – Email: ahadministrator@hotmail.com

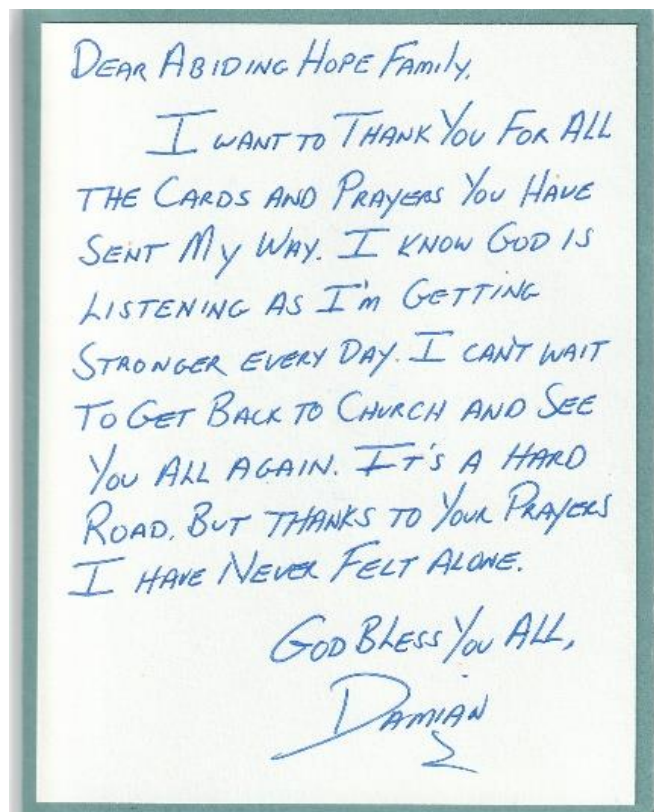
Website: www.abidinghopeerie.org - FB: abidinghopelutheranchurch

Please pray for: Family & Friends of Brian Lakatos, Bill & Carol Heider, Dan Kaeberlein, Harry Speakman, Shirley Englert, Diane Farnsworth, Trudy Mueller, Maury Allen, Matt & Sally Zill, Stephanie Volland & Family, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don Holder, Ruth Hinkson, Pastor Karen & Dave Parsh, Evelyn Senger, Tammy Sharp McIntyre,

To Our Dear Abiding Hope Family-

Where would we be, especially during these past months, without your constant prayers and care? Thank you for the many ways you have shown your love to our families by being the listening ear, the smile, the one who just checks in on us. It has been wonderful to hear the many ways that my parents – Don and Skip Kleckner – have touched so many of your lives over the years. Your sympathy cards and memorial gifts benefiting Lutherlyn and other great ministries are beautiful and appreciated. Thank you to the Hospitality team and to all of you involved in the refreshing repasts following both funeral worship services which allowed friends and family to share memories and stories and to reunite with one another in love. Peace be with you.

-John and Jacque, Jonali and family, Jelena and family.



Sunday, April 21: Bible Study, 10:45a Choir: Warmup, 9a - Practice, 11a

Thursday, May 2: Enjoy a 3-hour tour **11a-2p** of Hurry Hill Farm, the sugar house and Maple Sugar Museum (rain date, May 6). Jan Woods will demonstrate, and we will participate in the making of maple sugar. A **general number of participants is needed by April 29**. If considering joining the group, **please sign up asap**.

Latecomers can be accommodated, but Jan has many preparations to make. Signing up early would be appreciated. You are encouraged to read the award-winning book, **"Miracles on Maple Hill" by Virginia Sorensen** prior to the tour. Sign up form in narthex for tour (\$10). Book is also \$10 if you wish to purchase. Cash payments.

Thursday, May 9: Erie Lutheran Conference Ascension Day service with Rev. Erik Young, St. Paul's preaching. 7:00pm @ Luther Memorial. Festive reception to follow.

Saturday, May 11: Lutherlyn CampBlast! 11a-4p. Free! Rain or Shine! Indoor/outdoor activities: campfire, crafts, pony rides, nature activities, sports, hayrides, hikes, zipline etc. Lunch (12n-3p) and worship. No registration required. Just show up with family and friends. Postcard on narthex table with additional info.

Sunday, May 19: If you wish to place a **geranium on the altar for Pentecost**, order forms are on the table in the narthex or use the attached on page 16.

KAFP Project Dignity: April item, **Hand/Body Lotion**. Donations can be placed in the basket on the shelf in the Heritage Room.

Bethany Outreach: Collection of used clothing and household items continues as well as collection of shoes (pairs only) in good condition for **The Chosen**. Baskets on the shelf in the Heritage Room.

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., 9:30a-3:30p. Wed., 9:30a-12:30p. For immediate pastoral assistance, call Pastor Karen, 814-881-3266.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to **donate flowers** for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up and request forms are on the 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.

Worship Leaders ~ April 21, 2024

Videographer	Analee Cree
Greeter/Coffee	Volunteer
Lector/Prayers	Jacque Holmberg
Assisting Min/Acolyte	Jeanne Tropper
Communion Assist/Cups	John Holmberg
Communion/Assist/Tray	Connie Kerr-Vogt
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Presenter	Volunteer
Usher	Rich Filson
Usher	Volunteer
Counters	Analee Cree, Larry Ruhlman



**Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday
May 19, 2024**

\$3.50 for a 4½-inch pot containing one plant with gold foil wrap. Place the **form** with **your payment in the offering plate by Sunday, May 5** or **to the office by Monday, May 6.** *Thank you.*

PLEASE PRINT

Given to the glory of God:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Celebration of _____

By _____

of plants ordered: _____ **\$ enclosed:** _____

If you wish to donate your geranium(s) for the church property, please check here_____. ***Number of plants***_____



Pentecost Sunday

KEARSARGE FOOD PANTRY

I would like to make a donation....

\$ _____

***Use the above form to complete your KAFP donation request.
Please return in offering plate by May 12 or to the office by May 13.***