

# *Transfiguration of Our Lord ~ March 2, 2025*

## *Abiding Hope Lutheran Church*

*We are a Loving Family, Growing In Faith,  
Sharing the Hope of Christ...*

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor

Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

**PRELUDE** ~ *Cecile Chaminade*

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS** ~ *A special thank you to Cindi Reid for providing special music today!*

### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit call us together as the people of God

*Please stand*

### **CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh,  
our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess  
our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be  
messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our  
joy, our resources, and our security.**

**We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our  
neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.**

**Where we are reluctant, give us courage.**

**Where we are cynical, restore our trust.**

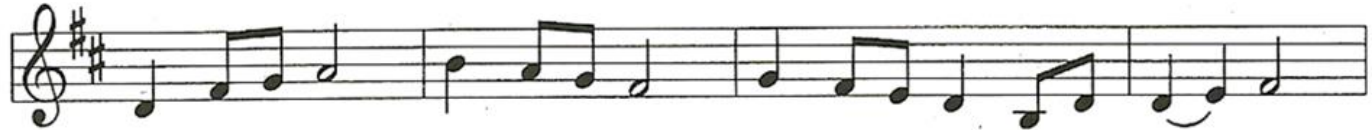
**Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life  
in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 315** *How Good, Lord to be Here!*

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, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



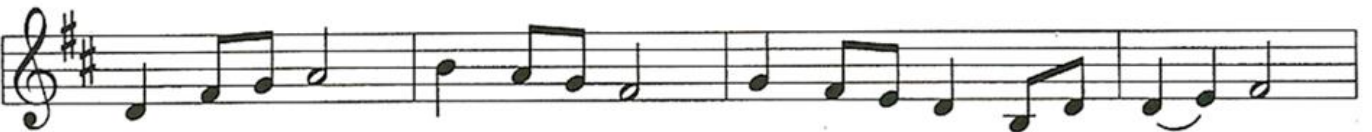
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ 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, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



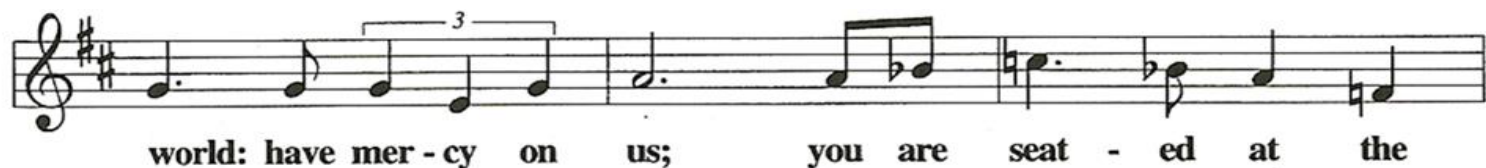
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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



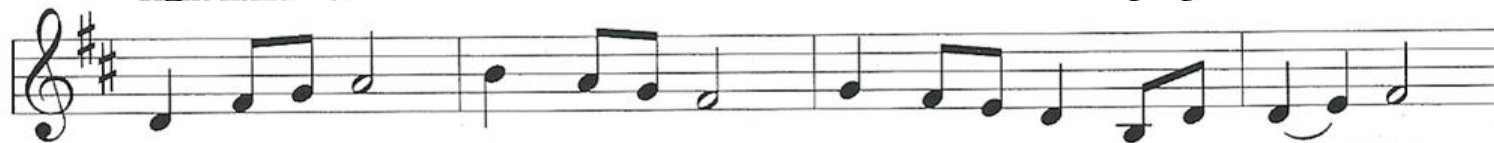
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



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, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



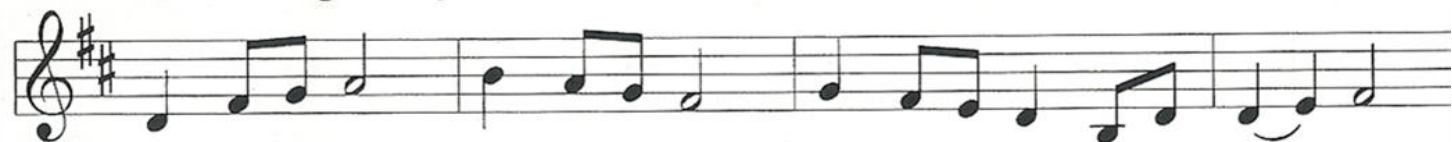
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



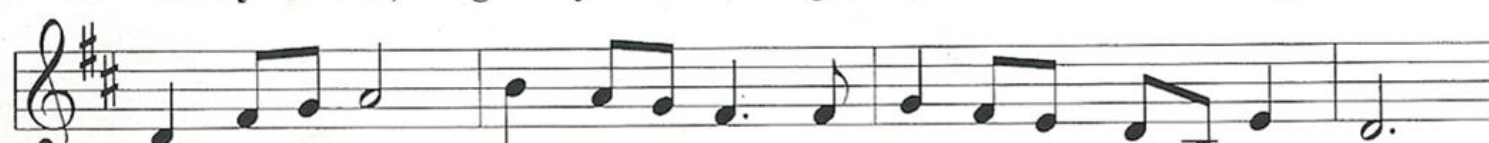
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## 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, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our 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*

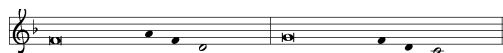
### **FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35**

<sup>29</sup> Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup> but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

### **PSALM: 99**

**Sung Responsively**



<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king; let the <sup>l</sup> people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let <sup>l</sup> the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD, <sup>l</sup> great in Zion,  
is high a- <sup>l</sup> bove all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup> Let them confess God's name, which is <sup>l</sup> great and awesome;  
God is the <sup>l</sup> Holy One.

<sup>4</sup> **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- <sup>l</sup> tablished equity;  
you have executed justice and righteous- <sup>l</sup> ness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup> Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be-<sup>1</sup> fore God's footstool; God is the <sup>1</sup> Holy One.

<sup>6</sup> **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your <sup>1</sup> name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you <sup>1</sup> answered them,**

<sup>7</sup> you spoke to them out of the pil-<sup>1</sup> lar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree <sup>1</sup> that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup> **O LORD our God, you answered <sup>1</sup> them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their <sup>1</sup> evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup> **Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's <sup>1</sup> holy hill; for the LORD our God is the <sup>1</sup> Holy One.**

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3: 2,13-18,4:1-2**

<sup>2</sup> Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <sup>16</sup> but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. <sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

*Please stand*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-43a**

The holy gospel according to Luke, 9 Chapter 9. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. <sup>37</sup> On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. <sup>38</sup> Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. <sup>39</sup> Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. <sup>40</sup> I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." <sup>41</sup> Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." <sup>42</sup> While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. <sup>43a</sup> And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

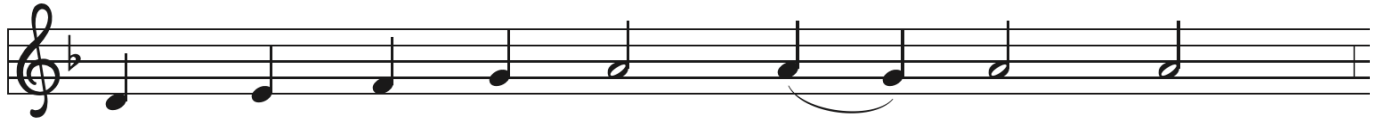
*Please be seated*

**SERMON** ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

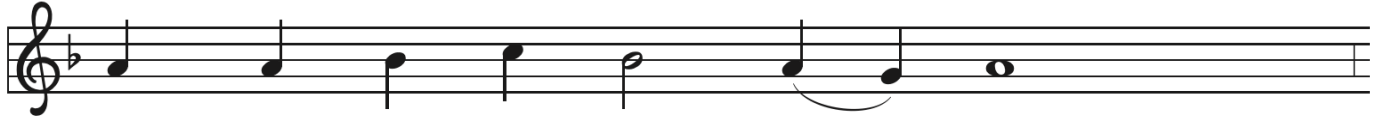
*Please stand*

**HYMN of the DAY** ~ *You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd* pg. 7

*You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd*



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
 stripped of might up - on the cross,  
 sit in pow - er at God's side.  
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.  
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,  
 have a love that reach - es wide.  
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
 you, who are both gift and cost.  
 you, who are our pil - grim and guide.  
 you, who are our death and life.

## **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 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**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils. Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray especially for: Pr. Bill, Norma, Maury & Linda, Desi, Shelly, Dan & Peggy, Ellie, Court, Dick, Judy J., Damian & Marcia, Pat K., Marjorie, Ron F., Larry & Barb, Tom, Esther, Judy N., Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Don & Donna, Evelyn, the prayer requests from the Little Library, and those we name before you now either aloud or in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**



God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*All share the Peace of the Lord with one another.*

*Please be seated*

## MEAL

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

## OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS

**OFFERING ~ Choir Anthem:** *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. D. Williamson

## OFFERTORY HYMN ~ *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. **God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. 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 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-er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. 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. 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 your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion  
we may know the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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.**

*Please be seated*

## **INVITATION to COMMUNION**

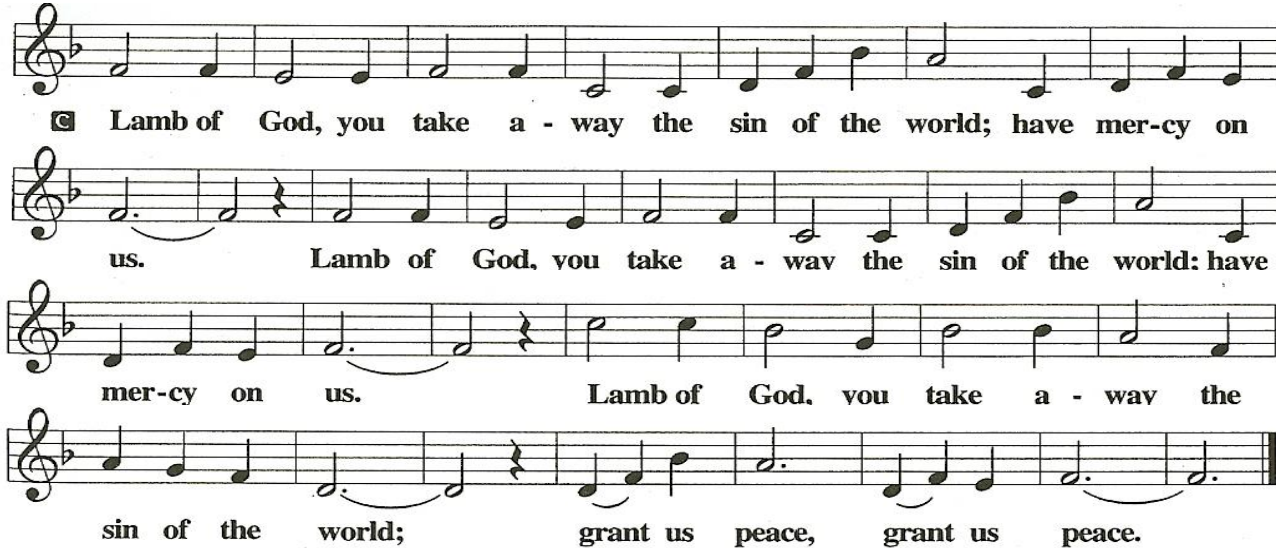
Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

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.

## 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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN ~ ELW 815 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION

## 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. **God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please stand*

## SENDING

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

## SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 671 *Shine, Jesus Shine*

## BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE ~

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## PARISH NOTES ~ March, 2 2025

Pastor Karen Parsh – 814-881-3266 [Pastorparsh@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorparsh@gmail.com)  
[ahadministrator@hotmail.com](mailto:ahadministrator@hotmail.com) - [www.abidinghopeerie.org](http://www.abidinghopeerie.org) -  
FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

**Please keep these members and friends in your prayers:** Maury and Linda Allen, Norma Buerk, Pastor Bill Cox (Prince of Peace), Desi Davis, Shelly West, Dan & Peggy Kaeberlein, Damian and Marcia Santabene, Court Cratty, Dick Brucker, Ellie Cherpak, Evelyn Senger, Judy Johnston, Pat K. Judy Nordin, Marjorie Wonner, Ron Froess, Larry & Barb Ruhlman, Esther Klakamp, Tom Cirillo, Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Don & Donna Holder and requests from our Little Library.

**Receiving Communion: If it is a challenge for you to come forward to receive communion, please alert the usher and you will be served communion at your seat.**

**Sunday, March 2: Worship, 930a - Choir: 900**

**Sunday, March 9: Worship, 930a - Choir: 1045a No Bible Study**

### **Notes of Thanks**

*Thank you to the many volunteer hands that made so many peanut butter sandwiches and stuffed the 60 lunch bags to feed our local homeless neighbors. Thank you, too, for your donations of snacks - and to the Thrivent Financial Action Team program for funding this service project. -Jacque Holmberg, coordinator*

**Good morning.** *Therese, Carolyn, Matt and I would like to thank our entire Abiding Hope Family for all the prayers, calls, cards and thoughts during and after Carolyn's pregnancy. It really meant a lot to all that we were not on our own.*

*Baby Elliott (Elliott Richard Marriotti) had a weight check yesterday (2/25) and is up to 6lbs 1oz. Doctor is happy with his progress. This truly is a miracle. -Rick Penn*

### **MARDI GRAS PARTY in the F.H. @ 1100a.**

**Snacks, Games, Lunch. Even if you didn't sign the form, ALL are invited to the party, Open concert in the sanctuary by Sax-O-Friends @ 12:30.**

**Wednesday, March 5: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES, 12:15p & 6:00p @ Abiding Hope ~ 2:30p @ New Hope Presbyterian**

**Wednesday's in Lent: March 12, 19, 26 ~ April 2, 9 in the Fellowship Hall @ 12:15p.** Lenten worship, "The Sign from Jonah" followed by **soup, bread & dessert** with our friends from New Hope. A **sign-up sheet to bring soup etc.** is in the narthex.

**Tuesday, March 4:** Once again, this spring, ALHC is partnering with New Hope for **EASTER FLOCK, Saturday April 12.** A **planning meeting @ 12:30p** is **OPEN** to **anyone** interested in helping with this family-oriented outreach event.

**Saturday, March 8:** Turn you **clocks ahead** (Spring) **1hr**

**Monday, March 17:** All ladies (friends too) are welcome to gather for **Prayer Shawls 10a-12n**. Join the group for prayer, good conversation, knitting shawls, lap robes etc. for the homebound. **No experience? Showing "how to" offered!**

**Little Free Library/Pantry:** Hopefully March will bring some warmer weather, but it is still too early to put canned goods in the pantry. In the meantime, the **following would be appreciated:** dried fruits in individual packages, instant hot cereals, small jars of peanut butter in plastic jars, peanut butter/cheese crackers, graham crackers, ready-to-eat "pouch meals" (tuna especially), pastas, pasta sauces in plastic. The generosity to this mission has just been overwhelming. **Blessings and Gratitude** for the food donations and the lovely, handcrafted bookmarks! Please consider selecting a book for yourself whenever you like! This library is for our entire community! -Connie Kerr-Vogt

**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.

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, 930a-330p. Wednesday, 930a-1230p. For **immediate pastoral assistance**, call **Pastor Karen**, 814-881-3266.

### Worship Leaders ~ March 2, 2025

Videographer	Analee Cree
Greeter/Coffee	Cindy Filson
Lector/Prayers	Penny Gresh
Assiting Minister/Acolyte	Donna Holder
Communion Cups	Nancy Cunning
Communion Tray	Emily / Kayla Miller
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Presenter	Cindy Filson
Usher	Rich Filson
Usher	Volunteer
Counters	Analee & Penny

*Ash Wednesday Services*

**Wednesday March 5th**

**12:15 & 6 p.m.**  
with New Hope Presbyterian at  
*Abiding Hope Lutheran Church*

**2:30 p.m.**  
with Abiding Hope Lutheran Church  
*New Hope Presbyterian Church*

2402 W. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA  
www.abidinghopeerie.org  
All are Welcome!  
Handicapped Accessible

5440 Washington Ave. Erie, PA  
814-864-1920  
All are Welcome!