

*Sixth Sunday of Pentecost ~ July 5, 2026*

*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*

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation:*

*"Come to me, all you that are weary."*

*Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.*

***Let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.***

*(please turn off your cell phone)*

*If you would like to follow along as the lessons and gospel are read,  
bibles are available in the back of the sanctuary.*

**PRELUDE** ~ *America the Beautiful* arr. M. Hayes

**GATHERING**

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

*Please stand*

**CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

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

Merciful God,

**We confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God,

**We confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN – ELW 777** *Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty v.1,2,5,6*

**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** ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

*Refrain*



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



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

*Refrain*



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



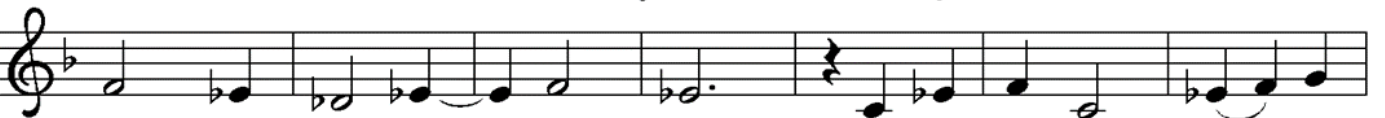
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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



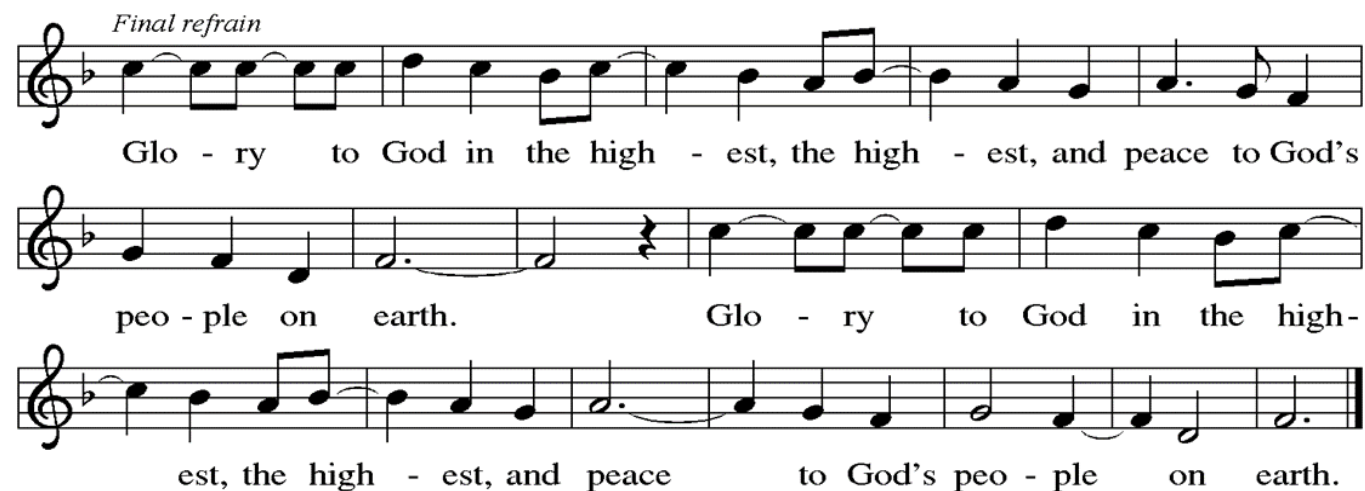
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 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. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### **PRAYER of the DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray together. **Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **WORD**

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

### **FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12**

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

### **PSALM 145:8-14 Spoken Response**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**LORD, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak <sup>l</sup> of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion  
endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your  
words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

### **SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a**

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

*Please Stand*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

S 188

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

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19,25-30**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew Chapter 11.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, <sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’<sup>18</sup>“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” <sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON** ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

*Please stand*

**HYMN of the DAY** ~ **ELW 790** *Day By Day*

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

To each petition: God of Grace. *Please response: **hear our prayer***

### **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*

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

**OFFERING** ~ *He Shall Feed His Flock/Come Unto Me* G.F. Handel

*Please stand*

**OFFERTORY HYMN** ~ **ELW 887** *This is My Song*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. **Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. 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**

We celebrate the Holy Spirit, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness. We celebrate the Divine Spirit, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through him, made divine life available to all. We celebrate the Spirit, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Kingdom of God. And so, as we gather at this table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence.

Together, we offer our praise and join in the hymn of all creation:

S 190

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

## **THANKSGIVING at the TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

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.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**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.

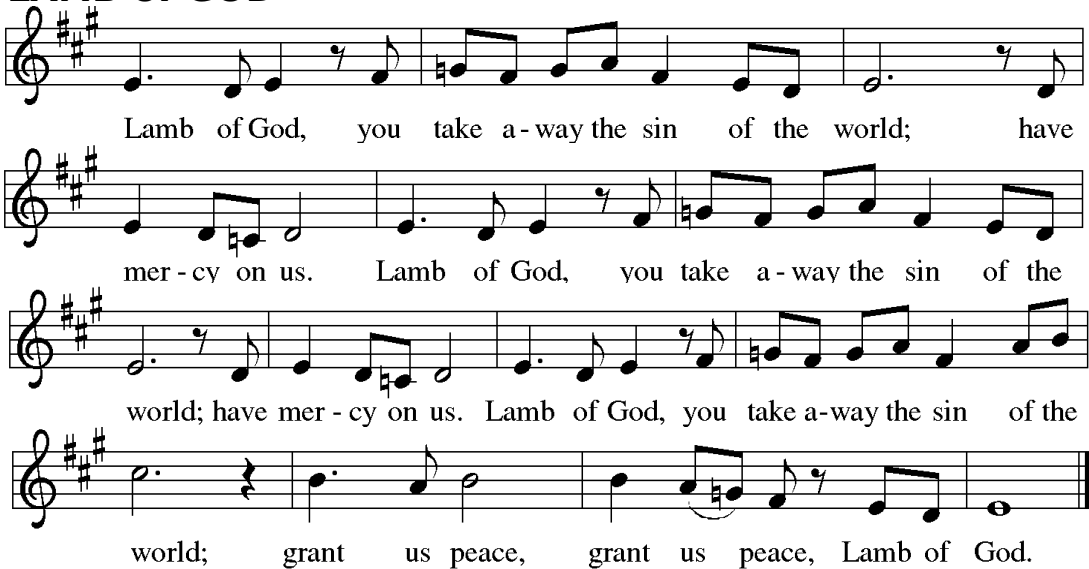
**Our Father, who art in heaven, .... Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **INVITATION to COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## 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, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION HYMNS ~ ELW 608 *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* Instrumental Meditation

*Please stand*

### 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: **Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

### SENDING

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

### BLESSING

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

## SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 890 *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE ~ *God Bless America* I. Berlin

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## Parish Notes ~ July 5, 2026

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church ~ 2402 W. Grandview Blvd. 16506

Phone: 814-868-8685 – Email: [ahadministrator@hotmail.com](mailto:ahadministrator@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.abidinghopeerie.org](http://www.abidinghopeerie.org) - FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch)

Pastor Karen Parsh – 814-881-3266, [Pastorparsh@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorparsh@gmail.com)

**Please keep in your prayers:** Gilda & Anthony, Eric & Benjamin Askins, Ed & Jeanne Tropper, Jason, Samantha & James Herring, Cindy & Rich Filson, Pr. Karen Parsh, Christine Petrone, Matt, Carolyn & Elliott Marriotti, Adrianna & Family, Dick & Diana Stoker, Harry & Susan Speakman, Leslie Gallagher-Kelly, Kathy Sinnott, Maury & Linda Allen, Damian & Marcia Santabene, Don & Donna Holder and the Little Library visitors.

### **Sunday, July 5: Worship 9:30a - Bible Study 11a**

**BINGO planning meeting following worship**

### **Tuesday, July 7: Gem City Concert Band, 7p.** Lower level parking area.

**Bring a lawn chair.** Enjoy a summer evening of music, popcorn & lemonade with family/friends.



### **Thursday, July 9: Care & Share Group @ 1p with Damian**

**Sunday, July 12: Worship, 930a – Bible Study 11a - Zoom Bible, 7p. All are invited to join.** If interested, **send your email to Rick Penn** any time prior to 7p on the Sunday of your choice.

**Wednesday, July 15: The sanctuary is open 1-3p for Prayer Warriors.** Join us for silent prayer/meditation or from wherever you are to pray for our families, friends, our church family, neighborhood, state, our country and our world.

**Wednesday, July 15: Men's Night Out, Madeline's, 6:30p.** Signup in narthex or just show up!

**Thursday, July 16: Ladies Night Out, Royal Chopstix, 5:30p. RSVP by 7/13.** Signup in narthex.

**Sunday, July 19**

**FLYERS with Information on sponsorship in narthex.**

**Tickets in Office.**

**Plan to attend to support this "fun"raising event.**



**The Little Free Library** still has an influx of visitors, exchanging and contributing books. We have no need of books at this time, but surely appreciate your prayers for this ministry!

**Office Hours:** Mon. & Tue, 930a-3:30p. Wed, 9:30a-12:30p. **For immediate pastoral needs, Thurs-Sat.,** contact **Pastor Karen Parsh 814.881.3266.** On **Fri.,** contact **Rick Penn, 814.737.9974.**

**Worship Leaders ~ July 5, 2026**

Videographer	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Cindy Filson
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Donna Holder
Lector/Prayers	Andi Watson
Communion Cups	Barb Ruhlman
Communion Tray	Linda Allen
Presenter	Connie Kerr Vogt
Presenter	Diana Stoker
Usher	Andy Saska
Usher	Rich Filson
Counters	Rich & Barb

**Worship Leaders ~ July 12, 2026**

Videographer	Analee Cree
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Analee Cree
Lector/Prayers	Judi Pacileo
Communion Cups	Nancy Cunning
Communion Tray	Lois Kuhns
Presenter	Michele Rion
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	Jay Zeimet
Usher	Volunteer
Counters	Lois & Analee