

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

May 29, 2022 ~ Jacque Holmberg, Lay Minister

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



It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn?

Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 756 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! (three times)

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.**

NOW the FEAST

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of
God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

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 God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 97**Responses Sung Tone 1**

¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

³Fire goes before the LORD,
burning up enemies on every side.

⁴Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

⁸Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰You who love the LORD, hate evil!
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

¹¹Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.

¹²Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.

SECOND READING: Revelation 22:12-14, 20-21

¹²"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." ¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." ¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. ²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **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: John 17:20-26

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 17. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them." Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love* - hymn attached pg. 8

Please stand

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Keep in our minds those who have died in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry, especially, Peggy, Nicole, Pastor Karen and Dave, Shirley, Steven, Cheryl, Mark, Sam & Dorothy, Karri, Skip & Don, Bonnie, Judi, Karen, Milo, Ruth, Don, Irene, Judi, Bishop Lozano, Carrie, Evelyn, Jack & Marjorie, and Joyce. Open them to receive health and salvation in Christ Jesus through the Spirit's gift of faith. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Stir imagination and understanding throughout the church in the work of poets, theologians, and hymnwriters. Lead us into new visions and fresh expressions of your presence. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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 stand

OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

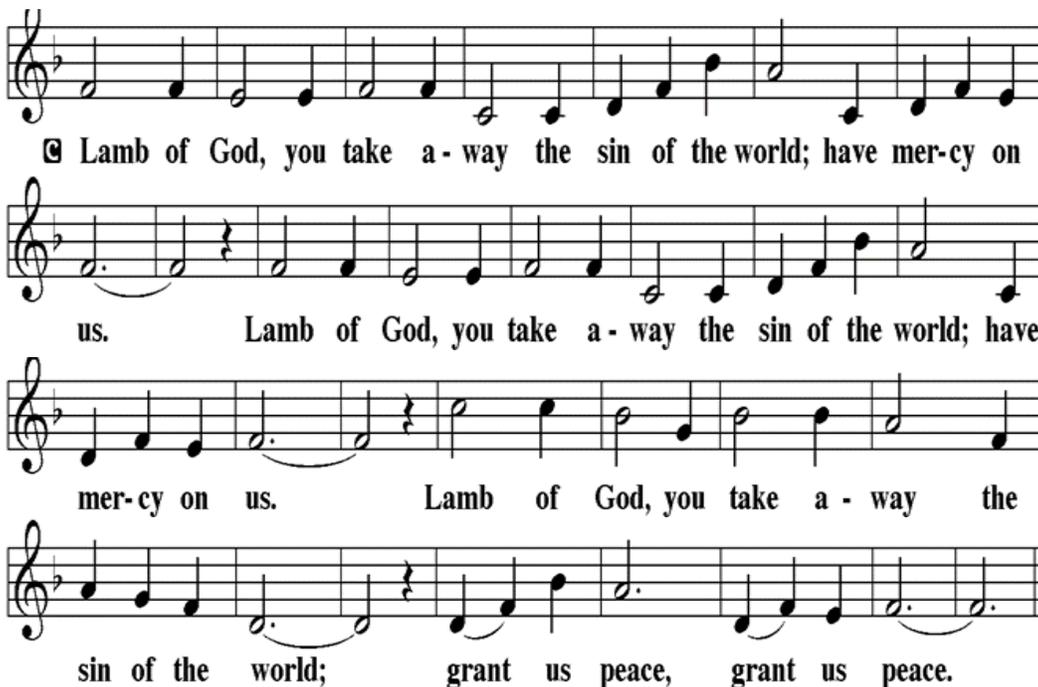
PRAYERS of DISTRIBUTION ~ Lay Distributor, John Holmberg

(At this service of worship, we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion through the distribution of the elements blessed at a previous celebration. Our Lay Distributors of Holy Communion were selected by the congregational council, received instruction, and were appointed by our synodical bishop. They will serve this congregation during times of pastoral vacancy so that we may continue to receive communion as Christ's body here at Abiding Hope Lutheran Church.)

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.

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.

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.

DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love

♩ = 56

VERSE

Gm F/G Gm F/G Gm F/G Gm F/G



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the
 2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in
 3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by
 4. All — praise to the Fa - ther, from — whom all things

4 Gm Cm F⁷/C Gm F/G Gm



Lord; We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord. And we
 hand; We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand. And to -
 side; We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side. And we'll
 come; And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His — on - ly — Son. And all

9 Gm F⁷/C Gm F/G Gm



pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored. And they'll
 - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
 guard each man's dig - ni - ty and save — each man's pride.
 praise to the Spir - it, who — makes — us — one.

CHORUS

13 E♭ Gm Cm



know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love, yes they'll

17 Gm Cm F⁷/C Gm



know — we are Chris - tians by our love. —————

GOSPEL MESSAGE ~ The Glorious Beloved

It can be difficult to have a benevolent view of humanity. News and social media feed us a steady diet of the wrongdoings of the world. Whether it be mass violence, corporate malfeasance, individual acts of hatred or hurt, or the horrible things we believe the other side is doing, we have no shortage of evidence of the brokenness of human beings. We might even find biblical support for this low view of people as a whole. We can look back to the creation story in Genesis and God calling all that is created "good," only to move to the eating of the fruit and the failure of those first two people in their obedience. We can then travel through the whole scriptural narrative and find that it is filled with all the same terrible things we see in our present day. As Lutherans, we say of ourselves that we are both saint and sinner, but the volume of negative information we encounter about human experience can make it seem that sinfulness and brokenness are our only reality. Sometimes we need a reminder of our goodness and the power of even a little bit of God's grace to work transformation in and among us. Today's gospel passage is one of those blessed reminders. As Jesus prays for his disciples, he notes that others will believe because of their word. He prays for their unity and belief, and that they may know the glory they have been given and the love God has for them. These are tremendous gifts of grace. Our Easter proclamation demonstrates the power of their word. We are the heirs of their witness, unity, belief, and glory. Though there may be plenty of evidence that says otherwise, we are the glorious beloved through whom God is working to bring goodness and mercy into people's lives today.

PARISH NOTES ~ May 29, 2022

Please pray for: Peggy Kaeberlein, Nicole Woomer, Pastor Karen and Dave Parsh, Shirley Wolbach (Sheryl Williams' mother), Steven Elder (Judi Pacileo's granddaughter's husband hurt in a motorcycle accident), Cheryl Tufts, Mark Pacileo, Sam & Dorothy Elder, Karri Pacileo, Skip & Don Kleckner, Bonnie Gebhardt, Judy Nordin, Karen Shick, Milo Mariotti, Ruth Hinkson, Don Fuller, Irene Owens, Judi Pacileo, Bishop Lozano, Carrie Fiske, Evelyn Senger, Jack & Marjorie Wonner, and Joyce Hersperger.

SUMMER SCHEDULE for In-Person Worship: One service @ 9:30a, beginning next Sunday, June 5, will continue to Sunday, September 4. 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. 8:30a & 10:30a worship will return on Sunday, September 11.

DAY of PENTECOST FESTIVAL: Sunday June 5, One service @ 9:30a. WEAR RED!!!

Welcome New Members. Coffee Hour following worship.

Today is World Hunger 5th Sunday: Abiding Hope council has designated each 5th Sunday as a time for members to contribute financial support to help meet the needs of a hungry world. Donation envelopes are available in the pews for cash and check donations. If using a check, make it payable to Abiding Hope, indicating ELCA World Hunger in the memo line, and place your gift in the offering plate. Thank you for your generosity.

Final Adult Choir practice until September: Wednesday, June 1 @ 6:00p. If you can provide summer music during worship, voice solo or group anthem, or instrumental selection, see Sheryl Williams.

VBS Volunteer Meeting: Sunday, June 5th @ 12:00N with volunteers from New Hope and St Paul's.

Senior Monthly Gathering: Wednesday, June 8 @ 12noon (note date change). Bring your own brown bag lunch. This month featuring **BINGO (with prizes)** and making your own **ice cream sundae!**

Ladies Night Out: Come along for an evening of dinner & conversation on **Thursday, June 9** at **Riverside Brewery** (built on the site of the historic Riverside Inn) in Cambridge Springs. **Dinner @ 5:30p.** **RSVP** to Jacque @ **814-490-4470** by **June 5.** **Car pool leaving church @ 4:45p.** If willing to drive or need a ride, please let Jacque know.

VBS 2022: Begins **Sunday, June 12** to **Thursday, June 16, 6:00p to 8:30p,** for children 3yrs to 5th grade. Teaming with St. Paul's Lutheran & New Hope Presbyterian, this year's theme is "**Camp Edge**". **Registration required by June 3.** **Sixty openings available** including kids from St. Paul's & New Hope. **Forms available on narthex table.**

KAFP Project Dignity: May item ~ **Shampoo.** Laundry basket in "cry room" for your donation

Office Hours: **Memorial Day, May 30 ~ office closed.**

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. A single arrangement may be purchased or two people may share a Sunday for the same week. The 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. Arrangement orders are called in on Monday.

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

WORSHIP LEADERS - May 29, 2022

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Videographer	X	Andy Saska
Greeter/Coffee	Mary Randall	Jeanne Tropper
Lector/Prayers	Analee Cree	Judi Pacileo
Comm. Cups	Mary Randall	Volunteer
Comm. Wine	Lon Jenkins	Michello Rion
Comm. Tray	Analee Cree	Penny Gresh
Presenter	Analee Cree	Kayla Miller & Family
Presenter/Usher	Lon Jenkins	Volunteer
Usher	Mike Paris	Andy Saska
Counters	X	Judi Pacileo & Volunteer