Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

305-311 Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ 07828 973-691-9393 • www.abidingpeacechurch.org Serena Rice, *pastor* • Benjamin Schroeder, *music director*



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Abiding Peace Lutheran Church!



Abiding Peace Lutheran Church makes Christ known by welcoming all people to a supportive and accepting place to grow in faith and community and to serve the Lord as people created by God, saved by Christ, and nurtured by the Holy Spirit. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, committed to the full inclusion and celebration of people of all sexualities, genders, and gender expressions, and to the work of racial equity.

In-person visitors are invited to share their contact information with the usher if they would like a follow-up with the pastor. Thank you for blessing us with your presence. We welcome children to worship and we encourage their participation, including their wiggles and child voices. There is a seating area at the back of the sanctuary with room for little ones to crawl around. If desired, there is also a nursery room available, accompanied by parents or guardians.

Offering: The Ministry of Abiding Peace is supported by the generous donations of our community. Please consider supporting our work through a variety of giving options, including donations through Venmo (search for @Abiding-Peace-BuddLake), online bill pay with your bank, mailing your offering envelope to the church, or plate giving.

Holy Communion: We commune at the altar rail. Please collect an individual cup from the usher when you come forward, or come forward at the end for the common cup. We offer either wine or juice and allergen-free bread. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, the usher can bring communion to you. You are also welcome to come forward with arms crossed for a blessing.

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WORDS FOR REFLECTION

The tone of today's texts is ominous. The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

PRELUDE

Gymnopédie No. 2

Erik Satie

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever

C Amen.

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

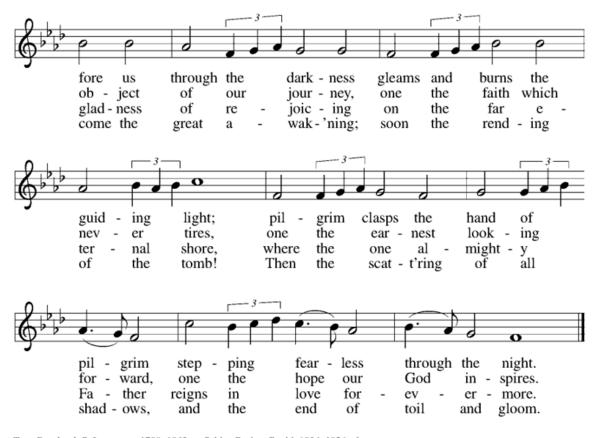
Silence is kept for reflection.

- *P* Faithful God,
- C you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.
- P Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, \oplus in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.
- C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow ELW 327





Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789–1862; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt. Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE





- *P* The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. O God,
- C the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

THE FIRST READING

Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

L A reading from Malachi.

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of

righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 98

The Psalm will be spoken responsively, by verse.

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

- O Lord, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- 3 You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 4 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 5 Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
- 7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.
- 9 The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6–13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their social position and wealth, would arrive early to community gatherings and eat their fill while laborers coming from the fields would be left with the scraps. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work. Christ's community is to be marked by equity, not class differences.

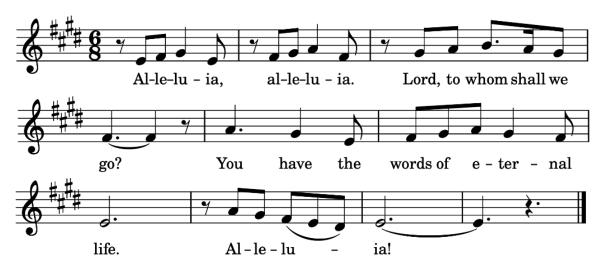
L A reading from 2^{nd} Thessalonians.

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL Luke 21:5–19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."

Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endur- ance you will gain your souls."

- *P* The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows. All stand and sing the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Our World Is Rent by Violence ACS 1052



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: FORTUNATUS NEW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

Text © 2015 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Music © 1967 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 THE CHURCH

A Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Teach us to trust in Christ's victory over death, and inspire us by the example of the faithful to never grow weary of doing what is right. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel. Grant discernment, wisdom, and courage for them in their testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of victory, undermine those who strive for selfish power, and guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military to serve the needs of all. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, or harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. We pray for all who are mourning and for all on our prayer list, including Alia, Aimee, Lydia, Dean, April, Bella, Bodhi, Barbara, Susan, William, Scott, Audrey, George, Sibylle, Leslie, and Hailey. (Pause to allow additional prayers to be offered.) We pray for all in harm's way, including essential workers, our armed forces, and all serving overseas. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A God of new songs, in this congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through the chance to join together in worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The Ministers and People share the sign of peace. Afterward, please be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERING

Now we join Christians all over the world in worshiping God through the giving of our financial resources, in recognition and thanksgiving that all we have comes from God.

Abiding Peace

Abiding Peace-Buddlake

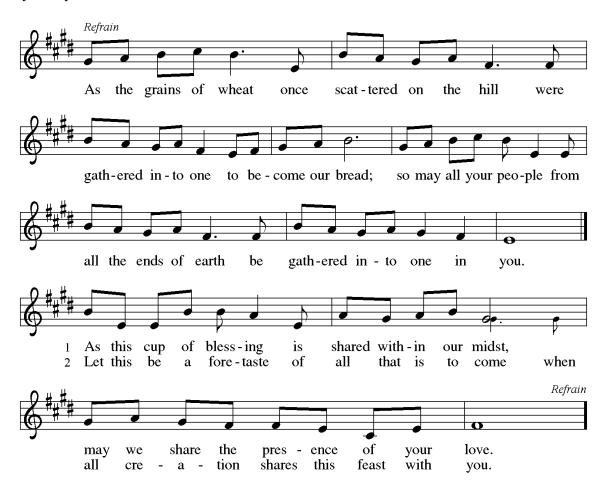
P Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord.



venmo

CHOIR ANTHEM

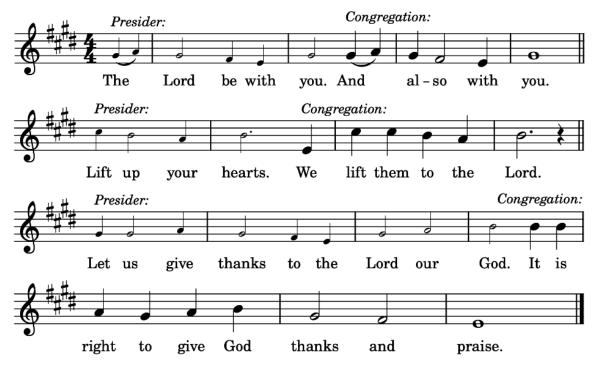
To the Praise of His Glorious Grace Lyrics by Deborah D. Smith Music by Michael W. Smith arr. Ronn Huff and Michael W. Smith



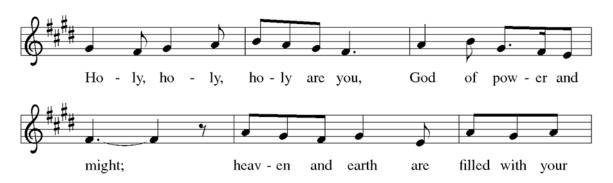
A God of healing and hope,

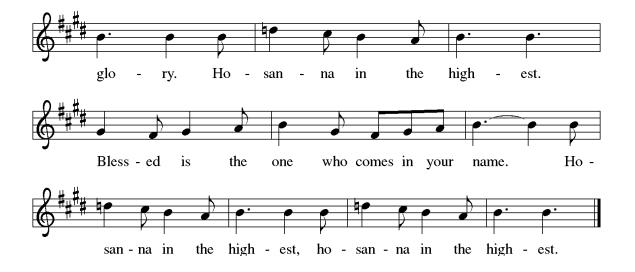
C you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:





P 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 trusts 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.

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

P Remembering, therefore, his grace-filled commands, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able.

We ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- *P* Jesus, teach us to pray:
- C 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.

- *P* There is a place for you at the table of God.
- C We come to receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

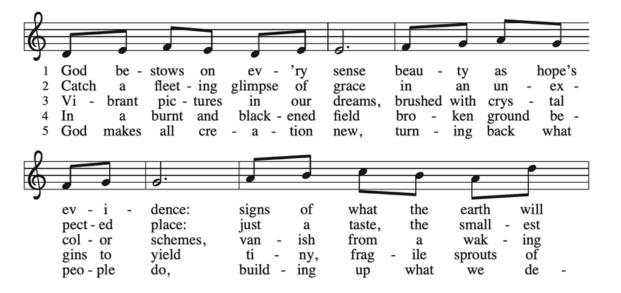
You will be invited to come forward to the altar rail, collecting a cup from the usher. Please observe distancing at the rail, hold your hand flat for the bread, and raise your cup for the chalice bearer to pour. You may leave your cup in the basket in the front row when you return to your seat.





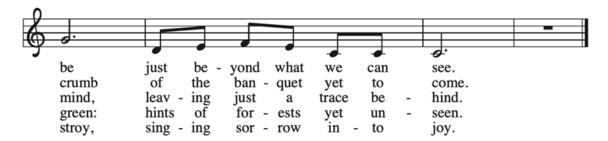
COMMUNION HYMN

God Bestows on Every Sense ACS 1069



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: ALL CREATION NEW, Anthony Giamanco, b. 1958 Text © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 2018 Augsburg Fortress



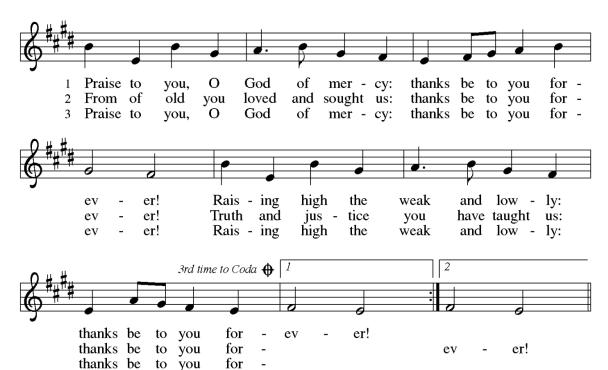
Stand, if you are able.

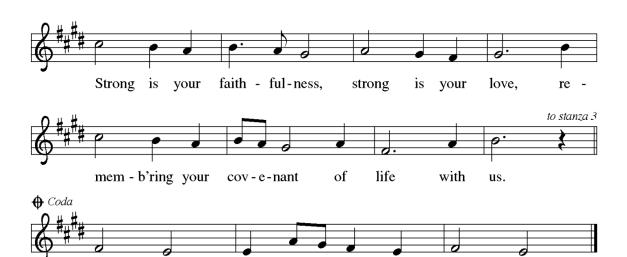
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

A God of field and flower, wheat and grape,

C you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.





SENDING

to you

for

Thanks be

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

THE BENEDICTION

ev

er!

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, ⊕ God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

\boldsymbol{C} Amen.

Please be seated.

TEMPLE TALK

Sibylle Schroeder

er!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

When Peace like a River ELW 725

All stand, as able, and sing.



- at tend eth my When peace like a riv - er when way,
- Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als should come, let
- He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
- day when our Lord. has - ten the faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



well, with my taught me to is soul. say, help - less es - tate, shed his own blood for my and hath soul. it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Lord shall de - scend: it e - ven so is well with my soul.



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sunday Morning (Prelude)

T. Kullack



Altar flowers donated by Sandy Carlson in honor of her anonymous Prayer Partner.

Dorian Morales brings a wealth of performing and composing experience (and even an Emmy!). Dorian currently teaches privately and at the Piano Workshop at Chester. He is the House Pianist for the Graycliff Manor and the Grove, and plays weddings and special events. Dorian also plays piano for Christian Science Church of Summit.

Next Week's Lessons:	Serving in Worship		
Luke 3:2-9,15-18		Today, 11/16	Next Week, 11/23
Luke 2:1-14	Altar Guild	Sandy Carlson	Sandy Carlson
Matthew 2:1–12	Counter	Nita Persson	Sandy Carlson
Luke 4:1-13	Assistant Minister	Doug Laird	Demetria Laird
Psalm 22: 1–11, 19	Lector	Roy Persson	Anna Santino
Luke 24:1-10	Communion Assist.	Howard Corneilson	Mary Kasakove
Acts 2:1–8, 12–21	Usher/Greeter	Cindy Pawlo	Sibylle Schroeder
Luke 10:25-28	Acolyte	Mary Kasakove	Howard Corneilson
Psalm 93	Soloist	Sibylle Schroeder	Linda Langsam
	Livestream Assistant	Nick Senior	Tyler Rice

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Serena: Wednesday, 11/19: 2:30pm-9:00pm; Thursday, 11/20: 9:00am-1:00pm; Sunday, 11/23 9:00am-1:00pm

Catherine Belfiore: Thurs, 11/20, 9:00am-12:00pm

Keep These Friends in Your Prayers: Those who are sick or in need: Bill Phinney, Joshua Olsen, Jon, Cheryl Inglin, Judy Consentino, Jon & Maria, Sandy Kahler, Karen Qualls, Jim Tangen, Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginets, Jennifer Kahler, Mark Dennis, John Corneilson, Karen & Ken Predmore and family, David Breault, Charles Wetzel, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Aimee Nilsen, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow, Barbara P, Susan & William Swainy, Scott Schaefer, Audrey Moehringer, George Schroeder, Sibylle Scheiermann, Leslie Picinich, Hailey Ochs Plante, Kate Draven, Dawn Huber, Heinz and family, Ellen Parker, Vicki Gentler, Carol Baker, Darrell Senior, Shariff Stewart, Lisa Wolper, Maxine Wolper, Samy Dawood, David Laird, Peter Jensen, Joan Lewis, Jose, Linn Fisher, Brian Henkel, Judy Day and family, Dan Filin, Doug Laird, and Mary Beth Mueller.

Those in mourning: The family of Dawn Parks; the loved ones of Carole Ernstrom; those mourning Maria's mother, Juanita; the friends and family of Kenneth Johanson; the friends and family of Harold Olsen; the Persson Family on the loss of Carrin (daughter of Jan, sister of Krista); the family of Woody Woodruff.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ~ Church office hours: Pastor Serena will generally hold office hours on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. She is also available for pastoral care by phone, zoom or other means on other days (Saturday is her day off). If you have a need to access the church building, please contact Pastor Serena.
- ~ Food Pantry Needs for March: Peanut butter, Parmalat milk, fruit, juice, hot dogs & buns, frozen meatballs, mashed potatoes, rice, crackers, cake mixes, gluten-free pasta.
- ~ Altar Flowers: Please consider signing up for altar flower donations. Price: \$17.50. If interested please sign up by the last Sunday of the prior month. You may sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or send an email to Catherine Belfiore (aplcbuddlake@gmail.com) with your dedication and the date you want the flowers on the Altar and send your check to the church.
- ~ Interested in hosting a coffee hour? Not hard. Just bring some store-bought baked goods. Coffee is already prepared ahead of time by the Altar Guild. Questions: Call Demetria Laird at 973-398-9614.

ART, MUSIC, AND LITURGY

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Music: Unless otherwise noted, music is reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-700457 and CCLI #2840035.

Service Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b.1950, Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, adapt. Marty Haugen,

Text and Music @1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 Mason Ave, Chicago, IL, 60638.

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This week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, November 16:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. In-person and Live-streamed
- Fellowship time

Monday, November 17:

Tuesday, November 18:

• Open House for Tullo Ballroom, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 19:

- Senior's Holiday Party, 2:00 p.m.
- Prayer Service at Mt Olive Manor, 4:30 p.m.
- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Choir, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 20:

Friday, November 21:

Saturday, November 22:

• Zumba, 9:00 a.m.

Next week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, November 23:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. In-person and Live-streamed
- Sunday School
- Hanging the Greens, 11:00 a.m.
- Pledging Celebration and Time & Talents Sign-ups, 11:30 a.m.

Monday, November 24:

 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service @ Flanders United Presbyterian, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 25:

Wednesday, November 26:

- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, November 27:

Happy Thanksgiving

Friday, November 28:

Saturday, November 29:

• Zumba, 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays in Advent (12/3, 12/10, 12/17) - **Midweek Advent Gatherings: 6:15 p.m. soup** supper; 7:00 p.m. Advent service.

Sunday, Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m. - Longest Night Service

For all live-streamed services, click (or type) the link below:

https://www.facebook.com/AbidingPeaceChurch/live