

# ***Abiding Peace Lutheran Church***

305-311 Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ 07828  
973-691-9393 • [www.abidingpeacechurch.org](http://www.abidingpeacechurch.org)  
Serena Rice, *pastor* • Benjamin Schroeder, *music director*



## **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

April 21, 2024

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), through on-line 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. We offer either wine or juice and gluten-free bread. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, the usher can bring communion to you. Those who do not receive communion are invited to come forward with arms crossed for a blessing.

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## **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

### **WORDS FOR REFLECTION**

*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**

Invention in E Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Marc Carames, piano

### **GATHERING**

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

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*P* Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

*C* **Amen.**

*P* Look, here is water!

*C* **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

*P* Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

*Pause for reflection.*

*P* We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

*P* At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

*P* We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing **ELW 531**

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes: G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3. Below the first staff are three numbered lines of lyrics: 1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, 2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things, 3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, Below the second staff are three lines of lyrics: the feast is read - y to be - gin. oh, taste the peace and joy he brings. of - fers the poor his par - a - dise.

The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
He'll fill you up with love di - vine;  
Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud

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.

*P* The beauty of the Creator inspire us, the grace of the Good Shepherd be with us, and the unity of the Bread of Life enfold us all.

**C Amen.**

### KYRIE

Leader  In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong.  Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have

 For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va - tion,

 mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

 let us pray to the Lord.

 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

 For the peace of the whole world, the well-be-ing of the

 mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

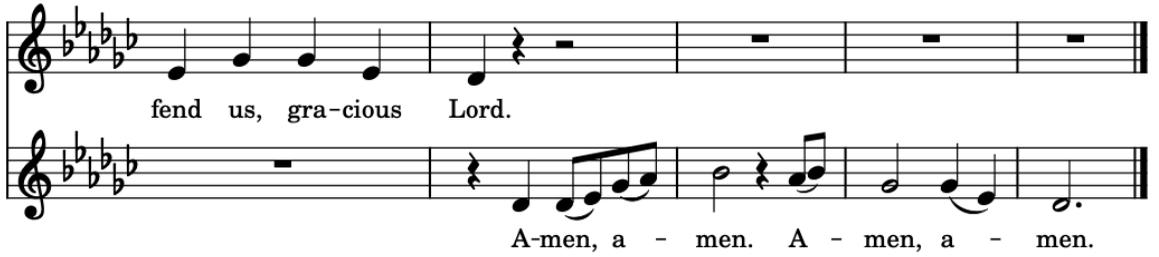
Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For this  
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -

ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here  
cy.

their wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have

Help, save, com - fort, and de -  
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A-men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, and rich - es,



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



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, and hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



For the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al-le -



lu - ia. This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God. Al-le -



lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

*P* The Lord be with you.

*C* **And also with you.**

*P* Let us pray. O Lord Christ,

*C* **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.**

*Please be seated.*



**2 The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**  
 3 You 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.**  
 5 You 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.**

## THE SECOND READING

1 John 3:16–24

*Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.*

*L* A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> John.

We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How 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?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our

hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And 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. All 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.

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

*Please stand, if you are able.*

## 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.

## THE GOSPEL

John 10:11–18

*In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.*

*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter:

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

Jesus said “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am

the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I

lay down my life in order to take it up again. No 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.”

*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

Let Every Voice with Every Breath **Roth p. 53**

1. Let ev - 'ry voice with ev - 'ry breath  
2. All peo - ple, come, and join the song,  
3. Still Christ is draw - ing peo - ple near,

sing of Christ's tri - umph o - ver death:  
now Jew and Gen - tile both be - long:  
still love is raised a - bove our fear.

O Love—how deep, how high, how broad—  
Christ rose to make di - vi - sions cease  
As Christ in - vites the lost and least,



that rec - on - ciles the world to God.  
 and join all na - tions by his peace.  
 all guests are wel - come at this feast.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! O  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Christ  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! As



Love— how deep, how high, how broad, al - le -  
 rose to make di - vi - sions cease, al - le -  
 Christ in - vites the lost and least, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, that rec - on -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, and join all  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, all guests are



ciles the world to God.  
 na - tions by his peace.  
 wel - come at this feast!

Words: David Bjorlin. Music: Mark A. Miller. Music ©2020, Words ©2022. GIA Publications.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A 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.*

A Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith, including all who have labored to help us and the generations before to understand the good news of the gospel. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Shepherding God, as your imperfect sheep wander for you and one another, gather, redirect, and guide your church. Empower the members of our denomination in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Nurturing God, we need your help to preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems, including the coral reefs that face devastating bleaching as ocean temperatures rise. 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,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Almighty God, as evil impulses spread conflict and violence around the world, 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 hold it selflessly, and to use such power for the good of all. God of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**

A Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing or adequate health care, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. We pray for all on our prayer list, including Mike, Ryan, Evelyn & Woody, Grace, Jackson, Donna, Jeanne, Valeriy, Jennifer, Mark, John, Karen & Ken, David, and Charles. (*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 of grace,

**C receive our prayer.**



cup of bless - ing. 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 the 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, give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

A Let us pray. Shepherding God,

**C whatever we ask, in accordance with your will, we receive and our cup overflows. Confident in your abundant generosity and humbly eager to turn from covetous greed, we return what we have received, so that green pastures and safe folds will welcome any who live in fear; so that peaceful waters will sustain hurting hearts; so that a voice of welcome will be heard at each door; and so that a feast will be prepared for all who hunger and thirst. In the name of the One who is our comfort. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: The Lord be with you. C: **And al - so with you.** P: Lift up your



hearts. C: **We lift them to the Lord.** P: Let us give— thanks to the



Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Pascal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of



might: Heav'n 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) Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. (in the high - est.)

*P* Holy, just, and merciful God, new birth for creation broke forth upon us in Jesus. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. In these acts of love and justice, we see the birth of our call as church to let the waters of justice roll, knowing we have been delivered from death through a covenant of water and the Spirit. We remember all who suffer in our day and imagine how Jesus would respond to them.

On the night when he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me."

Wherever there is suffering, Jesus suffers alongside. Therefore, we proclaim this truth: Death is part of life.

**C Christ has died.**

*P* But death will not have the last word.

**C Christ has risen!**

*P* And suffering will end.

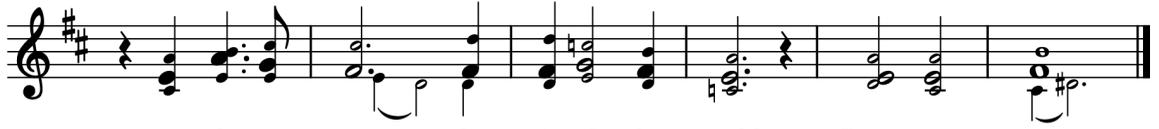
**C Christ will come again...**



*add optional descant*



sin of the world. Have mer-cy on us. Lamb, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world. Grant us peace.

### COMMUNION HYMN

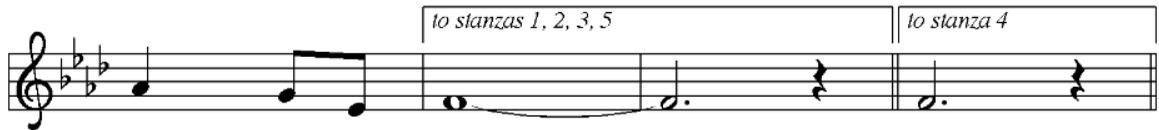
### Shepherd Me, O God ELW 780

*Refrain*

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I  
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my  
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

*Refrain*

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.  
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.  
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

*Refrain*

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

*Final refrain*  
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

*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* Shepherding God,

*C* **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.**



## SENDING

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

### THE BENEDICTION

*P* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*P* God of resurrection power, Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always.

*C* **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### SENDING HYMN

God Be with You till We Meet Again **ELW 536**

*All stand, as able, and sing.*



- 1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
- 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
- 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con - found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;  
dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904

Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

*Refrain*



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

**DISMISSAL**

**A** Go in peace. Journey gently on this planet's green pasture.

**C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

Bells (based on a chime at Ely Cathedral)

Arthur Wills



*Flowers dedicated by Gene and Mary Kasakove in honor of Mary's birthday!*

**Next Week's Lessons:**

Acts 8:26-40

Psalms 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

Serving in Worship		
	Today, 4/21	Next Week, 4/28
Altar Guild	Demetria Laird	Demetria Laird
Counter	George Pawlo	Howard Corneilson
Assistant Minister	Sandy Carlson	Sheeba David
Lector	Roy Persson	Doug Laird
Communion Assist.	Mary Kasakove	Cindy Pawlo
Usher/Greeter/Acolyte	Maria Jerez	Mary Kasakove
Soloist	Sue Stirrat	TBA
Livestream Assistant	Tyler Rice	Sheeba David

## OFFICE HOURS

### **Pastor Serena:**

Pastor Serena will not hold office hours this week as she will be at continuing education from Tuesday-Thursday, but she is available for emergencies or scheduled conversations by phone.

### **Erin Porter:**

Thursday, 4/25, 9:00-12:00

**Keep These Friends in Your Prayers:** Those who are sick or in need: Bill Phinney, Joshua Olsen, Dawn Larsen, Jon, Cheryl Inglin, Judy Consentino, Jon & Maria, Sandy Kahler, Karen Qualls, Jim Tangen, Elisabeth & Otto Schroeder, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Evelyn & Woody Woodruff, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginet, Jennifer Kahler, Mark Dennis, John Corneilson, Karen & Ken Predmore and family, David Breault, Charles Wetzel, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Harold Olsen, Aimee Nilsen, Joy Laird, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow, Barbara P, Joan Lewis, Susan & William Swainy, Scott Schaefer, Audrey Moehringer, Tara Woodard-Lehman, Peter Arzikovic, Ken Merson, the Masone Family, George Schroeder, Sibylle Scheiermann, Mike Schroeder, Vera Reybitz, Leslie Picinich, and Hailey Ochs Plante.

Those in mourning: The family of Neil Nilsen (father of Heather Nilsen), the family of Henry Olson (brother of Nancy Ayotte), the family of Ann Diecke, the family of Rick Oliva (brother-in-law of Shelli & Mark Skeels), the family of Elfriede Kiesling, and the family of Pat Scalora.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Church office hours:** Pastor Serena will generally hold office hours on Wednesdays or Thursdays (as noted in the bulletin each week) and Sundays. 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 April:** 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 send an email to Erin Porter with your dedication and 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

Art: Photo by Kat Smith: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/gray-sheep-678444/>. Free for use in worship.

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

Liturgy: Festival of Joy ©2022 Benjamin Schroeder. Used by permission

## This week at Abiding Peace

### Sunday, April 21:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed.
- 3-5 y/o Sunday School during worship.
- Spring Clean-up, 11:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting, 11:30am

### Monday, April 22:

- 

### Tuesday, April 23:

- Pastor on retreat

### Wednesday, April 24:

- Pastor on retreat
- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### Thursday, April 25:

- Pastor on retreat
- Choir Rehearsal, 7:45 p.m.

### Friday, April 26:

### Saturday, April 27:

## Next week at Abiding Peace

### Sunday, April 28:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed
- Social Media outreach launch, 11:00 a.m.
- Forum: Mental Health Stigma-Free Pledge, 11:30 a.m.

### Monday, April 29:

### Tuesday, April 30:

- 

### Wednesday, May 1:

- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### Thursday, May 2:

- Choir Rehearsal, 7:45 p.m.

### Friday, May 3:

### Saturday, May 4:

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 29, 10:00 a.m. - **Pentecost Sunday** - multilingual worship!

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

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

## OUTREACH SURVEY

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*As the church tries to improve our outreach to the larger community, there are several ways that you can help. Each week, this survey will be printed in the back of the bulletin. It gives you a chance to identify connections and opportunities in the Greater Mount Olive area to share about our congregation and ministries, as well as the chance to offer your own “testimonials” about what you value about Abiding Peace.*

*Whenever you have something to share, joy it down, tear it off, and leave it in the basket in the Narthex!*

- Do you know of any community bulletin boards or online calendars where the church could post announcements about coming events?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Can you let us know of any upcoming events where Abiding Peace might host a table / send representatives?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Are you a member / volunteer for any community organizations where you might be able to share information about Abiding Peace events?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Testimonial (offer a meaningful quote from today’s worship, and description of our congregation, or explain the reason why you are part of this community):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_