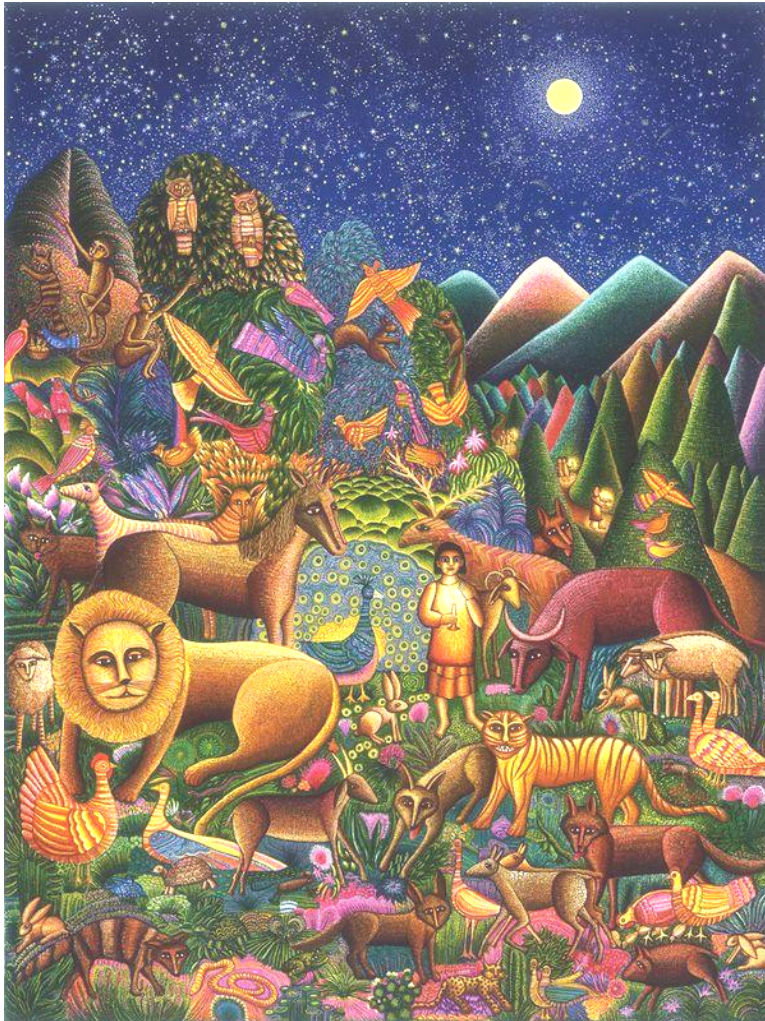


Abiding Peace Lutheran Church

305-311 Route 46, Budd Lake, NJ 07828

973-691-9393 • www.abidingpeacechurch.org

Serena Rice, *pastor* • Benjamin Schroeder, *music director*



Creation in Christ Sunday

September 6, 2026

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 your contact information with the greeter, if you 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, or come forward at the end for the common cup. 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. You are also welcome to come forward with arms crossed for a blessing.

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Creation in Christ Sunday

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

Since the seventh century, September 1 has symbolized the day of the creation of the world in the Byzantine tradition and has been the opening feast of its liturgical year, in a parallel with the feast of Rosh Hashanah marking the Jewish New Year. Creation in Christ celebrates the ongoing creation of the world in and through Christ, who sustains, unites, and holds all created things. We hear today of the triune God who creates all things: sun and moon, shining stars, sea monsters, creeping things and flying birds—and, yes, even human beings. God-in-Christ still takes care of all things and invites us to join in as caretakers of God's good creation.

PRELUDE

Always Remember Me

Richard Blake

GATHERING

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

Litany of Praise for Creation

P Glory to you, O God: you speak a word of power, and so you create the world. We praise you, O God:

C We praise you, O God.

P For the Spirit hovering to bring forth life, for the earth ordered from chaos, and for light and dark, we bless you, O God:

C We bless you, O God.

P For the cosmos beyond our earth, for the sky above our heads, and for the cycle of evening and morning, we exalt you, O God:

C We exalt you, O God.

P For the seas, the lakes, and the rivers, for the land with its mountains and plains, and for the trees, the plants, and their fruits, we magnify you, O God:

C **We magnify you, O God.**

P For the sun to rule the day, for the moon to brighten the night, and for the shining stars, we extol you, O God:

C **We extol you, O God.**

P For the fish in the sea, for the birds of the air, and for the mysteries in the deep, we glorify you, O God:

C **We glorify you, O God.**

P For wild animals and creatures of all kinds, for cattle and all livestock, and for everything that creeps on the earth, we adore you, O God:

C **We adore you, O God.**

P For humankind, in all our diversity, all made in your image, for setting us on your good earth, and for providing us food to eat, we worship you, O God:

C **We worship you, O God.**

P Bless us, your creatures. Accept our praise, and make us worthy of your marvelous creation. We praise you, O God:

C **We praise you, O God.**

P Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to you, our God, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth (vs. 1–3, 5) **ELW 879**



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 5 For each p̄er - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

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



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



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, and rich - es,
 hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, and hon - or,



wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, and bless - ing, and glo - ry are
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A -

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

-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 God,

C **in whom we live and move and have our being, in Christ you created the worlds, and your Spirit breathes life into the universe. We praise you for your wondrous creation. Bless us and all your handiwork with your infinite light, and direct our lives to the care of this good earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

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

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1—2:3

In the first Genesis account of the creation of the heavens and the earth, an inclusive vision of the formation of chaos into order gradually expands in a poetic structure that emphasizes the goodness of God's work. Through the formation of apparent opposites, the Creator births beautiful diversity that makes space for the many spectrums of experience that reflect God's creativity.

L A reading from Genesis.

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them

in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the

birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh

day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 148

The Psalm will be read responsively, by verse.

- 1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
- 2 **Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
- 3 Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
- 4 **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded, and they were created,
- 6 **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
- 8 **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
- 9 mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**
- 11 sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

**12 young men and maidens,
 old and young together.**

**13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
 whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.**

**14 The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all
 faithful servants,
 the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord.
 Hallelujah!**

THE SECOND READING

Acts 17:22—28

Paul reframes an altar “to an unknown God” as an opening to invite the people of Athens to come to know the God who is the source of all life.

L A reading from Acts.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

“The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and

all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, if you are able.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25–34

As an antidote to worry, Jesus calls on simple examples from the natural world to illustrate God's compassion and desire to care for all of creation.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter:

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

[Jesus said,] “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomor-

row is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME — BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

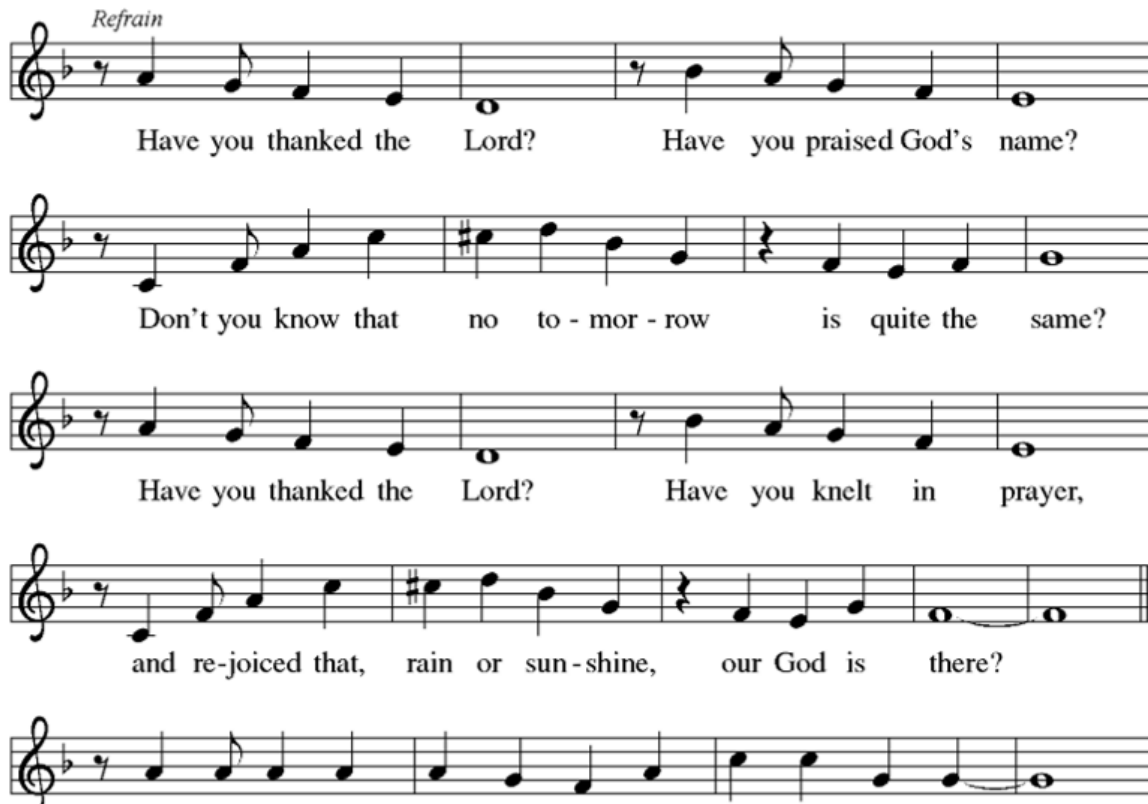
THE SERMON

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Have You Thanked the Lord? **ELW 829**

Refrain



Have you thanked the Lord? Have you praised God's name?

Don't you know that no to - mor - row is quite the same?

Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer,

and re-joiced that, rain or sun-shine, our God is there?

1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Thank the Lord for sun, sand, and sea,
2 Hal - le - lu - jah! Par - a - dise we taste where we are;
3 Hal - le - lu - jah! Joy and peace the Sav - ior will bring.

Text: Bill LaMotta, 1919–1980

Music: LAMOTTA, Bill LaMotta

Text and music © Bill LaMotta, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

ev - 'ry star at night that shines for you and me.
 sum - mer breez - es, win - ter warmth are nev - er far.
 Grace a - maz - ing! So we lift our voice and sing,

Bless - ings so man - y come our way:
 God's love is ev - er on dis - play:
 grate - ful when clouds are bright or gray:

Refrain
 have you thanked the Lord to - day?
 have you thanked the Lord to - day?
 have you thanked the Lord to - day?

THE 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 INTERCESSION

A We join with Christians far and near to worship God the Creator, praying for the earth and for all in need.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A O God, the beginning and the end, we praise you for all believers who have lived and died in communion with the earth. Grant that in your good time we join with all your creatures in your presence forever. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A O God, source of life, we pray that churches around the globe collaborate in care for the earth, and that all the baptized nurture a zeal for the wellbeing of creation. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A O God, our creator, we pray for the earth, that this bounteous creation receive continued divine blessing, that the air be wholesome, that the waters be plenteous and clean, that the land be treasured, and that animals be protected. Grant that what on earth has been despoiled will be healed, and that your people will lead this work. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A O God, our stronghold, we pray for the nations, that farmers, herders, foragers, fishers, and grocers produce the food humans need without exploitation, that legislators strive in all things for the common good without prejudice, and that science and technology lead us toward more responsible ways to live. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A O God, our guardian, we pray for our country, that national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges be safeguarded, that all natural resources be protected and dedicated to the benefit the whole population and that our children learn respect for nature. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A O God, our healer, we pray for those in need, that humankind be sheltered from diseases, famine, and from extreme weather, and that all who are sick or suffering receive medical attention and communal support. We pray for all who are mourning and for all on our prayer list, including Karen, Jim, Don, Joseph, Ryan, Grace, Jackson, Donna, Valeriy, Linda, 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. Creator, in your mercy,

C Receive our prayer.

A Into your hands, O God, our maker and keeper, we commend ourselves and your whole creation, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

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

Abiding Peace
@Abiding-Peace-BuddLake



venmo

OFFERTORY

Offertory on SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

Spanish melody
arr. John Carter

All stand, as able, and sing.

Musical notation for the offertory song, consisting of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is written on a five-line staff. Below the first staff, the lyrics "Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our" are written. The second staff continues the melody, and below it, the lyrics "cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that" are written. The music is in a simple, melodic style with a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
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. Gather 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 O God,

C maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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



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 your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things: our Savior, Jesus Christ. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out of the womb. You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. All you create is a sign of hope for our journey. And so as the morning stars sing your praises, with the heavenly beings and all creation, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

C The earth is full of your glory.

P O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

C The earth is full of your glory.

P We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

C The earth is full of your glory.

P O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

C The earth is full of your glory.

P Amen, and amen.

C Amen, and amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Unite us in your Spirit as we 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 These are the gifts of creation for God's beloved creatures.

C **We come and share in God's abundance.**

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.

Lamb, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Have

add optional alto

mer-cy on us. Lamb, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

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

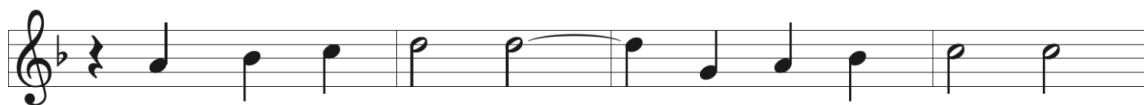
When We Are Living **ELW 639**



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .
those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
and when we help them, or when we feed them,



we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

Text: st.1 based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b.1942. st. 2-3, Robert Escamille, b.1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946. Music SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish Traditional. Spanish text sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House admin. The Copyright Company.

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 our salvation,

C we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise:



Tell ev' - ry-one what God has done! Let all who seek the Lord re -



-joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us with your



prom-is-es, and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-



-giv - ing. A-men, al-le-lu - ia! A-men, al-le-lu - ia!

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

P Creator God bless you and keep you. Creating Christ shine through you with grace and mercy. Creative Spirit nourish you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love **SSS 5**

All stand, as able, and sing.



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



one in the Spir - it, We are one in the Lord, And we pray that all
walk with each oth - er, We will walk hand in hand, And to - geth - er we'll
work with each oth - er, We will work side by side, And we'll guard each man's
praise to Christ Je - sus, His — on - ly — Son, And all praise to the



u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored. And they'll know we are Christians by our
spread the news that God is in our land.
dig - ni - ty and save each man's pride.
Spir - it, who — makes us — one.



love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love. —

Words and music by Peter Scholtes. © 1966 and 1967 F.E.L. Church Publications, Ltd.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Praise band



We are happy to welcome Dorian Morales back with us, who 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:

Exodus 14:19-31

Psalms 114

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

Serving in Worship		
	Today, 9/6	Next Week, 9/13
Altar Guild	Cindy Pawlo	Cindy Pawlo
Counter	Sandy Carlson	Howard Corneilson
Assistant Minister	Sibylle Schroeder	Mary Kasakove
Lector	Roy Persson	Cindy Vittitow
Communion Assist.	Doug Laird	Maria Jerez
Usher/Greeter	Sandy Carlson	Howard Corneilson
Acolyte	Cindy Pawlo	Sibylle Schroeder
Soloist	Maria Jerez	Aaron Hyndman
Livestream Assistant	Tyler Rice	Ray Mueller

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Serena: Wednesday, Sept. 9, 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Sunday Sept. 13, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Catherine: Thursday, September 10, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Keep These Friends in Your Prayers:

Prayers for those expecting babies: Anna Santino & Nick Senior, Rachel Marlowe & Aaron Hyndman and Sarah Laird & Judy Wayman.

Prayers for those experiencing illness or hardship: Joshua Olsen, Jon, Cheryl Inglin, Judy Consentino, Jon & Maria, Sandy Kahler, Karen Qualls, Jim Tangen, Don Larsen, Joseph Horn, Ryan Manhardt, Grace Bessasparis, Jackson Cook, Donna Fahy, Jeanne Scalora, Valeriy Braginet, Linda Kahler, Mark Dennis, John Corneilson, Karen & Ken Predmore, David Breault, Charles Wetzell, Patricia Coats, Alia Duffy, Aimee Nilsen, Lydia Millner, Dean Kowal, April Inglin, Bella Adams, Bodhi Maslow, Barbara P, Susan & William Swainy, Scott Schaefer, George Schroeder, Sibylle Scheiermann, Leslie Picinich, Hailey Ochs Plante, Kate Draven, Dawn Huber, Heinz, Ellen Parker, Vicki Gentler, Carol Baker, Shariff Stewart, Lisa Wolper, Maxine Wolper, Samy Dawood, David Laird, Peter Jensen, Joan Lewis, Brian Henkel, Joseph DeSantis, Jenn DiDino, Nancy Tullo, Sue Corneilson, Mary & Gene Kasakove, Barb Phinney, Willey Langley, Courtney & Austin Eddington, Carol Schenck, Gray Lerner, Serena Rice, the Beville Family, Teddy Favret, Kendal Ehrke, Sunanda (Elizabeth) Maddela, Pam Truax, Kendal Van Doran, Susan Desimone, Scott Paranello, Rosemarie Keenan, Aaron Melling, and Amanda & Bruce.

Those in mourning: For Raymond Furman, Jr (Casey's father); those mourning Jean (Moore) Milstead; All those surrounding the Benoit family who suddenly lost their daughter; The family and friends of Judy Day; The family of Tom Reed; the loved ones of Judith Evans (Pastor Serena's aunt); Evelyn Jorgensen and family mourning the loss of her half-brother, Rüdiger; Ellen Lewis and family mourning the loss of Mike Lewis; The Persson Family on the loss of Kayla; Those mourning Dan Filin (partner of Pastor Serena's mom); The family of Dawn Parks; The loved ones of Carole Ernstrom; Those mourning Maria's mother, Juanita; The friends and family of Kenneth Johanson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ **Church office hours:** During the Summer, Pastor Serena will generally hold office hours on Wednesday afternoon/evenings, Thursday mornings, and Sundays. She is also available for pastoral care by phone, zoom or other means on other days (Saturday is her day off). Our office administrator, Catherine, is in the office on Thursday mornings, unless otherwise noted in the bulletin. If you have a need to access the church building, please contact Pastor Serena.

~ **Food Pantry Needs for September:** Cereal, canned soup, pasta sauce, 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 Catherine (aplcuddlake@gmail.com) with your dedication and date you want the flowers on the Altar and send your check or Venmo payment (with explanatory note) 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: Swanson, John August. Peaceable Kingdom, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/56556> [retrieved August 31, 2026]. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

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Liturgy: All Creation Sings (Augsburg Fortress, 2020): Thanksgiving at the Font, Form B (p. 59); Thanksgiving at the Table, Form C (p. 37); Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table (Gail Ramshaw, Augsburg Fortress, “Litany of Praise for Creation,” p. 12) Sundays and Seasons (Augsburg Fortress): Confession and Forgiveness, Seasonal Worship Texts for November 2027. Offering Prayer, Prayer after Communion, Seasonal Worship Texts for Lent 2026. Additional items were crafted for this resource and will appear in Sundays and Seasons. Permission is granted for congregations to reproduce these materials provided copies are for local use only and the following copyright notice appears: From Sundays and Seasons, © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. Liturgy reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under License #14239-LIT.

This week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, September 6:

- Worship Service with “Blessing of the Backpacks”, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed
- Little Learners Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. -10:45 a.m.
- Forum: Revised ELCA Sexuality Statement Part 1, 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Monday, September 7:

- Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8:

- Sign Committee meeting, 8:00 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, September 9:

- UFO Gathering, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Choir rehearsal, 7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 10:

Friday, September 11:

Saturday, September 12:

- Zumba, 9:00 a.m.

Next week at Abiding Peace

Sunday, September 13:

- Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. - In-person and Live-streamed
- God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Monday, September 14:

- Worship & Music, 11: 00, a.m. via Zoom

Tuesday, September 15

Wednesday, September 16:

- Seniors Gathering Oktoberfest, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- AA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Choir rehearsal, 7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 17:

Friday, September 18:

Saturday, September 19:

- Zumba, 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sept. 20 - Celebration Lunch for Liam’s Baptism

Sunday, Oct. 4 - Blessing of the Animals (send in pet/animal photos)

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

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