

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Gainesville, Florida

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 18, 2022 - 8:00 a.m.

Announcements and Reminders

Communion Statement

In accordance with the teachings of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, we believe and confess that in this Sacrament we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ under the forms of bread and wine. Our gathering at the Table of the Lord is not a mere symbolic eating and drinking. Receiving the body and blood of Christ together at this Holy Table is confessing that we who here receive this Sacrament share this common belief. Such celebration of the Sacrament carries two pastoral concerns:

- That all communicants understand what God is giving to us in His Supper. The New Testament speaks of grave harm that will come upon anyone who does not “discern the Lord’s body” (1 Corinthians 11:29). We desire that you receive this gift to your good and never to your harm.
- Each one should be able to examine themselves and recognize their sin and need for God’s grace, lest we contradict Christ by sin against Him and sin against His people. In this Sacrament we are most fully at one with Christ and with one another, and so we should come to this Table at peace with Him and at peace with all our sisters and brothers.

Because communion at the table of our Lord is such a confession of common faith, worshipers who have a different understanding, or who hold a differing confession of faith, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament should first speak with an Elder or the Pastor before communing.

For those with health concerns, gluten-free wafers are available on request and non-alcoholic wine is available in the center cups of each communion tray. Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest at the communion rail.

Sunday Adult Bible Studies.

9:45 a.m. – Join Pastor Glover on Sunday mornings during the Bible Study hour in the Fellowship Hall for an in-depth discussion on the Augsburg Confession. Presented to the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, on June 25, 1530, the Augsburg Confession is the first confession of faith by the Lutheran reformers. This statement of faith set the stage for what we know as Lutheranism today.

9:45 a.m. – “Girl Friends” Bible Study remains on hold for the next few weeks. Attendees are encouraged to go to Pastor’s Bible Study

9:45 a.m. – Study the Bible with Chuck Moss in the Building 1 classroom. The Bible study is currently using the book *Summary of Christian Doctrine*.

Contact Chuck_Moss@msn.com for a Zoom link for this class.

Parents and Tots Sunday School is on a break for the month of December, the class will resume meeting on January 8.

Noisy Offerings will be collected at both services today. Our monthly Noisy Offering collection is dedicated to the cost of Meals of Hope.

Poinsettias: Purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone special. The cost is \$10 each. Order forms and payment envelopes may be found on the welcome table in the narthex. The sanctuary will be decorated with these flowers for Christmas Eve and you may take yours home after the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service or after the Christmas Day service.

Cookies for First Responders: Help with baking and delivering Christmas cookies. Please have your donations in the church kitchen by 7:00 p.m. on December 24th. Please let us know if you can help with Christmas Day deliveries.

Christmas Eve Divine Services will be held at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Sundays this year. **JOIN US FOR ONE 11:00 A.M. DIVINE SERVICE** on these special days. These Sundays will have no Bible Study.

2023 Offering Envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. The numbers have not changed this year so you may locate your box by finding your name on the box top. If you use the online portal, envelopes are not needed.

2023 Altar Flower Chart is up on the narthex wall near the church office. Sign your name on the line corresponding to the week you would like to sponsor. The cost is \$40 and you may place a check in the offering plate with "Altar Flowers" on the memo line or pay through the giving portal on the church web site.

New Church Mailbox numbers: We have updated the church mailboxes so your number may have changed. If you cannot find your name on a mailbox, let Susan know so we can add it.

Monthly Newsletters are emailed. There are also printed copies available on the welcome table in the Narthex. Be sure to check it out for information on upcoming events. Email the office at office@abidingsavior.info if you would like to be added to the newsletter email list.

Portals of Prayer for January through March are available on the welcome table.

Update contact information. If your address, email or phone number have changed recently, please send any updates to the church office.

Birthdays & Anniversaries. Pastor Glover and the church administrative staff takes time to pray for those having birthdays and anniversaries during the coming week. Let us know if your birthday or anniversary has been left off of the back page of the church bulletin during 2022, it means we do not have your important dates.

Undecorate the church on January 14, 2023 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Help is appreciated!

LWR Sewing will not meet again this year. Meetings resume January 14, 2023.

+ Fourth Sunday in Advent +

+ Preparation +

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: In Advent Hope



1 In Ad-vent hope we gath-er And wor-ship trust-ing - ly,
2 Our Ad-vent-hope ho-san-nas Ex-pec-tant-ly a-rise
3 With Ad-vent hope our prais-es Re-ech-o joy-ful-ly
4 As Ad-vent hope-filled peo-ple, We res-o-lute-ly pray,



As-sured that Christ is com-ing To set His peo-ple free.
To Je-sus Christ, the Sav-ior Who comes from Par-a-dise.
To greet our Lord's ar-riv-al In His hu-mil-i-ty.
"A-men, O longed-for Sav-ior! Come, Lord, with us to stay!"

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

+ Confession and Absolution +

Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

LSB 185

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

Oh that you would rend the heavens / and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your / presence.*

I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
and in his | word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*
more than watchmen for the | morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.

And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Oh that you would rend the heavens / and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your / presence.*

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Sit

Liturgy Catechesis

The Salutation

Before praying the Collect of the Day, the pastor turns to the congregation and announces, “The Lord be with you.” The congregation responds, “and with your Spirit” (or, “and also with you”). This greeting is called the “salutation”. The salutation is a blessing spoken over the congregation announcing that the Lord will indeed be with them through the Word which is about to be proclaimed in lection and sermon.

The response of the people indicates how the Lord will come among them: “and with your Spirit”; that is, by the working of the Holy Spirit active through the Office of the Holy Ministry in the distribution of Christ’s gifts. It is not the person of the pastor who brings the Lord’s presence, but the Spirit who is given to the pastor at ordination for the sake of the work of the ministry.

The salutation is of ancient origin. We find the salutation itself used in both the Old and New Testaments, as well as in the Church’s earliest liturgies. One notable instance of its use in the Scriptures is that of the angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you”. With this greeting Gabriel announces the imminent presence of the Lord who would become incarnate in the Virgin’s womb. (“About Our Liturgy: Meaning, History, and Practice”, David A. Kind)

Stand

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of

God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse of the Day

Matthew 1:23a

✠ Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Sermon

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ
Jesus. **C** Amen.

Collection of Offerings & Prayer Requests

Voluntary

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 192

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

+ Service of the Sacrament +

Preface

LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

LSB 194

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Stand

The Dismissal

LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

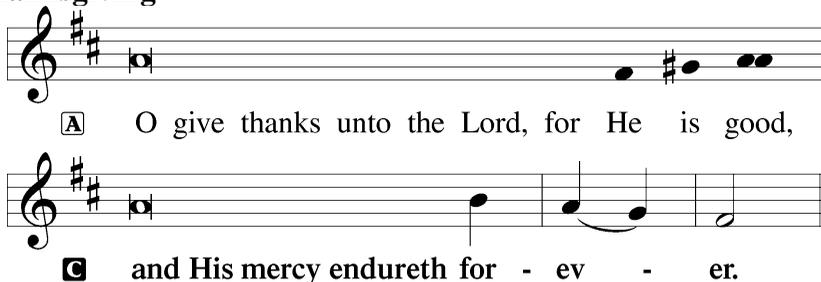
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

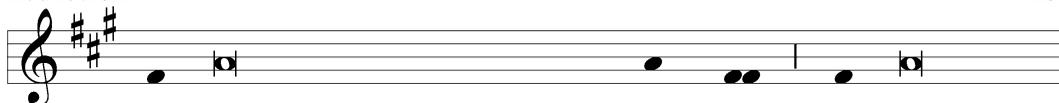
LSB 202



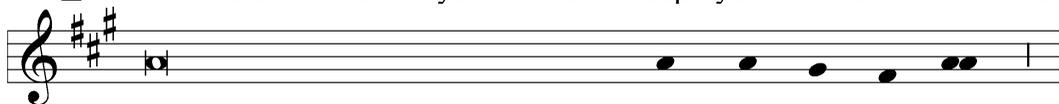
A Bless we the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

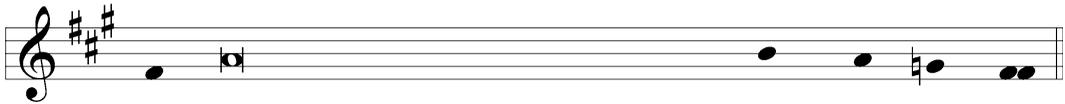
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



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

Hymn to Depart: 332 Savior of the Nations, Come

sts. 1-4, 8

Postlude

Christmas AT ABIDING SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE
DIVINE SERVICES (WITH COMMUNION)
4:00PM AND 7:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
DIVINE SERVICE (WITH COMMUNION)
11:00AM

NEW YEARS DAY
DIVINE SERVICE (WITH COMMUNION)
11:00AM

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Connecting Hearts to Jesus
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Serving Today

Pastor: Rev. Graham B. Glover
Director of Music Ministry: Joshua L. Mazur

8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.

Elder of the Month: Mike Brannon *Elder of the Month:* Jimmy Flateau
Reader: Phyllis Leone *Reader:* Ralph Toppins

Last Week's Attendance

8:00 a.m.: 75
10:45 a.m.: 57
Total: 132

Last Week's Offerings

Offerings: \$ 9,542
Building Fund: \$ 134

2022 Year to Date:

Average Attendance: 119
Total Offerings: \$ 319,566
Avg. Weekly Offerings: \$ 6,391
Building: \$ 2,800

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

December 25 -Christmas Day
First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10
Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel: John 1:1-14



*Today's Altar Flowers are
provided by
April & Charlie Goddard
to the Glory of God,*



Birthdays

Paul Schubring 12/21
Jamie Williams 12/24

Anniversaries

Greg & Maria Claus 12/22



*Use the QR code
for electronic
offering options*

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If you would like to place an announcement in the Sunday Bulletin, please contact the office or email them to Office@abidingsavior.info no later than Wednesday mornings. Send your newsletter articles by the 25th of each month.