



MARCH 26, 2023  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

PRELUDE	(11:00) "Here I am to Worship"
CALL TO WORSHIP	"A Celtic Call"
WELCOME	
GATHERING SONG	(8:30) "Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness" #488 (11:00) "Christ Be Our Light" vs 1,3,5
GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY	
THE READINGS	
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	(8:30) Unfailing Light (11:00) "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"
THE GOSPEL	
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	
SERMON & REFLECTION	
SONG OF THE DAY	(8:30) "Great is Thy Faithfulness" #733 (11:00) "Shine, Jesus, Shine" Celtic Creed
PROFESSION OF FAITH	
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	
SPECIAL MUSIC	(8:30) "On the Journey to Emmaus" (11:00) "Cornerstone"
OFFERING PRAYER	
COMMUNION	(8:30) "Although I Speak With Angel's Tongue" #644 "Come to the Table #481" (11:00) 'Sanctuary" "The River"
ANNOUNCEMENTS	
BLESSING	
SENDING SONG	(8:30) "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" #644 (11:00) "Lord My Strength"
MISSION AND PEACE	"Go Now in Peace"
POSTLUDE	(11:00) "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love"

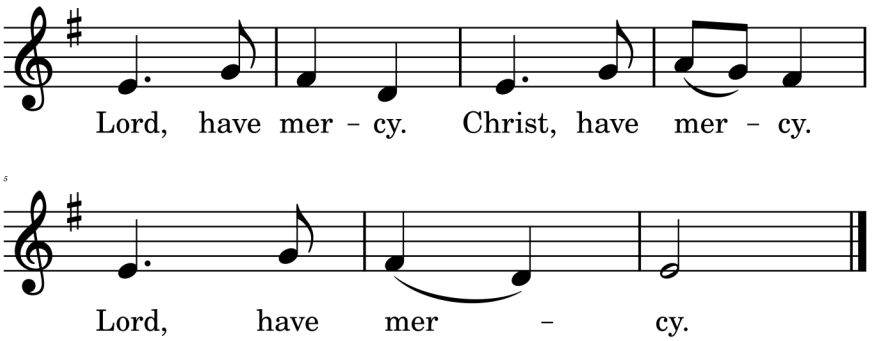
PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of life, we offer ourselves to you as agents of your grace and goodness in the world. By the power of your Spirit, be at work in us as you see fit, to share your love in all that we say and do. Amen.

EZEKIEL 36:22-29

<sup>22</sup> Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. <sup>23</sup> I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, says the Lord God, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. <sup>24</sup> I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. <sup>26</sup> A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. <sup>28</sup> Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

PSALM 51:1-2,6-12



<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>6</sup> You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. *Antiphon*

<sup>7</sup> Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. *Antiphon*

<sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. *Antiphon*

EPHESIANS 2:13-22

<sup>13</sup> Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup> He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

JOHN 15:9-15

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

WORSHIP IN LENT

Wednesday, March 29, 5:30 pm, Activity Center  
Fellowship Meal  
Sandwiches (Ham, Pimento Cheese, PBJ) Veggie Tray  
Lenten Worship, 7:00 pm: *Without and Within*

Palm Sunday Worship, April 2, 8:30 & 11:00 am

Palm Sunday Feast, Noon, Activity Center  
Swedish Meatballs, Noodles, Green Bean Almondine,  
Veggie Tray, Fruit, and Assorted Desserts

Maundy Thursday Worship, April 6, 7:00 pm

Good Friday Worship, April 7, 7:00 pm  
Cantata: Requiem, by John Rutter

Easter Sunday Worship, April 9, 8:30 & 11:00 am  
Egg Hunt at 10:00 am

## SERVING SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Brad Highum  
Altar Guild: (8:30) Amelia Mettke, Lisa Tyrrell (11:00) Denise Alaimo  
Acolyte: (8:30) Travis Hagen (11:00) Christopher Ortiz  
Assisting Minister: Reggie Kikta  
Communion Assistant: (8:30) Karron Lewis (11:00) Audrey Lehman  
Lector: (8:30) Robbie Lowe (11:00) Mike Riggs  
Ushers: (8:30) Karin & Lloyd Matthys (11:00) Kurt Armstrong, TJ Shoaf  
Tech: Jan Haas, Zee Zepeda, Parker Bryant  
Music: Gus Sterneman, Stephanie Morrison,  
Sanctuary Choir, Mixed Blessings

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Austin Civic Orchestra: April 1

Parts of the Whole, Part 2. 7:30 pm, Abiding Love Sanctuary. *Tickets available at the door or at [austincivicorchestra.org](http://austincivicorchestra.org).*

### Garage Sale: April 15

8:00 am to 3:00 pm at Abiding Love. Furniture, clothing, books, electronics, and more. All funds raised will benefit Abiding Love Youth Activities. Contact Tyler Parks, [tparks@abidinglove.org](mailto:tparks@abidinglove.org).

### Abiding Love Women's Retreat: April 22

9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Activity Center. Contact Di Brophy, [brophy.di@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brophy.di@sbcglobal.net)

### Chip in for Children Golf Tournament: May 1

1:00 pm at Onion Creek Club. Register at [abidinglove.org](http://abidinglove.org).

### 23rd Abiding Love Men's Service Retreat: May 19-21

Lutheran Camp Chrysalis, Kerrville, Texas. Contact Dale Sump, [dsump@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dsump@sbcglobal.net)



## ABIDING LOVE CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, MARCH 26

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship w/Communion (11:00 Mixed Blessings)  
9:45 am Faith Formation  
9:45 am Confirmation  
1:00 pm Knights/St. Catherine Food Drive (AC)  
2:30 pm CROP Walk

### MONDAY, MARCH 27

11:00 am ALLC Food Pantry  
5:00 pm Bread For All  
7:00 pm AA (HS Room)  
7:00 pm Troop 555 (AC)

### TUESDAY, MARCH 28

10:00 am Lifetime Learning Dance (AC)  
10:30 am Tuesday Bible Study (C)  
7:00 pm Alanon (C)

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

10:00 am Lifetime Learning Yoga (AC)  
10:00 am Staff Meeting (L)  
5:30 pm Lenten Meal (AC)  
6:00 pm Music Rehearsals  
7:00 pm Lenten Worship  
8:00 pm Cantata Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, MARCH 30

10:00 am CC Chapel (S)  
10:00 am Quilting (UC)  
6:00 pm Alanon (L)

### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

7:00 pm Austin Civic Orchestra Rehearsal (S)

### SATURDAY, APRIL 1

7:30 pm Austin Civic Orchestra (S)

### SUNDAY, APRIL 2 PALM SUNDAY

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship w/Communion  
9:45 am Faith Formation  
9:45 am Confirmation  
12:00 pm Palm Sunday Feast (AC)  
1:30 pm Youth Worship Rehearsal (S)  
3:00 pm Cantata Choir Rehearsal (S)  
5:30 pm Math Club (AC)  
6:00 pm Cantata Orchestra Rehearsal (S)

## ABIDING LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 26, 2023



## The Self

*"I am the light of the world."* Jesus says it, and we believe him. Of course! The One God sends to reveal the Way, the truth and life for all who will believe is, indeed, the light of God shining in the world. But then Jesus says something far more challenging. **"You are the light of the world."** He says that the light of God is within each of us, and God wants that light to shine for the world to see. We begin to understand Ourselves – our calling – to be mediators of God's grace ... even "thin places" through which God draws close.

### Connect with Abiding Love

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