

January 16, 2022
Second Sunday after Epiphany



In Daily Living

"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek.

(Psalm 27:8)

The God of the universe, the God of all life and all creation, wants nothing more than an intimate relationship of love with each one of us, moment by moment, throughout our days. Yet how easily can this connection of ultimate love be lost among the cares and complexities of our daily lives. God does not insist, or demand or assert. Rather the abiding promise is that if we will seek God in daily living, God will be found!



**January 16, 2022
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PRELUDE

“Wonderful Words of Life”

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Seek Ye First”

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness
And all these things
Shall be added unto you
Allelu alleluia

WELCOME

LITANY OF THE LIGHT

At the dawning of the day, we lift our voices in praise to the Lord of Light.

Send out your light and your truth, O Lord; let them lead us; let them bring us to your holy hill and to your dwelling place. (Psalm 43:3)

Your word is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless day, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105)

Light dawns for the weary and wandering. Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness; make your way straight before me. (Psalm 27:11, 5:8)

Amen.

1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The love and affection of the angels, the love and affection of the saints,
the love and affection of heaven, and the blessing of God Almighty be with you.
And also with you.

God of life and all creation, we hold to your promise of presence. The object of all
our longing is you. With the whole of our being – with all our heart – we seek you on
the path of daily life. God of grace, draw near. **Amen.**

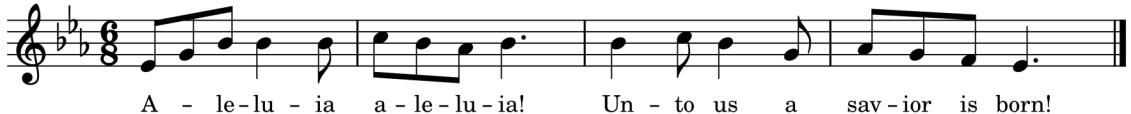
EXODUS 16:1-7

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.³ The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord.

And the Word was with God. **And the Word was God.**

ANTIPHON

W.P. Sterneman III



A - le - lu - ia a - le - lu - ia!
Un - to us a sav - ior is born!

PROVERBS 8:22,30-35

²² The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

Antiphon

³⁰ Then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race. **Antiphon**

³² "And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways.

³³ Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. **Antiphon**

³⁴ Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life. **Antiphon**

ACTS 17:21-28

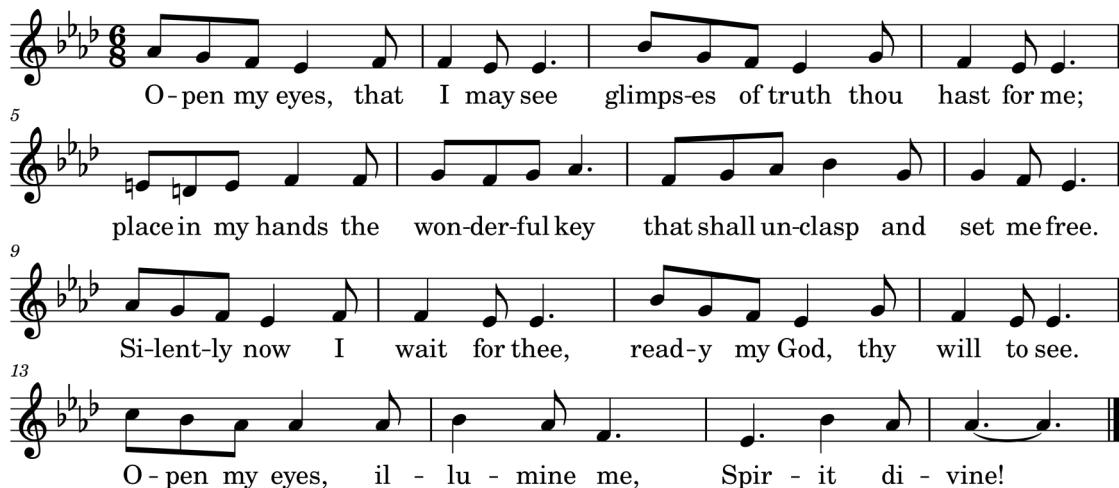
²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. ²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully 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. ²⁴ 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, ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ From one ancestor God made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ and that they would seek God and perhaps feel their way toward him, and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ 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.'

And the Word was with God. **And the Word was God.**

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Open My Eyes That I May See"



5
O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - clasp and set me free.
9
Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y my God, thy will to see.
13
O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

LUKE 11:1-4

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

TIME OF REFLECTION

SONG OF THE DAY

"God Is Here!" #526

- 1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**

- 3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**

- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!**

PROFESSION OF FAITH FOR THE MODERN WORLD

We believe in God,

The Creator of all that is,

All that has been,

And all that will be;

We believe in the Living Christ,

The embodiment of God in our world

Come to create a world of Love and Compassion:

The Fellowship of God's New World residing within us all;

Who sacrificed his life for the sake of this world,

His body broken and risen again,

Who continues to live today through his teachings

And the works of all—the Body of Christ—

Who strive to live by those teachings

And who work to carry out that mission;

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

The breath of life and creation,

Carrying God's love throughout the world;

We believe in the Grace of God,

The blessing of love and peace,

Given freely with no qualifications, restrictions, or requirements

To all of God's creation and to all the Peoples of this world. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Holy as the Day is Spent"

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, in wisdom you provide every gift needed to build up your people and your church. By the power of your Spirit, you continually call us to ministry in your name. The light of your Christ shines like a star, guiding us in the way and truth that leads to life in you.

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to support the mission and ministry of this congregation, and of the church at large in the wider world. May they be signs of our whole lives committed to share your goodness and grace with a world in need. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

W.P.Sterneman III



The grace of God be with you. **And al - so with you.**

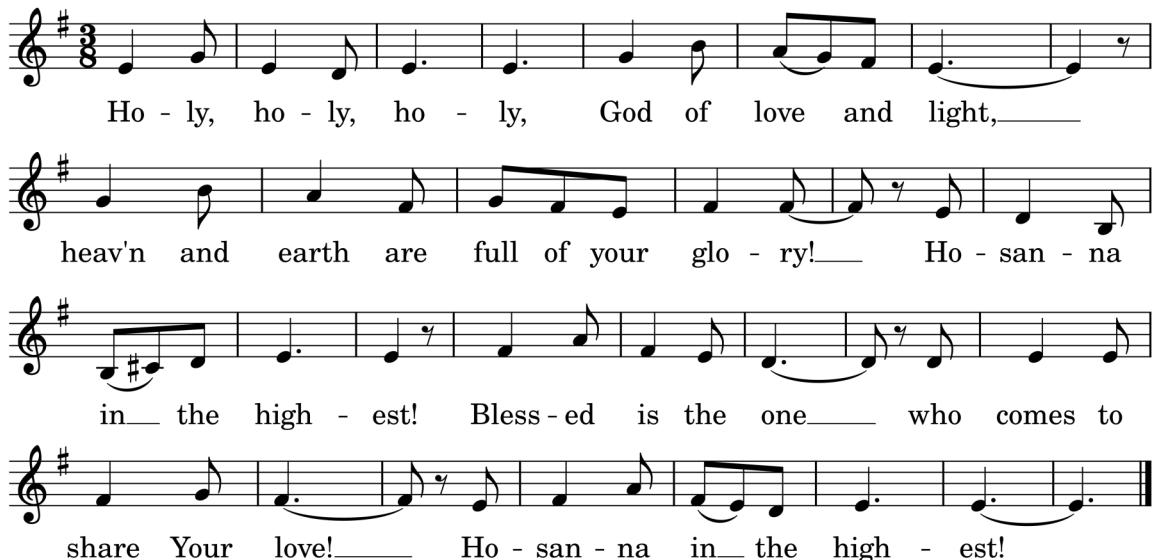
Lift up your hearts. **We lift up our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give thanks and praise**

EUCARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

W.P. Sterneman III



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of love and light,____

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry!____ Ho - san - na

in the high - est! Bless - ed is the one____ who comes to

share Your love!____ Ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION

All are welcome to celebrate communion at Abiding Love. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. Take a cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the tray. Children and adults not communing are welcome to receive a blessing. Please follow the direction of the ushers.

COMMUNION SONG

"Here is Bread" #483

- 1 **Here is bread, here is wine
Christ is with us, he is with us
Break the bread, drink the wine
Christ is with us here *Refrain***

- 2 **Here is grace, here is peace
Christ is with us, he is with us
Know his grace, find his peace
Feast on Jesus here *Refrain***

- 3 **Here we are, joined in one
Christ is with us, he is with us
We'll proclaim, till he comes
Jesus crucified *Refrain***

Refrain

**In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment, by the Spirit
Christ is with us here**

- 1 **Bread of life, our host and meal,
Jesus, feed us.
Christ, by faith, to see and feel,
feed us with your love.**
- 2 **Bread now break and wine now pour,
Jesus, feed us.
Make us one, our hope restore;
feed us with your love.**
- 3 **Grant forgiveness in this feast
Jesus, feed us
for the greatest and the least;
feed us with your love.**
- 4 **Thank you for this gift we share.
Jesus, feed us.
Save God's children everywhere;
feed us with your love.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life and all creation, you prepare a table for us in the midst of the world and bid us come. In the gift of this Sacrament, you reveal your Christ present with us, nurturing us and strengthening us for the days ahead.

Help us to live in the light of Christ. Help us to walk in the way and the truth he reveals. Lead us forth into the world, blessed to share the gift of your love and grace and forgiveness. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Refrain

Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong:
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. **Refrain**
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. **Refrain**
- 3 When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. **Refrain**

PROCLAIMING OUR MISSION AND SHARING GOD'S PEACE

We go forth together, **sharing God's love!**

TRAVELING MERCIES Sung together

Go in peace, live in grace
Trust in the arms that will hold you
Go in peace, live in grace
Trust God's love

POSTLUDE

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

SETTING AND SAFETY MEASURES

Abiding Love will continue to hold on-site worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am every Sunday. To protect your fellow worshippers, we **strongly** encourage masking, social distance, and frequent hand-washing and sanitizing, especially for those who are not vaccinated. Those not worshipping in person may join us via livestream, available at abidinglove.org.

Godly Play classes will not meet onsite Sunday mornings through January. Links to a Godly Play story and song will be in the Saturday email and at abidinglove.org.

Submerge will not meet onsite Sunday mornings through January. They will meet via Zoom on 1/16 and 1/30.

Confirmation and High School students will not meet onsite Sunday mornings through January but will meet via Zoom.

Adult Forum and Bible Boosters will meet as scheduled. Other Abiding Love and community groups will meet as scheduled, observing these same health and safety protocols.

The Abiding Love staff and council will continue to monitor and adjust what we do and communicate updates as quickly as possible. We wish all the best for everyone this new year and encourage all to worship and gather in a way you feel comfortable and safe.

INTRODUCTION TO SERVING IN WORSHIP

Grüß Gott liebe Leute!

I've had good conversations with many of you recently about assisting in worship. I wanted to share some details on these, hoping that this will help you to find which roles you are drawn to. Please consider this an open invitation without pressure.

Behind-the scenes tech positions include: Sound, Video, and Slides. **Sound** monitors the audio for the live stream and sanctuary speakers. You do not need extensive experience or advanced music abilities for this position. **Video** starts and stops the live stream and operates the cameras. The cameras are all preset and a queue sheet is prepared for every service. Training on all tech positions is available. **Slides** are temporarily on hold as we work to get our new projectors installed.

Visible positions include: Communion Server, Lector, and Assisting Minister. The **Communion Server** serves wine during communion. It's a great way to dip your toe into participating in worship leadership. The **Lector** reads the three scriptures and also serves wine during communion. The readings are prepared and sent out earlier in the week.

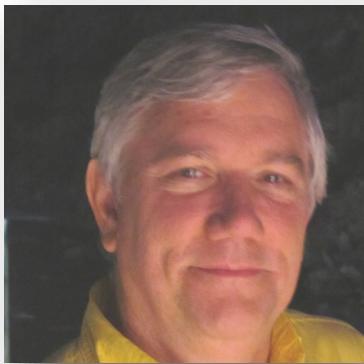
Assisting Minister seems to be the least understood and most daunting of the positions for many. There are three primary responsibilities for the Assisting Minister: read "Greeting and Prayer of the Day" and "Profession of Faith;" serve bread during communion; and create and lead the Prayers of the People. It is this last element that seems to be the source of difficulty for some. We have many resources available with prewritten prayers that can be adapted or used whole cloth. I have also created some guidance for those who want to create their own prayer, and Pastor Brad and I are happy to assist.

I hope that this elaboration of the worship assistant roles will help you to find where you are being led to serve. And if you don't feel called to any of these positions, that is perfectly fine. Without congregants, there would be no one to serve.

Yours in Service,

Dr. Gus

2022 ABIDING LOVE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Greg Dew
President



Robbie Lowe
Treasurer



Brad Matejowsky
President Elect



Pastor Brad Highum

**Secretary
Appointment
pending**

2022 ABIDING LOVE COUNCIL MEMBERS AT-LARGE



Debbie Seeger



Elaine Riggs



Sarah Pepin



Diane Albin



Denise Barr



Jeff Roberts

SERVING SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022

Flowers in the worship space today are given to the glory of God, in honor of Waldemar Mettke, by the Mettke family.

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Pastor Brad Highum

Altar Guild: (8:30) Di Brophy, Greta Rymal (11:00) Nan Hatcher, Anna Jones

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Margaret Dove (11:00) Audrey Lehman

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Karron Lewis (11:00) Karron Lewis

Lector: (8:30) Rosa Hatfield (11:00) Lacye Odam

Music Leaders: Gus Sterneman, Stephanie Morrison

Ushers: (8:30) Karin and Lloyd Matthys (11:00) Kurt Armstrong, Steve Essinger

Video: Karl Sterneman

ABIDING LOVE CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)

9:45 am Faith Formation

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

11:00 am ALLC Food Pantry

5:00 pm Bread For All Food Pantry

5:45 pm Junia Café Group

7:00 pm AA (Music Room)

7:00 pm Sarah Circle

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

10:30 am Tuesday Bible Study (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm Al-Anon (Music Room)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

10:00 am Hannah Bible Study (Classroom)

10:00 am Staff Meeting (Classroom)

6:00 pm Music Rehearsals (Music Room)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

8:00 am Convene (Activity Center)

10:30 am Chapel (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)

9:45 am Faith Formation

4:00 am OWLS (Activity Center)