



January 15, 2023

ABIDING LOVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

3205 S. Chiquita Blvd., Cape Coral, Florida 33914

Pastor Mark S. Voss – 303-808-0611 (cell)

Staff Minister Mr. Ben Mahnke -- church office-239-984-1441

www.abiding-love.com

www.abidinglovepreschool.com

Church email: info@abiding-love.com

Preschool email: preschool@abiding-love.com

January 15, 2023

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us in worship today. In our service we gather before Jesus our Savior to offer him worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word.

- Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- The Elders request that we observe five minutes of quiet time in the sanctuary prior to the start of each service. Please be seated and use this time to prepare for worship and read the bulletin announcements.
- We love families! Your children are welcome in our service, *including our youngest children!* Thanks for bringing them to hear about Jesus. If you would like, there are children's worship bags with lessons, crayons, and books in the entryway of the church. An usher can assist you. We ask that you return these to the basket after the service.
- **Information:** We ask all our members and visitors to please complete a yellow information card located in the seat backs. These will be collected by the ushers during the offering.
- **Please silence your cell phones.**

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
Gathering Rite on Holy Baptism

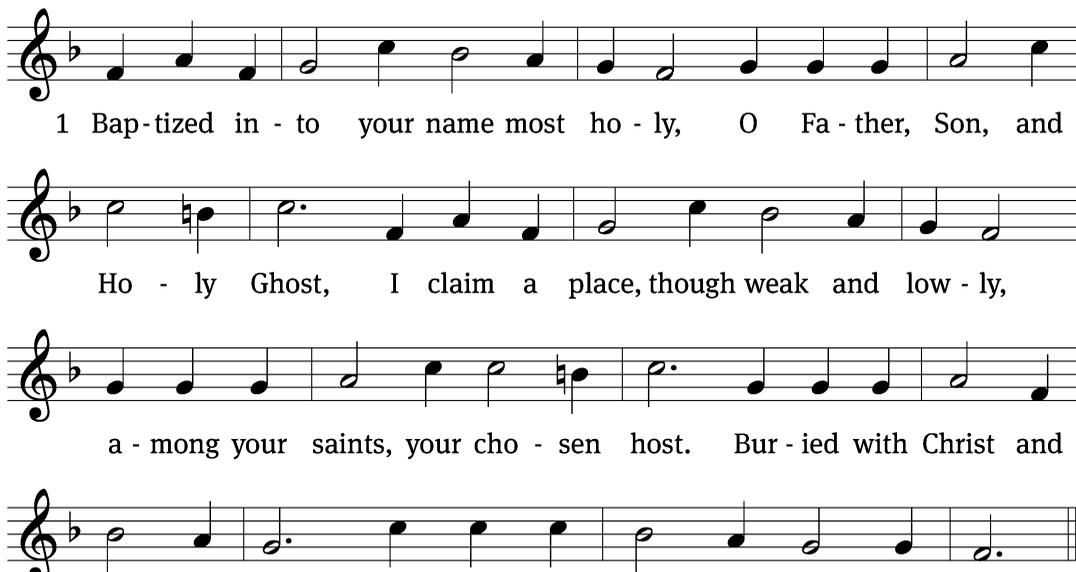
Gathering Rite

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

CW 680 st. 1



1 Bap-tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
 Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
 a - mong your saints, your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
 dead to sin, your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

P: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** *John 3:5-6*

P: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.
Psalms 51:5

C: **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** *1 Corinthians 6:11*

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

CW 680 st. 2



2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me to be hence-forth your



child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me



the fruit of all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,



com - fort me when threat-'ning clouds a - round I see.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

P: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

ALL: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

CW 680 st. 3

3 My faith-ful God, you fail me nev - er; your prom-ise sure - ly
 will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
 if words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
 come de - filed; for - give, lift up, re - store your child.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.
 Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775
 Text and tune: Public domain

P: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+ THE WORD +

Our lessons focus on the blessings of holy baptism

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 42:1-7

The Lord promises to put his Spirit on the Messiah

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations.

²He will not shout or cry out,
or raise his voice in the streets.

³A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.

In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

⁴he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.
In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”

⁵This is what God the LORD says—
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,
who gives breath to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:

⁶“I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;
I will take hold of your hand.

I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people
and a light for the Gentiles,

⁷to open eyes that are blind,
to free captives from prison
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

ALL: Alleluia

P: You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

ALL: Alleluia.

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 3:13-17

In the waters of the Jordan River, Jesus is anointed by the Spirit to serve

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

¹⁵Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

¹⁶As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Sermon Hymn "Baptized in Water"

CW 297 (red hymnal)



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,
 2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,
 3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,



Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
 Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
 Marked with the sign of Christ our King:



Heirs of sal - va - tion, Trust - ing his prom - ise,
 One with his ris - ing, Freed and for - giv - en,
 Born of one Fa - ther, We are his chil - dren;



Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932. © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: BUNESSAN (55 8 D) Gaelic melody, 19th century.

Sermon**Romans 6:1-11****Rev. Mark S. Voss****Theme: “*The Cord that Connects us to Christ*”****To the life of Christ**

¹What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ²By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

To the death of Christ

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

To the resurrection of Christ

⁸Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reading from the Catechism+

The Catechism was written by Martin Luther to review the main truths of the Bible

THE MEANING OF BAPTISM FOR OUR DAILY LIFE

P: What does baptizing with water mean?

C: **Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

P: Where is this written?

C: **Saint Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, “We were buried with Christ through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”**

Offering and Information Cards

Our offering to the Lord our Savior God flows from hearts of joy and love. The offering is used to support the work of proclaiming the gospel message here and around the world. No one is obligated to join in the offering. To give an offering electronically, visit our website: www.abiding-love.com/giving and click on “donate.”

Information: We ask our members, friends, and those visiting with us today to complete an information card located in the seat backs and place it in the offering plate. If your contact information has recently changed, please indicate this so we may update our records.

To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

CW 377 sts. 1-4



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, the Christ, whom
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— the Son of
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood and John bap -
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound came God's own



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, the God from God, the
 God in flesh dis - guised— to stand be - neath the
 tized the Lamb of God, the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 voice with words pro - found: "This is my Son," was



Light from Light, the Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.
 Fa - ther's will and all his prom - is - es ful - fill.
 heav'n - ly dove, de - scend - ed on him from a - bove.
 his de - cree, "the one I love, who pleas - es me."

Text: James P. Tiefel, b. 1949

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709601

Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord Jesus, at your baptism you revealed yourself as the obedient Son of Man, fulfilling all righteousness. Your heavenly Father revealed you as his beloved Son, in whom he is well pleased. The Holy Spirit revealed you as the Christ, anointed and armed to destroy the work of the devil.

C: **We thank you, beloved Son of God, that you took on the nature of a servant, became like us, and were obedient to the will of your heavenly Father.**

- P: Lord Jesus, eternal Word of God, you have connected your mighty Word and gracious promises to the water of Holy Baptism. In Baptism you cleansed us from sin, redeemed us from death, and clothed us in your perfect righteousness. We praise you for the promise and treasure of Baptism.
- C: **Encourage us to remember our baptisms daily as we die to sin and rise to new life with you. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

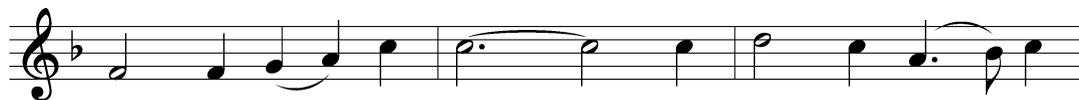
Blessing

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

CW 950



1 Lord, bid your ser - vant go in peace, your
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world, the
 3 With saints of old, with saints to come, to



word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
 Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 you we lift our voice; to Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, this child so long fore - told.
 in our midst, the joy of Is - ra - el.
 Spir - it blest be hon - or, love, and praise.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010

Tune: American

Text: © 1969, 1989 James Quinn, SJ, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709601

Tune: Public domain

Silent Prayer

The Ushers will dismiss the rows from front to back.

LAST WEEK AT ABIDING LOVE:**ATTENDANCE: 1/08/23****Bible Class: 32****Sunday School: 15****8:00am: 69****10:30am: 60****Total: 129****SERVING THIS WEEK:****Ushers: 8:00:** Dan Rys; Erv Stiemke; Ryan Schlomer**10:30:** Sheryl Pierson, Lois Crusan; Linda Gosey**Accompanist:** Marie Voss**PowerPoint: 8:00** Kevin & Wendy Beichler **Next:** The Beichlers**Livestream: 10:00** Aaron Rys **Next:** Aaron Rys**Fellowship:** Anna Ruege **Next:** Diane Larson**Altar Guild-Jan: 8:00** Val Widup
10:30 Nicky Shelton**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Tues. Jan. 17	8:00am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast at House of Omelets on Pine Island Road
	5:30pm	Preschool Board Meeting
	6:30pm	Women's Evening Bible Study at the home of Paula Bruns — Book of James
Wed. Jan. 18	8:30am	Preschool Chapel
	10:00am	Ladies' Bible Study
	6:00pm	Council Meeting

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – January 28th at 9:00am

The Worship Committee will be meeting on Saturday, January 28th at 9:00am so that we may begin our plans for Lent and Easter worship. .

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP

We are once again offering a time of Fellowship after services beginning this month. Please stick around and join us for a cup of coffee and a snack. Kathy Kalsto is looking for volunteers to help prepare snacks and coffee for upcoming Sundays. If you are able to assist, please email Kathy at kjkalsto@centurylink.net.



BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today at 9:15, join us for Adult Bible Study and Children's Sunday School. Pastor Voss will lead the adult Bible study in the church Sanctuary. Children's Sunday School will be held in the Multipurpose Room for children ages 3+. We hope you will join us!

2023 Giving Envelopes

Giving envelopes for 2023 are available this morning in the Narthex. Please take yours home with you today. We understand that not everyone uses giving envelopes as many choose to donate online or choose to give monthly, quarterly or annually. If you have not been assigned giving envelopes and would like them, please see Wendy or Nicky in the church office or contact them by email or phone call -- info@abiding-love.com or 239-984-1441, or simply let one of our ushers know today after services.



Upcoming Sermon Series: Four Myths About our Faith

People do not set out to build their faith on myths. But sometimes falsehoods show up in the way Christians think about life and God. These myths are assumed to be rock-solid truth until life proves they are not. This may result in confusion, feelings of betrayal, or distrust of Scripture. So, what is the answer?

The answer is the truth of God's Word. In this practical sermon series, we will look at 4 widely held myths about our faith. Get ready to be surprised, relieved, and inspired by the truth of God's Word.

Myth 1: Christians Shouldn't Judge – January 22 -- Sometime Christians get flustered when others quote Jesus' own words, "Do not judge." The idea that Jesus forbids his followers to judge, however, is a myth. Refusing to make judgments or call sin, sin, is not what Jesus asks us to do. He did it all the time. And Jesus asks us to do the same.

Myth 2: Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide – January 29 -- We often hear these words, "Let your conscience be your guide." The problem is that a lot of us see our conscience as a spiritual thermometer. We assume it can be placed into any situation and it will tell us the moral temperature—too hot, too cold, or just right. But that is not how our conscience works. It is more like the thermostat in our living room. It reflects our definition of hot and cold. Our conscience cannot be our guide because it needs to be guided itself—by God's Word.

Myth 3: Faith Can Fix Anything – February 5 -- The word on the street is that faith can fix anything. Faith is what successful people tout as the key to their achievements, survivors of tragedies cite as the source of their endurance, and motivational speakers make a sweet living promoting. Unfortunately, this kind of wishful thinking has nothing in common with what the Bible calls faith. It is more about faith in faith than faith in God.

Myth 4: Forgiving Means Forgetting – February 12 -- Is forgiveness pretending nothing happened? Is forgiveness a never-ending series of second chances? Is it a fresh start with all the consequences and old baggage removed? Is it the immediate and full restoration of a broken relationship, complete with the same level of trust and privileges as before? There is a problem with all these concepts. It is not how God forgives.



ABOUT ABIDING LOVE: *Abiding Love Lutheran Church is a congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), with almost 400,000 members in 49 states and missionaries in 23 nations. The WELS is committed to the Scriptures as the inspired, inerrant Word of God, and therefore the only guide for faith and life. If you would like to know more about us, or if you're seeking Biblical counseling, give Pastor Voss a call at 303-808-0611 or email him at: markvoss35@gmail.com.*