

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, March 31, 2023

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Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.; Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.



Dear congregants of Abiding Word Lutheran Church. Please remember that the nave and sanctuary is a place for those that want to reflect and pray before worship begins. I uphold those that wish to be in the worship area for this time of reflection and solitude before worship. Time for reflection and prayer is an opportunity to come before God and a great practice for all individuals. Please respect those individuals, and please keep conversation in the fellowship area. ~Rev. Cody Mills

The Lord that Thirsts

Rev. Cody Mills

John 1:28-30 ²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Before His death, Jesus said it was time for Him to drink. Besides the physical thirst, He knew the cup coming to His lips will transfer sin and death to Him. The prediction of Christ's death can be found in Psalm 22 and Psalm 69. Psalm 69:21 "They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink." This fulfilling why Jesus said I thirst. He knew He would be receiving sour wine to drink, fulfilling His death's prediction. We also remember Matthew 26:39 "...My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

In Matthew 26, the cup seals death and the entire sin of the World unto Him. Jesus was afraid to die and suffer wrath. Indeed, this drink will be sour and cannot satisfy the physical or spiritual thirst. Though Christ pleads with His Father in Heaven, He knows there will be a moment when the taste of death must cross His lips to free those that believe in Him. He knows He is dying for the sinner and unfaithful. He is dying for the disciples that have fallen asleep in the garden.

When Christ is on the Cross, He speaks the words to fill the prophecy and what He speaks constantly. His love is fulfilled by drinking the very cup he wanted the Father to not give. That sour taste of death must be given to Him. He is ready to die and take the world's weight unto Himself by saying, "I am thirsty!"

As we approach Holy Week, remember those Words that God gives us. By His life, He drinks the cup of death and the soured life of sin to become sin. 2 Corinthians 5:21 "Him who knew no sin, he made to be sin on our behalf; that we might become the righteousness of God in him."

Through faith, God gives us the cross in all its horror and beauty. That which is meant for torment and death remains the torment for death. God's promise in baptism and His body and blood that resurrects and sustains us gives us God's grace. Let us know what it means to receive the Gospel, our baptism, and the body and blood. These things are for you while Jesus drinks the cup given to Him to free us. By the blood of Jesus, you are saved so that nobody may boast of their own goods and works. There is nothing you can do that Jesus did. Let us eat and drink on Maundy Thursday to receive His gifts.



Join us this coming Sunday, April 2 for
Palm Sunday
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am

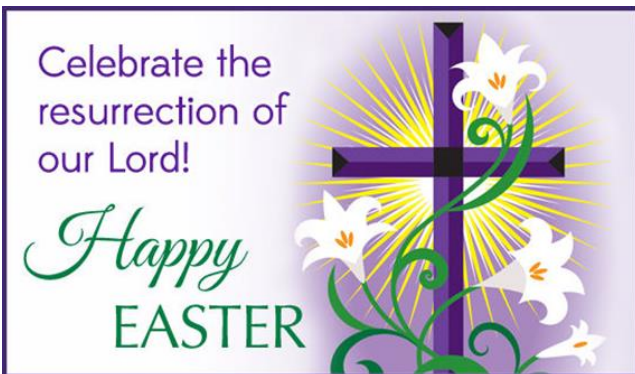


Maundy Thursday Service
April 6, 6:00 pm



Good Friday Service
Including a reading of the Passion & special music
April 7, 6:00 pm

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Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 am  
No Sunday School  
Easter "Rise N Shine" Rolls  
Easter Sunday Service - 10:00 am

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This coming Sunday, April 2nd
Please bring the following items for **Faith Mission!**

Faith Mission— Items should **NOT** be Family Size.

- * Canned foods (soups/veggies/ fruit)
- * Breakfast foods (cereals)
- * Paper goods
- * Staples (flour/sugar/coffee/rice)
- * Men's & Women's hygiene products
- * Baby items
- * Cleaning supplies (small sizes)
- * Bakery (bread/crackers/buns)
- * \$5 gift cards
- * Condiments (jelly/mustard/ mayo/ catsup)

A special **THANK YOU** to all who participated in the Lenten Meals and Services, especially our servants, Fellowship Committee, and those who prepared food! We appreciate you!



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Men's Breakfast,  
Saturday, April 1  
Brenham Grill,  
8:30 am

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Saturday, April 1
Help needed at the
Church to move back
the chairs – 10:00 am



Altar Flowers are provided this Sunday, April 2, by Darlene and Berrie Etzel in honor of their anniversary.

We still have open Sundays for April and most of May. Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office.

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### Church Washing

Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the morning, the outside of the church and steeple will be washed. If you need to come to the church that Monday, please come later in the day.

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April 4, 10:00 am – Ladies Bible Study

Our Servants Maundy Thursday, April 6

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills
Musician: Debbie Heidemann
Lay Minister/Reader: Susie Seidel
Greeters: Ken French & Ralph Martin
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills, Susie Seidel, Lloyd Quebe & **TBD**
Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm
Ushers: Gary Crocker & Berrie Etzel
Altar Guild: Karen Johnson and Patti Swenson
Ushers, please note, Communion will be Continuous

Our Servants Good Friday, April 7

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills
Musician: Debbie Heidemann
Lay Minister/Reader: Susie Houston
Greeters: Ralph & Sandra Becker
Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin
Ushers: Michael Kelling & Robert Mikeska
Altar Guild: Karen Johnson and Patti Swenson
Passion Readers: Mike Swenson, Roy Kelm, Patti Swenson, Lloyd Quebe, Bill Rankin, Jan Koska, Ken French, Susie Houston

 We need one more communion assistant for Maundy Thursday service April 6. Please let Rev. Mills or the church office know if you can serve.

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### Easter Sunrise Service Set Up

We need help setting up for the Easter Sunrise Service, April 9. Please let Rev. Mills or the church office know if you can help with this. Thank You!

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God answers prayers!
Cathy Johnson has agreed to coordinate and teach the Children's Sunday School. Please consider how you can assist her in ministry to our little ones.



Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion)

Processional Reading: John 12:12-19

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Responsive Reading: Psalm 118:19-29

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel Reading: Matthew 26:1-29, 66

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## Our Servants This Sunday, April 2

### Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion)

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Gary Crocker

Reader: Sandra Aschenbeck

Greeters: Preston & Melody Perry

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Gary Crocker

Audio/Video: Benita Schramme & Wade Seidel

Ushers: Sheila Demery & Michael Kelling

Little Lambs: Michael Kelling

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson and Patti Swenson

## Our Servants Next Sunday, April 9

### Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunrise)

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Michael Kelling

Reader: Donna Kelling

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Michael Kelling

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson and Patti Swenson

## Our Servants Next Sunday, April 9

### Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter)

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Becky Bosse

Reader: Dottie Schaer

Greeters: Sheila Demery & Marilyn Watts

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills, Becky Bosse,  
Lloyd Quebe & Sandra Aschenbeck

Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm

\*Ushers: John & Dottie Schaer

Little Lambs: Dottie Schaer

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson and Patti Swenson

**\*Ushers, please note, Communion will be Continuous**

\*Please notify the church office if you have arranged for someone to fill in for you.

## Prayer Time for Servants Before Worship Service

Note for all those involved in the worship service: Rev. Mills would like to meet for prayer in the church office with all those involved in the worship service, 5 minutes before the service starts. Please join if your duties permit.

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Thank You

*To all our faithful servants every Sunday.
The church couldn't function without you.*

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## Prayer Concerns Within Our Church Family\*

Betsy Faske

Cathy Johnson

Barbara Lighter

Ralph Martin & family

Marita Mikeska

Dennis & Doris Penkert

John Porter

Ray and Ethel Sanders

Don Schlaudraff

Stanley Schneider

Larry Stark

Patsy Wegner

## Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family\*

Krista Bowers Carol Crosby

Carol Fornof Dawson Lee Jasinski & family

Will Hibbs Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling

David Martin Rita Werner

Taylor Wick

National and government leaders

All those in the military and first responders

Those affected by the war in Ukraine

Our Community, Nation, and World

\*AWLC respects the right to privacy. Please verify that we have permission to add a family member or friend to our prayer list.

\*Names of loved ones outside our church are posted during the month of request and the following month unless we are asked to remove or extend them.

\*You may request that names be added to or removed from our list by emailing them to:

[admin@abidingword.org](mailto:admin@abidingword.org) or by calling the church office.

## Pastor's Schedule

Monday: Off

Tuesday: Classical Conversations Tutor all day;  
Church Office – 5 pm - 10 pm

Wednesday: Church Office/Appointments 9 am-5 pm

Thursday: Church Office/Appointments 5 - 10 pm

Friday: Home visitations through the day

Saturday: Off

Sunday: Worship - 9 am - 11 am

Emergency Calls: 218-405-0710

Extra time is spent with committees, classes, and other events.

Schedule subject to change.

## March/April 2023

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Mon                                                                           | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Wed                                                                                                                     | Thu                                                                                                                                            | Fri                                                                                                                                      | Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>26</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br><br>Adult Bible Study &<br>Children's Sunday<br>School 9:00 am<br><br>Worship 10:00 am                                                                                                                            | <b>27</b><br><span style="color: red;">Pat Meyer</span>                       | <b>28</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>29</b><br>Lenten Dinner<br>5:15 pm<br>Lenten Service<br>6:00 pm<br><br><span style="color: red;">Blaine Bosse</span> | <b>30</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>31</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>April 1</b><br><br>Men's Breakfast<br>8:30 am, Brenham<br>Grill<br><br>Set up Chairs at<br>Church, 10:00 am                                                                                              |
| <b>2 Palm Sunday</b><br><span style="color: purple;">First Fruits</span><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br><br>Adult Bible Study &<br>Children's Sunday<br>School 9:00 am<br><br>Worship 10:00 am                                                             | <b>3</b><br><span style="color: green;">Berrie &amp; Darlene<br/>Etzel</span> | <b>4</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible<br>Study- 10:00 am<br><br>Worship<br>Committee Meeting<br>5:30 pm<br><br><span style="color: red;">Sandra<br/>Aschenbeck</span>                                    | <b>5</b>                                                                                                                | <b>6</b><br>Maundy<br>Thursday<br>Service<br>6:00 pm<br><br> | <b>7</b><br>Good Friday<br>Service<br>6:00 pm<br><br> | <b>8</b><br><span style="color: red;">Jeremy Reimer</span>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>9</b><br>Easter Sunrise<br>Service 7:00 am<br><b>NO Sunday School</b><br>Easter Worship<br>Service<br>10:00 am<br><br><br><span style="color: blue;">Harrison Sommer</span> | <b>10</b>                                                                     | <b>11</b><br>Outreach<br>Committee Meeting<br>5:30 pm                                                                                                                                                           | <b>12</b><br>Ladies Evening<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 pm                                                                   | <b>13</b><br><span style="color: red;">Ronnie<br/>Lueckemeyer</span>                                                                           | <b>14</b><br><span style="color: red;">Ralph Martin</span>                                                                               | <b>15</b><br><span style="color: blue;">Cameron Roehling</span>                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>16</b><br><span style="color: purple;">Mission Offering</span><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br><br>Adult Bible Study &<br>Children's Sunday<br>School 9:00 am<br><br>Worship 10:00 am<br><br><span style="color: blue;">Tony Gomez</span>                | <b>17</b>                                                                     | <b>18</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible<br>Study- 10:00 am<br><br>Church Council<br>Meeting 5:45 pm<br><br>Hope Gathering<br>Meeting 6:00pm @<br>Church<br><br><span style="color: red;">Gene King</span> | <b>19</b>                                                                                                               | <b>20</b><br>NALC Ladies<br>Bible Study<br>1:30 pm<br><br><span style="color: red;">Lois Rankin</span>                                         | <b>21</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>22</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>23</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br><br>Adult Bible Study &<br>Children's Sunday<br>School 9:00 am<br><br>Worship 10:00 am                                                                                                                            | <b>24</b>                                                                     | <b>25</b><br><span style="color: red;">Susie Houston</span>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>26</b>                                                                                                               | <b>27</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>28</b><br><span style="color: red;">Peggy Campbell</span>                                                                             | <b>29</b><br><br><span style="color: red;">Red = Adult's Birthday</span><br><span style="color: blue;">Blue = Child's Birthday</span><br><span style="color: green;">Green = Wedding<br/>Anniversary</span> |

**Happy Birthday**

**Sandra Aschenbeck, April 4**

***Happy Anniversary***

***Berrie and Darlene Etzel, April 3***

If you have any announcements, articles, pictures, prayer requests or updates, or corrections for/to the newsletter, please send them to the admin. Thanks for your help! But please send it to the office no later than Wednesday noon before. Thank you.