

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, November 17, 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

Answers to Last Week

Rev. Cody Mills

How did you do? It is about learning God's wonderful work for you and His faithfulness to you. God is the creator of life and through speech he creates you anew. Give thanks to the Lord our God this Thanksgiving and His many blessings.

Divine Service

3. The following are components of the Divine Service. Draw an arrow pointing down if the Lord is speaking to us in this part of the service and an arrow pointing up if we are speaking or responding to Him. Some may have both up and down arrows. You may need to review these components of the Divine Service from the hymnal.

Invocation: ↓ God is speaking when the pastor says "In the name of the Father, Son, Holy Spirit, we invoke His full name into this place."
 Confession and Absolution: ↑ we confess ↓ He forgives

Hymn of Praise:

↑ we respond to the forgiveness and give thanks to Him. Not an idol

Readings:

↓ God speaks to us through Scripture! we receive His words

Hymn of the Day:

↑ we respond to His words

Sermon:

↓ down God speaks to us in the Sermon

Creed:

↑ we confess what we believe ↓ we receive what we believe

Prayers:

↑ we offer pray and ask Him ↓ to fill His promise

Offerings:

↑ we offer as what was first given to us

Preface to Communion: ↑ we give and receive ↓ give thanks, receive His promise

Lord's Prayer:

↑ we offer the prayer our Lord ↓ taught and receive His promise

Words of Institution:

↓ The Lord is speaking His promise to the Church. Scripture

The Peace:

↓ we share the peace God gave us. ↑ we love because he loves

Distribution:

↓ Jesus provides His true blood and body in the bread and wine

Prayer and Thanksgiving:

↑ we give thanks in response ↓ and receive this Gift

Benediction:

↓ God bestow His blessing on us!

4. How would you describe the rhythm of the Divine Service as you review the arrows pointing down and the arrows pointing up?

God speaks, we respond

Why is it important that the hymns we sing first and foremost reflect God speaking to us?

To focus on what God has done for us, not what we do

6. Review the Lord's Supper liturgy. How do we prepare ourselves to receive the Supper? How do we respond to the blessings we receive in the Supper?

we ask for forgiveness

we receive

we respond

we respond to others in love because of God



No Grief Session, Nov. 22

AWLC will again host a gathering and Bible study/sessions for those grieving. It is open to all in the community. The sessions are using a Christian-based program based on a book on living with grief in sight of the Cross of Christ by Rev. Dr. Kristian Kincaid. It is called Living with Grief: Bound by Sorrow, Wrapped in Comfort. The sessions will help us look to the Cross for healing. There are many uncertainties in our lives, but grief is one sure thing that all of us will experience. Coming together around God's Word in the presence of others allows us to mourn together and learn of the goodness that is Jesus Christ. **Sign up on the church website or call the church office.**

Sessions are Wednesday evenings 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, supper included, at the Church on the following dates:

- **NO meeting - November 22 for Thanksgiving**
- November 29
- December 6
- December 13
- December 20 – Longest night candle vigil



The admin will be taking some time off around the Thanksgiving holiday. Responses will be delayed. Contact Rev. Mills for urgent needs.

Thanksgiving week, Rev. Mill's Office Hours:
Tuesday the 21st from 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Wednesday the 22nd – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Schedule subject to change; please call ahead.

The Church Office will be closed Thanksgiving Day and Friday the 24th. Rev. Mills will be available by phone for critical needs those days.



The Choir will be singing in the Service This Sunday! Join Us!



NO Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study, November 21



No Choir Practice November 22



There will NOT be a Thanksgiving Eve Service this year.



Donations of Candy Canes Needed for the Parade!

Small wrapped **Candy Canes** needed to toss out at the Parade on Dec 2nd. Needed by Sunday, Nov.

26. There is a basket in Fellowship Hall.



- ❖ Sun. Nov. 19th – Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Wed. Nov. 29th – Choir Practice, 6:00 pm
- ❖ Sat. Dec. 2nd – Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am
- ❖ Sat. Dec. 2nd – We will have a float in the Downtown Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade, 6:00 pm
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 3rd – Christmas Sing-a-Long before Service; Choir Singing in Church Service; Tree Decorating after service
- ❖ Tues. Dec. 5th – Ladies' Bible Study, 10:00 am
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 9th & 10th – Bethlehem in Independence – we need volunteers.
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 10th – Toys for Tots Due
- ❖ Fri. Dec. 15th – NALC Ladies' Luncheon, 11:00 am



Christmas Parade

We welcome your children or grandchildren to ride on the float. Contact Susie Houston for details. We will need to be on the float by 5:30 pm, December 2nd or come join the fun and watch and wave!



Join us at the Church Dec. 3rd for



Christmas Music Sing-a-Long
Sunday, December 3rd, 9:45

**NO Adult or Children's Bible Study
Sunday, Dec. 3rd
FOLLOWED BY**



**Tree Decorating
Sunday, December
3rd
After the Service
All are welcome to
stay and help.**

We need a 12' to 15' ladder. Contact the church office or Jan Koska if you can bring one that Sunday.



**Toys for Tots
Toys Due Sunday,
December 10th**

We have a donation box at the church for toys. New toys are accepted. Nothing used.

Susie Houston is also collecting money (cash/check) to buy toys as well. If you want to write a check -make it out to and give it to Susie Houston who will cash it and buy the toys for the ages that still need gifts. That way the \$ and toys will stay in Washington County.



Volunteers needed for lighting the Advent Candles each Sunday. Contact Rev.

Mills, the church office, or Jan Koska if interested.



Have you ever wanted to be Mary or Joseph in the school play?

Now is your chance with no acting skills required – other volunteers needed as well

December 9 & 10. Sign up on the Bulletin Board to participate. Contact Bill Rankin for more information



NALC Ladies' Luncheon



December 15th, 11:00 am
at the Cannery

get your \$15 tickets from Donna Kelling or the Church Office (envelope on the admin's desk)

Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16
Responsive Reading: Psalm 90:1-12
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Lectionary Readings for Next Sunday:

Christ the King Sunday

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Responsive Reading: Psalm 95:1-7a
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 31-46

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**Our Servants This Sunday, November 19**

**Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Lottie Tegeler  
Lay Minister: Wade Seidel  
Reader: TBD  
Greeters: Pat & Ronnie Lueckemeyer  
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Wade Seidel  
Audio/Video: Gary Crocker & Charlotte Smith  
Ushers: Sheila Demery & TBD  
Little Lambs: Wade Mills  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Pat Quebe, Patti Swenson

**Our Servants Following Sunday, Nov. 26**

**Christ the King Sunday**

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Debbie Heidemann  
Lay Minister: Susie Houston  
Reader: Marilyn Watts  
Greeters: Sheila Demery & Darlene Etzel  
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Becky Bosse  
Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin  
Ushers: Berrie Etzel & Lottie Tegeler  
Little Lambs: Wade Mills  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Pat Quebe, Darlene Etzel

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Thank You

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

Our Servants for Sunday, December 3rd

First Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills
Musician: Debbie Heidemann
Lay Minister: Susie Houston
Reader: Dottie Schaer
Greeters: Gary Hind & Mary Ann Schulte
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Susie Houston
Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm
Ushers: John & Dottie Schaer
Little Lambs: Dottie Schaer
Altar Guild: Karen Johnson & Darlene Etzel

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**Prayer Time for Servants Before Worship**

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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Prayer Concerns Within Our Church Family*

Mike Johnson Roy Kelm
Barbara Lighter Wade Mills
The family of Allen Mueller Dennis & Doris Penkert
John Porter Ray & Ethel Sanders
Stanley Schneider Patsy Wegner
The family of Gene Stanford

Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family*

The Feathers' Family Dawson Lee Jasinski & family
John Jensen Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling
Lucreacia Kim Sauer
Donna Stump Rita Werner
Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Carmine, TX
For rain and those affected by the drought
Those affected by the wildfires
National and government leaders
All those in the military and first responders
Those affected by the war in Ukraine & Israel
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 or by calling the church office.

November/December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sandy Starnes	13	14 Private Event 10:30 am Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Arno Jahnke Preston & Melody Perry	15 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Grief Session 5:30 pm	16	17 Michael Kelling	18
19 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Choir & Worship 10:00 am Laurie Muske	20 Dorothy Schwettmann	21 Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm Pat Weeks	22 Gary Hind Mike & Patti Swenson	23 Mary Ann Schulte  Office Closed	24 Office Closed	25
26 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Candy Canes Due	27	28	29 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Grief Session 5:30 pm	30 Lloyd Quebe	December 1	2 Men's Breakfast Smitty's 8:30 am Christmas Parade Downtown Brenham 6:00 pm
3 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am No Adult or Children's Bible Study Christmas Music Sing-a- Long 9:45 am Choir & Worship 10:00 am Tree Decorating after service Bill Rankin	4	5 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Committee 5:30 pm Geraldine Johnson Marita Mikeska	6 Grief Session 5:30 pm Robert Mikeska	7 John Davies	8 Dottie Schaer Rick & Carol Hutchens	9 Bethlehem in Independence Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding Anniversary

Happy Birthday

Michael Kelling, November 17
Laurie Muske, November 19
Dorothy Schwettmann, November 20
Pat Weeks, November 21
Gary Hind, November 22
Mary Ann Schulte, November 23

Happy Anniversary

Mike and Patti Swenson, November 22

Reminders

- **Check out Rev. Mills' Facebook clips!** You can also find sermons, adult Bible studies, upcoming events and more! <https://www.facebook.com/AbidingWordBrenham/>
- Online Giving is available through the Church Website. <https://www.abidingword.org/tithe>
- Watch Sunday services online on our website at [abidingword.org](https://www.abidingword.org). Link on the Home page or click on "Worship" > then "Livestream" - <https://www.abidingword.org/live-stream>