

The Wisdom of Abigail



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This morning we'll hear the story of Abigail who acted quickly and creatively to save her family from a violent attack by David. Her humility, wisdom and courage prevented bloodshed and regret. The story lives on to this day as we can still learn much from it.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Postlude in G Minor* ~Smith Mary Schmidt
 Hymn to Joy ~arr. Payne

Welcome Karl Brubaker

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Sharing about WDC Assembly Kris Schmucker and Darla Banman

Call to Worship and Invocation+

One: As followers of Jesus, we are called

Many: to bless those who persecute us;

One: to rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn;

Many: to live in harmony with others and not be arrogant.

One: As disciples of the Prince of Peace, we are called

Many: to not repay anyone evil for evil;

One: to, as far as possible, live peaceably with all;

Many: to feed our enemies when they are hungry and offer a drink when they are thirsty.

One: Ours is a hard and holy calling, friends. And so we gather.

Many: We gather for prayer and study.

One: We gather for singing and silence.

Many: We gather for encouragement and support.

All: We gather for worship.

***Gathering Hymns** *Praise with Joy the World's Creator* VT 428
 We Are People of God's Peace VT 797

Children's Story Renae Peters

Morning Prayer Kris Schmucker

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture	I Samuel 25:1-35	
Message	"Abigail's Wisdom"	Pastor Lois Harder
Song of Response	<i>There is a Line of Women</i>	VT 546

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory	<i>Fairest Lord Jesus</i> ~arr. Tonioli	Mary Schmidt
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Lois
*Sending Song	<i>Go Now in Peace, Worship Continues</i>	VT 829
*Benediction		Pastor Lois
*Postlude	<i>The Lord Lift You Up</i> ~Shelly	Mary Schmidt

*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ The peace lamp serves as a visual reminder for us that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

This service used resources from *Current: Seeking Peace Together* from the Shine Curriculum, written by Joanna Harader.

Song Leader: Braden Unruh

Greeters: North – Tina and Ben Schrag
South – John and Janell Janzen

Visual Arts: Shari Wiens

Nursery Staff: Maryanne Esau, Myra Peters

Worship Technology: Steve Unruh, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

August 13 Attendance: Sunday School – 88; Worship -- 113 in person, 9 Zoom Households

August 13 Offering: Sunday School -- \$66.09; First Fruits – \$3,019.65

Questions for Reflection – I Samuel 25:1-35

1. *Have you ever been caught in the middle of a conflict in which both sides were behaving badly? What did you do? What do you wish you had done?*
2. *In what ways do you think those who do violence are harmed by their actions?*

Next Sunday the theme will be "Elisha and the Soldiers" from 2 Kings 6:8-23, with Eric Schrag preaching. This will conclude our *Seeking Peace Together* series.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for residents at Bethesda and particularly of the duplexes as Covid has made a resurgence there.

- ❖ We pray for Steve Banman's mother, Mary Banman, who was admitted to the care of hospice this past Wednesday due to extended illness. Steve will fly to Asheville, N.C. (where Mary lives) on August 30.
- ❖ We rejoice with Les and Ann Flaming as Les received a positive report from the oncologist. The radiation treatments have succeeded in preventing any active cancer right now. They appreciate prayers!
- ❖ Thank you God for the time of building relationships and learning together in the Shelter House during Sunday school these past weeks. Bless these experiences that they might produce future strength and trust between the children and adults who participated.
- ❖ Congratulations to Brooke Nafziger on her graduation from Bellus Academy of Cosmetology on Monday, August 21! She has also passed her state board exam!

+*This week pray for: Treg and Candace Duerksen family, Karen Nikkel, Brian and Nancy Stucky, Lynel and Vickie Unrau, Martha Voth*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 20

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, August 21

5:45 pm – Board of Mission and Service

7:00 pm – Church Council

Tuesday, August 22

9:00 am – Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 27

9:00 am – Breakfast Potluck in Shelter House – Youth Ministry at AMC

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

Aug 27	Regular fall Sunday school classes begin
Sept 4	Church offices closed for Labor Day
Sept 10	Teacher Dedication, First Grade Bibles and Peace Table Bibles
Sept 10	Noon Teacher Appreciation Meal
Sept 24	Community Service Day
Oct 15	Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Breakfast Potluck on Sunday, August 27 for High School youth, their parents, teachers and anyone who is interested in the faith formation of our youth! **Come to the Shelter House at 9:00 a.m.** with your breakfast treats to share. **We'll meet until 10:15** to sing, pray, talk about what we feel God calling us to do and be as a youth group in this congregation. We'll discuss leadership, (both youth and adult) ideas for midweek youth group, hopes and goals for youth ministry in our setting, the shape and scope of our times

together, the gifts and passions brought by each one at this time and in this place, etc. Come with yummy food, “out-of-the-box ideas” and mostly open hearts and minds. Contact any Board of Christian Education member or Pastor Lois with questions.

It's time to update our group subscriptions to the magazine ***Anabaptist World***. The cost for each subscription is \$39. If you have been part of our group subscription and wish to continue or if you would like to participate as a new reader, please return to Dwight M. Flaming a completed form (found in the lobby) plus your check of \$39 payable to Alexanderwohl by **August 27, 2023**.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch – September 10, 2023 following the worship service. This is for all teachers/helpers who have taught Elementary, Youth and Adult Sunday School or Midweek classes during the 2022-2023 year. Sign-up sheets are in both the north and south lobbies, where you can indicate how many from your family will attend. Deadline to sign up is September 3.

Please note that the church building is disarmed by 8:00 am Monday through Friday. If you enter the building before that time, you may trigger the alarm. The south door by the offices is unlocked from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm each week day. On weekends, you may use your keypad number or key to gain entrance. Please *do not* enter the building after 10:00 pm.

The garden sharing table is in the south lobby. Everyone is welcome to bring extra garden produce to share with others.