

Third Sunday after Epiphany, January 24, 2021  
*The 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the faith community of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church*



*As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,  
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
you search us and know us.  
You are acquainted with all our ways.  
We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—  
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.  
We turn inward, failing to follow  
your outward way of love.  
We distrust those who are not like us.  
We exploit the earth and its resources  
and fail to consider generations to come.  
Forgive us, gracious God,  
for all we have done and left undone.

Even before the words are on our tongues,  
you know them;  
receive them in your divine mercy.  
Amen.

How vast is God's grace!  
Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,  
our sins are washed away  
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.  
Indeed, we are forgiven.  
In the wake of God's forgiveness,  
we are called to be the beloved community  
living out Christ's justice  
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.  
Amen.

## Song

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## WORD

### First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the

people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm: Psalm 62:5-12**

God alone is my rock and my salvation. (*Ps. 62:6*)

<sup>5</sup>For God alone I | wait in silence;  
truly, my hope | is in God.

<sup>6</sup>God alone is my rock and | my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall nev- | er be shaken.

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance | and my honor;  
God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>Put your trust in God al- | ways, O people,  
pour out your hearts before the one who | is our refuge. R

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate can- | not be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less | than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;  
though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,  
that power be- | longs to God.

<sup>12</sup>Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord,  
for you repay all according | to their deeds. R

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter  
Glory to you, O Lord.

### **Gospel: Mark 1:14-20**

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew

casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

## Sermon

## Song

### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide our care for all the earth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those who provide leadership in our cities and around the world, for nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, for planning commissions and homeless advocates, that God inspire all people in the just use of wealth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving; for the outcast and all who await relief (*especially*), that in the midst of suffering, God's peace and mercy surround them, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our congregation and community, for families big and small, and for the organizations that meet here during the week, that God's steadfast love serve as a model for all relationships, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith whose lives serve as an example of gospel living, that they point us to salvation through Christ, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

### **Peace (In ASL)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.

### **Offering Prayer**

O God,  
receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care,  
and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love,  
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.  
**Amen.**

### **Time after Epiphany**

Holy God,  
Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness,  
we hear your Word in the Scriptures,  
proclaiming to us your wisdom  
and inviting us to follow your call.  
For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God. **We thank you, O God.**

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother,  
who preached your righteousness, healed the sick,  
and revived the brokenhearted.  
For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God. **We worship you, O God.**

By your Spirit bless all who receive this Word,  
that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.  
For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God. **We praise you, O God.**

Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us,

now and forever. Amen. Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

While worldly powers try to divide too often, Jesus always brings us back to our unified truth in teaching us to pray a little slowly and with a lot of feeling:

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.

### SENDING

#### Blessing

God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter  $\mp$  keep you in peace.  
Amen.

#### Song

#### Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
Thanks be to God.

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Alek, Lori, Jonnie, Chandler, Larry, Keith, Paxton, Bruce, Mary, Cathy, Marlene, Larry, Jim, Tara, Jeff, Mary, Dave, Jim & Tina, Craig, Stacy, Ray, Pat, Doris, Richard, Mike, Mark, Anne, Gloria, Christina, Cydney, Dawn & Barry and all who are in our prayers today.

*Nursing Home:* Ruth Elavsky, Pat Seglund, Don Johnson, Jim LeVeque, Babe Strand and Jean Moore  
*Assisted Living:* Norma Seceast

***In Service:*** Airman Craig Oas, Ryan Graves, Zac Culter, Mike Knickerbocker, Sean Sutherland, Peter Peterson, Brad Salmi, Mathew Moilanen and our veterans who have returned to their communities

***General:*** All who deal with COVID-19 here in our neighborhoods and beyond.

**EVENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Wednesday – January 27 – Night Faith Formation – see January LIE for details.**

**Sunday – February 7 – On-Line Worship Service – 10:30am**