

## Fifth Sunday in Lent – April 2 & 3, 2022

*The 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the faith community of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church*



*Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.*

### **Announcements**

*As you prepare for worship, gathered in virtual community and connected by God's beautiful and unfathomable design, you are invited to light a candle for your home worship space.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness,  
walks with us,  
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,  
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.  
Have mercy on us!**

**Forgive us and turn us again to you.  
Teach us to follow in your ways,  
assure us again of your love,  
and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
the Word draws near to you,  
and all who call out to God shall be saved.  
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again  
and gathers you under wings of love.  
In ☩ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.  
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.  
**Amen.**

## **Opening Hymn - #324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

### **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**

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **WORD**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21**

*The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD,  
who makes a way in the sea,

a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

<sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me,  
the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

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

## **Psalm: Psalm 126**

Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (*Ps. 126:5*)

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.

**<sup>2</sup>Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.

**<sup>4</sup>Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses | of the Negeb. R**

<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.

**<sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,  
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves. R**

## Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

*Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

<sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord**

**Gospel: John 12:1-8**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day - #629 Abide with Me

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing for creation. Reverse the trajectory of climate change and environmental catastrophe. Revive habitats already impaired by human disregard. Amplify the voices of climate scientists and researchers working to chart a new course. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and collaboration among the nations. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick (*especially*). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued (*especially*). Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Do a new thing in our death. Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection as we give thanks for (*names and*) all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Extravagant God,  
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.  
Now we gather at your feast

where you offer us the food that satisfies.  
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,  
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,  
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

*The presiding minister leads the following prayer.*

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God,  
for by your Word you made all things:  
you spoke light into darkness,  
called forth beauty from chaos,  
and brought life into being.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel  
to tell of your wonderful gifts:  
freedom from captivity,  
water on the desert journey,  
a pathway home from exile,  
wisdom for life with you.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh,  
you speak to us and call us to witness:  
forgiveness through the cross,  
life to those entombed by death,  
the way of your self-giving love.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God;  
rekindle your gifts within us:  
renew our faith, increase our hope,  
and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.  
Faithful to your Word, O God,

draw near to all who call on you;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Our faithful teacher Jesus gave us the words we need to bring us back to God and our God-given selves when he taught us to pray:

**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**

You are children of God,  
anointed with the oil of gladness  
and strengthened for the journey.  
Almighty God,  
motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
✠ bless you this day and always.

**Amen.**

## Sending Hymn - #696 Jesus Calls Us

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Please remember the following people in your prayers:** Paxton, Marlene Robbins, Tara Henry, Craig, Ray Berg, Anne Balko, Christina Bell, Jake Rosenberg, Dawn Syers, Rick, Tommy Paradise, Lana, Joe, Arlene Posont, Paige, Mary Kutsick, Jamie, Jonnie Tru, Gary, Florence, Jen Lincoln, Amy Sturtleen, Phil, Doris Hayrynen, Heidi Prunick, Family of Terry Bond, Duray Murk, and all who are in our prayers today.

***Nursing Home:*** Ruth Elavsky, Jim LeVeque, and Babe Strand

***Assisted Living:*** Norma Secreast

***In Service:*** Airman Craig Oas, Ryan Graves, Zac Culter, Mike Knickerbocker, Peter Peterson, Mathew Moilanen, Michael Graves, Airman Mikala Robinson, and our veterans who have returned to their communities.

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

**PRESIDING MINISTER:** Elaine Robbins

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** George Balko – Saturday Helen Scheuneman - Sunday

**USHERS:** Brenda St. Martin – Sat. Harry Robbins - Sunday

**ALTAR GUILD:** Robin Mattson/Brenda St. Martin & volunteers

**MUSICIAN:** Tari Johnson

### EVENTS OF THE WEEK

**Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>** – Saturday Worship Service – 5:00pm - In-person

**Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>** – 10:30am Worship Service - In-person and on Facebook Live

Council Meeting following service

**Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>** - 1:00pm Good Friday Service

Please contact Pastor Tommy Richter if pastoral care is needed -

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or 215-470-9948 cell; 906-286-4383 home