

*Journey through Genesis*

**SERVICE OF THE WORD – Summer 2020, August 2**

*The 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the faith community of*

*Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church*



**GATHERING**

**Announcements**

*As you prepare for worship, even gathered in virtual community and connected by God’s beautiful and unfathomable design, you are invited to light a candle and center yourself to hear the Sacramental Word of God breaking into creation and you.*

**Confession & Forgiveness**

God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways.

We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question Your presence and Your power. **Forgive us.**

Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.

We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name. **Amen.**<sup>i</sup>

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the + Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**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.**

**Kyrie for Time of Pandemic and Shedding Racism**

In peace and with repentant hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for a COVID-19 vaccine, for a creation centered on loving God and neighbor above self and material goods, for the well-being of the church of God, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy.**

Help us to see our own racism, teach us to be anti-racist, protect and preserve us from COVID-19, save us, comfort us and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31**

*Jacob wrestled all night with God, and when God wanted to get away as dawn was breaking, Jacob would not let God go until God had blessed him. Jacob's name is changed to Israel to mark his new relationship with God as he enters the land. Jacob is astonished that he remains alive after seeing God face-to-face.*

<sup>22</sup>[At night Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 17:1-7, 15**

*I shall see your face; when I awake, I shall be satisfied. (Ps. 17:15)*

<sup>1</sup>Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed | to my cry;  
listen to my prayer, which does not come from | lying lips.

<sup>2</sup>**Let my vindication come forth | from your presence;**  
**let your eyes be | fixed on justice.**

<sup>3</sup>Examine my heart, visit | me by night,  
melt me down; you will find no impuri- | ty in me.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not regarded what | others do;**  
**at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways | of the violent. R**

<sup>5</sup>My footsteps hold fast to your | well-worn path;  
and my feet | do not slip.

**<sup>6</sup>I call upon you, O God, for you will | answer me;  
incline your ear to me and | hear my words.**

<sup>7</sup>Show me your marvelous | lovingkindness,  
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand  
from those who | rise up against them.

**<sup>15</sup>But at my vindication I shall | see your face;  
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, behold- | ing your likeness. R**

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21**

*After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.*

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup>When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup>When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." <sup>17</sup>They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." <sup>18</sup>And he said, "Bring them here to me." <sup>19</sup>Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup>And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup>And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

### **SERMON**

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

You take resources that appear to be meager, bless them, and there is enough. May your church trust that what you bless and ask us to share with the world is abundantly sufficient. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Reverse the damage we have caused your creation (*local needs may be named*). Replenish ground water supplies, provide needed rains in places of drought, and protect forests from wildfires. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find

their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give our congregation (*name*) such a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

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

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

## **THANKSGIVING**

### **OFFERING**

#### **THANKSGIVING OF THE WORD**

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**

When we disciples ask Jesus how to pray, he teaches us, saying pray with words like these:

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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<sup>i</sup> Based on re:worship prayer, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/07/prayer-of-confession-commitment-august.html>

<sup>ii</sup> Based on prayers from <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>

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