

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – August 6 & 7, 2022

The 115th Anniversary of the faith community of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church



Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

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.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn - #764 Have No Fear, Little Flock

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, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

Psalm: Psalm 33:12-22

Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)

¹²Happy is the nation whose God ¹ is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to ¹ be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks ¹ down from heaven,
and sees all ¹ humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly en- ¹ throned and watches
all who dwell ¹ on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions ¹ all their hearts
and observes ¹ all their deeds. R**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size ¹ of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by ¹ their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain ¹ hope for victory;
despite its great strength it ¹ cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear ¹ you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your ¹ steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their ¹ lives from death,
and to keep them alive in ¹ time of famine. R**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for ¹ you, O LORD,
our helper ¹ and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoic- ¹ es in you,
for in your holy name we ¹ put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, ¹ be upon us,
even as we place our ¹ hope in you. R

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was

to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was

coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”
The Gospel of the Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - #623 Rock of Ages, Cleft for 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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.
A brief silence.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (*especially*). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*) and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.
Amen.

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of abundance:
you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Invitation to Communion

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.

Come to the banquet.

All who desire communion on this day are welcome to commune with us and partake in the promise of eternal life by Jesus Christ himself. In solidarity with our siblings in recovery, we use non-alcoholic wine. Please indicate if you would like a gluten free communion wafer. If you do not wish to take communion, you are still invited to ask Pastor for a blessing before you leave. Traditionally, those who commune are baptized into the Christian faith. If you are not baptized and would like to learn more about what it means to be baptized and share in the meal at the Lord's Supper Table, please talk with Pastor Tera.

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The God of peace,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn - #838 Beautiful Savior

Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

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, Jake Rosenberg, Dawn Syers, Rick, Tommy Paradise, Lana, Joe, Arlene Posont, Paige, Mary Kutsick, Jamie, Jonnie True, Gary, Florence, Jen Lincoln, Amy Sturtleen, Phil, Doris Hayrynen, Heidi Prunick, Duray Murk, and all who are in our prayers today.

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

Assisted Living: Norma Seceast

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: Pastor Tera Kossow

ASSISTING MINISTER: George Balko – Saturday Candace Dennis - Sunday

USHERS: Dave & Carol Eglsaer – Saturday Patsy & Helen - Sunday

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Patsy LaCombe & Helen Scheuneman

ALTAR GUILD: Deb Lundbom

MUSICIAN: Carlene Harwick

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, August 13th - Saturday Worship Service – 5:00pm - In-person

**Sunday, August 14th - Sunday Worship Service - 10:30am - In-person and on Facebook Live
- Council Meeting to follow worship service**

Eden needs your support! If you would like to volunteer to be an **Usher** or **Assisting minister** or **Host the Fellowship** after the service. We'd love to have you join us - signup sheets are in the Narthex.

We continue to collect Family Fare receipts for their "Direct Your Dollars" Program. Please drop off your receipts at Eden, remember the entire receipt is required. Thank you!

Pastor Tera needs cribbage players! Want to play a quick game in the church kitchen, or your kitchen, or meet elsewhere – let her know **605-210-2962** or **teralkossow@gmail.com**.

Upcoming Events:

Do you have a student sixth grade or older ready for confirmation? Pastor will meet with parents and students at **6:30pm on Wednesday, Sept. 7th**.

Contact Pastor for information.

2nd Wednesday Book Group - Let's start a book discussion. We will meet **Wednesday, Sept. 14th at noon** (bring a lunch) **and at 7pm** in the church kitchen. First book is **Love Matters More**: How fighting to be right keeps us from loving like Jesus. By: Jared Byas. Available on Amazon or through Pastor Tera.

Sunday, Sept. 18th – 3:00pm - Join us for the **Installation Service for Pastor Tera Kossow**. This service will be led by Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop.

Fellowship following the service.