

Second Sunday in Lent – March 12 & 13, 2022

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



Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

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 - #858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in 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: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

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.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

Psalm: Psalm 27

In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (*Ps. 27:5*)

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then ^l shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I ^l be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to de- ^l vour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- ^l ble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart ^l will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will ^l not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one ^l thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the
beauty of the LORD and to seek God ^l in the temple. R**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will ^l give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- ^l on a

rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing

and make music | to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.

⁸My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”

Your face, O LORD, | I will seek. R

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my Salvation.

**¹⁰Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,
the LORD will | take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your | way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.

**¹²Subject me not to the will | of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the LORD
in the land | of the living!

¹⁴Wait for the LORD | and be strong.

Take heart and wait | for the LORD! R

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17--4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - #824 This Is My Father's World

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.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. 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 - #338 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

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: Bruce Dausey

ASSISTING MINISTER: George Balko – Saturday Lori Mattson - Sunday

USHERS: Dave & Carol Eglsaer – Saturday Harry & Ruth Lindquist -
Sunday

ALTAR GUILD: Michele Albright

MUSICIAN:

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday March 19th – Saturday Worship Service – 5:00pm - In-person

Sunday March 20th – 10:30am Worship Service - In-person and on Facebook Live

Please contact Pastor Tommy Richter if pastoral care is needed -
pastor.tommyrichter@gmail.com
or 215-470-9948 cell; 906-286-4383 home

PLEASE WEAR A MASK WHEN WORSHIPPING OR GATHERING INDOORS.