

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 3 & 4, 2022
The 115th Anniversary of the faith community of Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church



Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

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,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.

**Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
Amen.**

Beloved of God:
your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.
God points the way to new life in Christ,
who meets us on the road.
Journey now in God's abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Opening Hymn - #887 This Is My 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

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to

bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (*Ps. 1:3*)

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel [|] of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law [|] of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching [|] day and night. R**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that [|] do not wither;
everything they [|] do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so [|] with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind [|] blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when [|] judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council [|] of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed. R**

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by Onesimus, a man who had run away from Philemon, a slaveowner and a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to Philemon and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.

¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them,

²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever

does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - #808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

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

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church around the world and for the mission of the gospel. Refresh the hearts of your people, deepen our understanding of every good thing we share, and strengthen our partnerships in the faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and all its creatures: for trees and forests, for all that will yield fruit this season, and for streams and other bodies of water. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and those in authority: for the elected leaders of our towns, states, and country, and for international organizations. Grant wisdom to those who govern and raise up citizens who make decisions in the best interest of their neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this community of faith: for all our labors—begun, continued, and ended in you—that they glorify your holy name. Bless your people with the strength to live into their many vocations for the sake of the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the saints who now rest from their labors (*especially Peter Claver, priest and missionary*). Give us faith, like them, to love you with all our hearts, and by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Offering

Offering Prayer

Gracious God,
in your great love you richly provide for our needs.
Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,

and make us ready to share with all in need;
through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.
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.

Communion Hymn - #814 Take, Oh, Take Me As I am

Prayer after Communion

God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
Amen.

Sending Hymn - #888 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
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, Paul Gollinger, Jack Cocoran, Pastor Jim Rodgers, Sue Ombrello, Bob Gamelin, Dave Eglsaer, Diane, Susan, Donny, 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: Pastor Tera Kossow
ASSISTING MINISTER: George Balko – Saturday Candace Dennis- Sunday
USHERS: Volunteer Needed – Saturday Volunteer Needed - Sunday
FELLOWSHIP HOST:
ALTAR GUILD: Elaine Robbins
MUSICIAN: Michele Albright

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Wed, September 7th - 6:30pm – Confirmation Meeting
Saturday, September 10th - Saturday Worship Service – 5:00pm - In-person
Sunday, September 11th - Sunday Worship Service - 10:30am - In-person and on Facebook Live
- Council Meeting following 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.

We are looking for someone to lead the Highway Clean-up project scheduled for October. If interested, please contact Pastor Tera or the office.

Upcoming Events:

Tired of eating alone? Tired of having leftovers for days? Let's share our supper with others who eat alone, gathering at the church kitchen on the 4th Wednesday of the month @ 5:00pm starting August 31st. Pastor Tera loves breakfast, so she will host the first **ELC Supper Club** by making an egg bake. Sign up in the narthex or by calling the church office.

Do you have a student fifth grade or older ready for confirmation? Pastor will meet with parents and students at **6:30pm on Wednesday, Sept. 7th**. Classes will be held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month. There will be two groups formed, with high school students having a separate class. 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 6:30-7:30pm** 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. **There will be the usual Saturday service this weekend, and only the installation service on Sunday @ 3:00pm.**

Please contact Pastor Tera Kossow if pastoral care is needed.

teralkossow@gmail.com

or 605-210-2962