

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship
Service

FEBRUARY 21 & 22

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Office email: eden@jamadots.com

Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday - 9am - 1pm

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Introduction

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. **Amen.**

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

Gathering Song - #714: O God of Mercy God of Might

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

Let us pray. **Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us 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: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 2

R: Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. (Ps. 32:10)

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

**² Happy are they to whom the Lord im- | putes no guilt, and in whose
spirit there | is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

**⁴ For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night; my moisture was
dried up as in the | heat of summer. R**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt. I said,
“I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” Then you forgave me the guilt |
of my sin.

**⁶ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of
trouble; when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble; you surround me
with shouts | of deliverance.

**⁸ “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go; I
will guide you | with my eye. R**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding; who must be
fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”

**¹⁰ Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the Lord.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

R: Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. (Ps. 32:10)

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

*Through Adam’s disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and
death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ’s obedient death, God
graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through
sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³for sin was indeed
in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.

¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in
the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the
one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in
the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift

is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil.

² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him. The Gospel of The Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - #660: Lift High the Cross

Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

Sharing of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your

Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Words Of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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, we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. or thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

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 come to the table for a blessing. 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 Vicar Elaine.

Prayer after Communion

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song - #613: Thy Holy Wings

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Anne Balko, Tara Henry, Larry Tweedale, Margi Beauchaine Kirby, Sharon Seaberg, Michelle McLaughlin, Dottie Hermanson & Larry, and the family & friends of Jeremy Lake, Walter Loope, and Robert Hammerberg Jr.

Nursing Home & Assisted Living:

Norma Seacrest, Pepper VanLandschoot (Jacobetti), Pauline Elavsky (Harbour View), and Jane Guyott

In Service:

Craig Oas, Zac Culter, Mike Knickerbocker, Peter Peterson, Mathew Moilanen, and our veterans who have returned to their communities.

PRESIDING MINISTER: Vicar Elaine Robbins

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Saturday – George Balko

Sunday – Joanie Hinsa

USHERS:

Saturday – Volunteer

Sunday – Volunteer

ALTAR GUILD: Karen Derwin

FELLOW SHIP HOST: Lynn & Donna

***For pastoral care, please contact Vicar Elaine Robbins at 906-450-3344 or
pastorofdeden@gmail.com***