

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Service



JULY 18 & 19
8th SUNDAY OF
PENTECOST

Office email: eden@jamadots.com

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

Office phone: 906-387-2520

1150 West Munising Avenue, Munising, Michigan 49862

Introduction

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Song – #689: Praise & Thanksgiving

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.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

God's deeds of forgiveness and gift of hope indicate that God's faithful people must also show kindness. No other god cares for all people.

¹³ For neither is there any god besides you whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly,

¹⁶ For your strength is the source of righteousness,
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.

¹⁷ For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power,
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.

¹⁸ Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge fairly,
and with great forbearance you govern us,
for you have power to act whenever you choose.

¹⁹ Through such works you have taught your people

that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17

R: Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk ^l in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- ^l vere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with ^l all my heart,
and glorify your name for- ^l evermore. R**

¹³ For great is your ^l love toward me;
you have delivered me from the ^l pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people ^l seeks
my life;**

they have not set you be- ^l fore their eyes.

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full ^l of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- ^l ness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mer- ^l cy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child ^l of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ^l
put to shame;**

because you, Lord, have helped me and com- ^l forted me. R

R: Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.

²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.

²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – #693: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Presentation

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates:
I present Ace & JR for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Ace & JR baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring Ace & JR to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *them* among God's faithful people,

bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach *them* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in *their* hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that Ace & JR may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Ace & JR grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

Sponsor, do you promise to nurture Ace & JR in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Ace & JR and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

We do.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,
the powers of this world that rebel against God,
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Ace, I baptize you in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**You belong to Christ,
in whom you have been baptized.**

Alleluia.

JR, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**You belong to Christ,
in whom you have been baptized.**

Alleluia.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Ace & JR with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

JR, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

JR, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. (*We pray especially for . . .*) God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered aloud or in your heart.

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Sharing of Peace

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

Meal

Offering

Thank you for your generosity, which allows Eden to serve our neighbors.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

Thanksgiving At The Table

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, 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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 may come forward with your arms crossed over your chest 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 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

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

**Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.**

Sending Song – #705: God of Grace And God of Glory

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

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Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Anne Balko, Tara Henry, Larry Tweedale, Dottie Hermanson, Larry,
Patricia Hyry, Wayne Dausey, Billie Lindquist, Michelle McLaughlin, and
Lisa Balko

Nursing Home & Assisted Living:

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

In Service:

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

PRESIDING MINISTER:

Vicar Elaine Robbins

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

Saturday – George Balko

Sunday – Madeline Cole

USHERS:

Saturday – Harry Robbins

Sunday – Perttula

ALTAR GUILD: Norma Dick

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Lynn DeRoche

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



DID YOU SEE?

Beginning **July 12, 2026**, the cost of a USPS Forever stamp will increase from **78¢ to 82¢**.

As mailing costs continue to rise, we invite you to consider making a monthly donation to help cover the cost of printing and mailing our church newsletter.

Every gift, no matter the size, helps us stay connected with our church family.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

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