

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Worship  
Service*

**MARCH 21 & 22**

*FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT*

**Office email:** [eden@jamadots.com](mailto:eden@jamadots.com)

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

**Office phone:** 906-387-2520

**1150 West Munising Avenue, Munising, Michigan 49862**

## ***Introduction***

*In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.*

## ***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.

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 disdaining 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.**

### ***Prayer of the Day***

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## ***Gathering Song - Great is Thy Faithfulness***

### ***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.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14***

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and

you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.” The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Psalm: Psalm 130***

**R: I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)**

<sup>1</sup> Out <sup>1</sup> of the depths I cry to <sup>1</sup> you, O Lord;

<sup>2</sup> **O Lord, <sup>1</sup> hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my <sup>1</sup> supplication.**

<sup>3</sup> If you were to keep watch <sup>1</sup> over sins, O Lord, <sup>1</sup> who could stand?

<sup>4</sup> **Yet with you <sup>1</sup> is forgiveness, in order that you <sup>1</sup> may be feared. R**

<sup>5</sup> I wait for you, O Lord; <sup>1</sup> my soul waits; in your word <sup>1</sup> is my hope.

<sup>6</sup> **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch <sup>1</sup> for the morning,**

**more than those who keep watch <sup>1</sup> for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup> O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is <sup>1</sup> steadfast love; with the Lord there is plen- <sup>1</sup> teous redemption.

<sup>8</sup> **For the Lord shall <sup>1</sup> redeem Israel from <sup>1</sup> all their sins. R**

*R: 'I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)*

### ***Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11***

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

<sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel: John 11:1-45**

*The Holy Gospel according to John.*

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.*

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup> Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and

many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed

you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Sermon***

***Hymn of the Day – You Keep Your Promises***

***Reception of a New Member***

Church family, today we rejoice that Stephanie desires to live her faith among us and share in the life and mission of this congregation. Through baptism we are joined to Christ and to one another as members of the body of Christ.

Stephanie, we give thanks for the faith that God has planted in you and for your desire to renew your life among God’s people.

Stephanie, do you desire to continue in the covenant God made with you in baptism:

to live among God’s faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s Supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**Stephanie:** I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to welcome Stephanie, to support her in faith, and to pray for her as we share in the life and mission of Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

### ***Prayer***

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we thank you for Stephanie and for the work of your Spirit in her life. Strengthen her faith, deepen her hope, and fill her with your love. Keep her steadfast in your word and sacrament, and guide her in lives of service and witness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### ***Welcome***

People of God, let us welcome our sister in Christ.

**Stephanie, we welcome you into the body of Christ.**

Together we share the good news of Jesus.

**We will walk with you in faith and love.**

Together we worship, serve, and bear witness to God's grace.

**We rejoice that you are here among us.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**Thanks be to God!**

As members of Eden, Stephanie and Zac now bring their son to the waters of baptism, trusting in the promise of God's grace.

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.

We present Oliver Thomas LeVeque for baptism.

Stephanie and Zachary, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

As you bring Oliver to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,

bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in his hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture in faith and prayer,

so that Oliver 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 Oliver grow in the Christian faith and life?

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Oliver 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?

People of God, do you promise to support Oliver and pray for him in his 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?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**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.**

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me

will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:**

**join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

***Prayers of Intercession***

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

We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters, and sustain places where biodiversity thrives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice, free all who live in places of war and violence, and guide refugees and asylum seekers to safety. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of all preparing to be baptized. Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save, and bring us up from our graves to life 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.**

### ***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. For  
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.

### ***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.**

### **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.**

### **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, Michelle McLaughlin, friends & family of Mike Rautanen, friends & family of Toivo Luoma, Patricia Hyry, Dottie Hermanson & Larry

**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** – Volunteer

**USHERS:**

**Saturday** – Volunteer

**Sunday** – Volunteer

**ALTAR GUILD:** Joanie Hinsa & Brenda St. Martin

**FELLOW SHIP HOST:** Cake! 

***For pastoral care, please contact Vicar Elaine Robbins at 906-450-3344 or [pastorofeden@gmail.com](mailto:pastorofeden@gmail.com)***