



EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Worship Service

**MAY 2 & 3**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF  
EASTER

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

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## ***Introduction***

*As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.*

## ***Announcements***

### ***Confession and Forgiveness***

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our 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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

***Gathering Song - #693: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come***

### ***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 Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### ***Word***

### ***First Reading: Acts 7:55-60***

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16***

*R: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

<sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be | put to shame;  
deliver me | in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> **Incline your | ear to me;**  
**make haste to de- | liver me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag | and  
my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead | me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly | set for me,**  
**for you are my tow- | er of strength. R**

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I com- I mend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, I God of truth.

<sup>15</sup> **My times are I in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those  
who I persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine up- I on your servant;  
save me in your I steadfast love.” **R**

*R: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

### **Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives.  
We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the  
mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you  
may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen  
and precious in God’s sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built  
into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices  
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup> and “A stone that makes them stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to  
do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s  
own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who

called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***Gospel: John 14:1-14***

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if

you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### ***Sermon***

### ***Hymn of the Day – #392: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus***

### ***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***

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick (*especially*). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

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

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**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.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior 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,  
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 banquet, for all is now ready.**

*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*

### ***Prayer after Communion***

**Let us pray.**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

### ***Sending***

#### ***Blessing***

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

### ***Sending Song - #654: The Church's One Foundation***

#### ***Dismissal***

Go in peace. Remember the poor. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**Looking ahead...**

***Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: Prayer group – 10:00 a.m.***

***Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>: Bible study – 10:00 a.m.***

**Please remember the following people in your prayers:**

Anne Balko, Tara Henry, Larry Tweedale, Margi Beauchaine Kirby,  
Michelle McLaughlin, Dottie Hermanson, Larry, Patricia Hyry, Sylvia Bray-  
Bosley, Troy Nelson, & Wayne Dausey

**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 –** Harry Robbins

**Sunday –** Volunteer

**ALTAR GUILD:** Lynn DeRoche

**FELLOWSHIP HOST:** Jean Hayes & Karen Derwin

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