



EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship Service

AUGUST 29 & 30

**14th 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

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 – #660: Lift High The Cross

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. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you

to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8

R: Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

² **Test me, O | Lord, and try me;**
examine my heart | and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴ **I have not sat | with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with | the deceitful. R

⁵ I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,**
that I may go in pro- | cession | round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸ **Lord, I love the house in | which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- | ry abides. R

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their

life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

School Blessing

Heavenly Father,

As a new school year begins, we thank You for the gift of our children, students, teachers, administrators, and every person who helps make our schools places of learning and growth.

Lord, we ask You to bless our students. Give them curious minds, willing hearts, courage when things are difficult, and wisdom in the choices they make. Help them to be kind to those who feel left out, to stand up for what is right, and to be a light to the people around them.

Bless our teachers and school staff. Give them patience, strength, creativity, and compassion. Remind them that the work they do each day has a lasting impact on the lives of young people. Give our families wisdom as they support and encourage their children throughout the year.

And above all, Lord, help us remember that our identity and our hope are found in You—not in grades, achievements, popularity, or success. May this school year be an opportunity for our young people to grow not only in knowledge, but also in character, faith, courage, and love. We place this school year into Your hands and trust You to guide every step.

In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

Hymn of the Day – #613: Thy Holy Wings

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and

diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

Thanksgiving At The Table

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.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

Thanksgiving At The Table

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

Blessing

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

Amen.

Sending Song – #656: Blest Be The Tie That Binds

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, Lisa Balko, David
Heyrman, Mike, Richard Ihamaki, Patti Espinoza, & the
friends & family of Pepper VanLandschoot

Nursing Home & Assisted Living:

Norma Seacrest, 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 – Candy Simonen

USHERS:

Saturday – Harry Robbins

Sunday – Volunteer

ALTAR GUILD: Joanie Hinsä

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Candy Simonen

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