

Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church 25th Sunday after Pentecost November 9 & 10, 2024

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Church

Introduction

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors,

following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG - #650 In Christ There Is No East or West

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, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-16

This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.

⁸The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹"Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a

jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

Psalm: Psalm 146

- **R** The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (*Ps. 146:8*)
 - ¹Hal- [|] lelujah!
 - Praise the LORD, | O my soul!
 - ²I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;
 - I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
 - ³Put not your¹ trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they re- [|] turn to earth, and in that day [|] their thoughts perish. R

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob [|] for their help, whose hope is in the [|] LORD their God;

- ⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that [|] is in them; who keeps promis- [|] es forever;
- ⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to [|] those who hunger. The LORD sets the [|] captive free.
- ⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who [|] are bowed down; the LORD [|] loves the righteous. R

⁹The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow but frustrates the way | of the wicked. ¹⁰The Lord shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! R

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.

²⁴Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.

³⁸As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - #631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

APOSTLES 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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders (*local church leaders may be named*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts (*current places of war and conflict may be named*) and pursue peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill (*especially*). Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed,

children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

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

Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

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 ask Pastor for a blessing before you leave. 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 Pastor Lon.

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COMMUNION HYMN – #496 One Bread, One Body - Sunday

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out,

SENDING HYMN - #879 For the Beauty of the Earth

DISMISSAL

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Tara Henry, Craig, Ray Berg, Anne Balko, Arlene Posont, Jonnie True, Gary, Paul Goodburn, Jane & Dennis, Kristy Beaverson, Becky Bowler, Tom, Ryan Gipp, John, Josh Farmer, Paul Baij, Dave, Janet, Cameron, Linda Pietila, Pat Ely, Duke Snyder, Liza, Lee Cherry, Mike H., Blair, Brittany Brock, Gloria Johns, Jackson Lasak, Cindy Little, Sherrie Riordan, Suzie Carberry, Amy Richardson, Marion Coryell, Elissa, Karen Couture, and Heidi Prunick.

Nursing Home: Norma Secreast

Assisted Living: Pepper Van Landschoot (Jacobetti) **In Service:** Craig Oas, Zac Culter, Mike Knickerbocker, Peter Peterson, Mathew Moilanen, Mikala Robinson, and our veterans who have returned to their communities.

PRESIDING MINISTER:Pastor Lon HiderASSISTING MINISTER:George – SaturdayVolunteer - SundayUSHERS:Dave & Carol E. – SaturdayVolunteer - SundayALTAR GUILD:Christi SaloVolunteer - SundayFELLOWSHIP HOSTSNorma D.Matt Tulla

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, Nov. 16th – Saturday Worship Service - <u>**Note Time Change 3:30pm</u> Sunday, Nov. 17th - Sunday Worship Service 10:30am-In person & Facebook

GIVE USING VANCO ONLINE OR IN THE APP

You can now use Vanco to give online or using the mobile app. Make a one-time gift, or set up a recurring offering. The Prayer Group meets on Tuesdays at 10:00am.

The Quilt Group will meet on Thursday, November 14th at 10:00am.

The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, November 20th at Noon.

The Free store will be open on Thursday, November 21st from 1-3 & 4-6.

There will be an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service held at Eden on Tuesday, November 26th at 6:30pm. All are welcome!

Support our Youth Fund by dropping off returnable cans and bottles to the church. Thank you.

Updating the Prayer List as published in the weekly bulletin.

Effective December 1st (beginning of Advent and the church year), the prayer list will receive its annual re-set. Please update the status of people currently on the list. **If no request is received to retain a person on the list, their name will be removed.** The current prayer list can be found in the weekly bulletin and as posted on Eden's website -<u>https://edenonthebay.org/bulletin-and-livestream</u>

<u>VOIUNTEERS NEEDED</u> – Eden is looking for <u>two volunteers</u> who would like to join the <u>offering counters team</u>. This involves one Sunday a month following the worship service. Please contact Ruth Lindquist or Joanie Hinsa or the office.

<u>CHURCH CONTACT INFO:</u> Please note the email addresses you should use for contacting the office and the pastor.

Office: eden@jamadots.com

Pastor: lonhider@gmail.com

Please be sure to update your email contacts to use these email addresses. Former addresses will no longer be used, and you should get an email response through your email provider stating that the message cannot be sent. In addition, <u>if you have changed any of your contact information</u> (address, phone, email), please complete the directory update form in narthex or contact the church office to update your information.

> For Pastoral Care needs, please contact Pastor Lon Hider 906-450-3258, or <u>lonhider@gmail.com</u>