

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Second Sunday of Easter ☩ April 11, 2021 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Delee and Tom Rehak, Musician Leaders, 8:30

P = Pastor **L** = Lector [reader] **C** Congregation *ELW* = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal, if you have one at home)

PRELUDES

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion, so please prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate to the number in your family. Our liturgy declares we celebrate with "the church on earth and the hosts of heaven." So in these days of required distancing, longing to share the Lord's Supper again soon physically together at one table of the Lord, we acknowledge communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space. This will be another form of that connection. We understand no precedents are being set in these unique times.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
- C** **We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.**
- P** Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
- C** **Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *We Walk by Faith*

ELW Hymn 635

- 1 **We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."**
- 2 **We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"**
- 3 **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:**
- 5 **And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.**

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt. Public Domain

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

LESSON: from 1 Peter 2

Ⓛ The Lesson is from the first letter of Peter, the second chapter

Come to the Lord Jesus, the “stone” that lives. The people of the world did not want this stone, but he was the stone God chose, and he was precious. ⁵You also are like living stones, you have received God’s mercy. You were chosen to tell about the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light ... ¹⁶Live as people, free from darkness, who serve God. ¹⁷Show respect for all people: Love one another. Respect and honor God.

Ⓛ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

New Century Version (NCV) *The Holy Bible, New Century Version* ®. Copyright © 2005 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

GOSPEL: based on Matthew 27 and Mark 16

—J.B. Phillips New Testament

Ⓛ The Easter story, adapted from Matthew, chapter 27, and Mark, chapter 16.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Ⓛ The body of Jesus was put into a new tomb and a large stone was rolled across the entrance ... Then they secured the tomb, sealing the stone and posting guards. On the first day of the week, just as the sun was rising, a few women came to the tomb. They asked each other,

WOMEN: “Who is going to roll the stone back from the entrance of the tomb?”

Ⓛ Then, when they looked closer, they saw that the stone, which was a very large one, had been rolled back! They went into the tomb and there they saw a young man in a white robe. They were simply **ASTONISHED.** The man in white said,

MEN: “There is no need to be astonished. Jesus has risen; he is not here. Now go! Tell his disciples!”

Ⓛ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

J.B. Phillips New Testament *The New Testament in Modern English by J.B. Phillips* copyright © 1960, 1972 J. B. Phillips. Administered by The Archbishops’ Council of the Church of England. Used by Permission.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Thine Is the Glory*

ELW Hymn 376

**1 Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu’ring Son; Endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.**

REFRAIN: Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu’ring Son; Endless is the vict’ry Thou o’er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939 Public Domain

GOSPEL: John 20:24-29

—Common English Bible

Ⓟ That night, Thomas, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!” But he replied,

MEN “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands;

WOMEN: unless I put my finger in the wounds left by the nails,

MEN: and unless I put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

Ⓟ Eight days passed and they were again in a house. This time Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. Jesus said, “Peace be with you.” Then Jesus spoke directly to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!” Thomas said to Jesus,

ALL: “My Lord and my God!”

Ⓟ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Common English Bible (CEB) Copyright © 2011 by Common English Bible

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Let Streams of Living Justice*

ELW Hymn 710

**1 Let streams of living justice [roll] down upon the earth;
give freedom’s light to captives, let all the poor have worth.
The hungry’s hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,
the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow’r;
abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people’s hour. ▶**

3 Your city's built to music; WE ARE THE STONES YOU SEEK;
your harmony is language; we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service, our hope in others' dreams,
our love in hand of neighbor; our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way—the path untried;
your truth—the heart of stranger; your life—the Crucified.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

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OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

C 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 to the dead.

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 THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "Hear us, O God." Please respond, "Your mercy is great."

The prayers end with these words, "In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord." Please respond, "Amen."

INVITATION TO OFFERING: *Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our delight, that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation; and so, with the church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven we praise your name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church remotely by communing each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:
“The body of Christ for you” and “The blood of Christ for you.”*

HYMN DURING COMMUNION: O Day Full of Grace*ELW Hymn 627*

- 1 O day full of grace that now we see appearing on earth’s horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place; your name on our hearts emblazon.**
- 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the cross was hanging;
AND THEN HE AROSE AND MOVED THE STONE, that we, unto him belonging,
might join with angelic hosts to raise our voices in endless singing.**

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. AF License SAS 000345

PASTORAL BLESSING**BENEDICTION**

- ☞** May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- ☛** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*ELW Hymn 385*

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 The Lord of life is ris’n this day; DEATH’S MIGHTY STONE IS ROLLED AWAY;
let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt. Text © 1952, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company,. OneLicense #A-701929

DISMISSAL

- ☞** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☛** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- ☞** Go in peace. Share the good news. Invite everyone to Jesus’ pathway of joy and life! Alleluia!
- ☛** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Peg Schaum and Pat Ronco

Tech Crew: Brad Milburn, Sara Turk, David Turk, Joni Siepert

*Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by Jim and Jan Christopher in memory of Evelyn Bosley,
Jan’s mother.*

*Easter flowers in Fellowship Hall were given in celebration of Emily McDowell’s 18th birthday
by her grandmother, Linda Volckmann.*