

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ July 25, 2021 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Kendra Campbell-Milburn, Karl Dietmeyer, Luanne Harms, Marty and Jim Hagberg, Musicians

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation *ELW* = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red hymnal)



PRELUDES

Welcome to worship!

Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion, so please pick up a communion "kit" on the table outside the sanctuary or at home 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." We acknowledge that communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Miriam

GATHERING HYMN: *Jesus Shall Reign*

ELW Hymn 434

- 1 **Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
- 3 **People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.**
- 4 **Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Text is in Public Domain.

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

- ☐ Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☑ **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE LESSON: from 1 Corinthians, Philippians, 1 Timothy, and 2 Timothy

- ☒ This morning's first lesson is from several pastoral letters of Paul.
- ☒ Surely you know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize. —1 Corinthians 9:24 GNT
- ☑ **An athlete who runs in a race cannot win the prize unless he obeys the rules.** —2 Timothy 2:5 GNT
- ☒ I have not yet reached my goal, and I am not perfect. But Christ has taken hold of me.
So I keep on running ... —Philippians 3:12 CEV
- ☑ **I forget what is behind, and I run toward the goal, so that I can win the prize ... God gives because of what Christ Jesus has done.** —Philippians 3:13-14 CEV
- ☒ I have done my best in the race, I have run the full distance, and I have kept the faith. —2 Timothy 4:7 GNT
- ☑ **Run your best in the race of faith, and win eternal life for yourself; for it was to this life that God called you when you firmly professed your faith before many witnesses.** —1 Timothy 6:12 GNT
- ☒ Word of God, word of life. ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

LESSON: Hebrews 1:1-3

L A Lesson from the letter to the Hebrews, the twelfth chapter.

Such a large crowd of witnesses is all around us! So we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially the sin that just won't let go. And we must be determined to run the race that is ahead of us. ²We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our faith complete. He endured the shame of being nailed to a cross, because he knew that later on he would be glad he did. Now he is seated at the right side of God's throne! ³So keep your mind on Jesus, who put up with many insults from sinners. Then you won't get discouraged and give up. —*Contemporary English Version*

L Word of God, word of life.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen/¡Aleluya! Cristo resucitó*

ELW Hymn 375

Refrain: Alleluia! Christ is arisen. Bright is the dawning of the Lord's day.

1 **Run, faithful women, to the grave-side. Marvel, the stone is rolled away!**
Hear from the angel, "He is risen." Christ goes before you all the way. Refrain

2 **Rise, Magdalena, from your weeping; Christ stands before your very eyes.**
Quickly return to the disciples; bear the good news: "He is alive." Refrain

Text: Luis Bojos, b. 1937; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

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GOSPEL: John 20:1-2

P The Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter

G Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. ²She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³Then Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb. ⁴The two of them were running, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and saw the linen cloths, but he did not go in. ⁶Behind him came Simon Peter, and he went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there ⁷and the cloth which had been around Jesus' head. It was not lying with the linen cloths but was rolled up by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and believed. (⁹They still did not understand the scripture which said that he must rise from the dead.) —*Good News Translation*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

HYMN OF THE DAY: *May You Run and Not Be Weary*

Please sing twice.

May you run and not be weary. May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary. May your life be filled with joy.
And may the road you travel always lead you home.

Text: Handt Hanson

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OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

G 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, "We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; 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 joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth 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 in the sanctuary or 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."*

COMMUNION HYMN: *God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven**ELW Hymn 564*

- 1** God, who made the earth and heaven, darkness and light:
you the day for work have given, for rest the night.
May your angel guards defend us, slumber sweet your mercy send us,
holy dreams and hopes attend us all through the night.
- 2** And when morn again shall call us to run life's way,
may we still, whate'er befall us, your will obey.
From the pow'r of evil hide us, in the narrow pathway guide us,
never be your smile denied us all through the day.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, st. 1, alt.; William Mercer, 1811-1873, st. 2, alt. Text is in Public Domain

PASTORAL BLESSING**BENEDICTION**

- P** The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
- C** Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**ELW Hymn 815*

- 1** I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
- Refrain:* In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
- 2** I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*
- 3** I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Share Jesus' gifts of joy and life with all you meet.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Tech Crew: Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins, 8:30; Sara Turk, David Turk, Brad Milburn, 11:00
Altar Guild: Jennifer Archer Denton