

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ August 15, 2021 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music

☐ = 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: *O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing*

ELW Hymn 886

- 1 **Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**
- 2 **My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**
- 3 **The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.**
- 6 **To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. 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

- ☐ Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☑ **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE LESSON: from several Psalms

—New Century Version

- ☒ Please read with me responsively these verses from the Psalms.
- ☒ Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord and tell how he saves us. *Psalm 96*
- ☑ **We will sing to you and not be silent, O Lord, because you have taken care of us.** *Psalm 30:12*
- ☒ Sing a new song to God; play well and joyfully. *Psalm 33:3*
- ☑ **We will sing and rejoice all our lives. Fill us with your love every morning.** *Psalm 90:14*
- ☒ Let those who worship him ... sing for joy, even in bed! *Psalm 149:5*
- ☑ **Lord, you make us happy by what you have done; we will sing for joy** *Psalm 92:4*
- ☒ Come, let's sing for joy to God as long as we live. *Psalm 147:1*
- ☑ **We will always sing about the Lord's love.** *Psalm 89:1*
- ☒ We shall sing praises to him with dancing. *Psalm 89:1 & 149:3*
- ☑ **Serve the Lord with joy; come before him with singing. Let the world and everyone in it sing.** *Psalm 100:2 & 98:7*

LESSON: from Ephesians 5

L Our Lesson is from Paul’s letter to the Ephesian Christians, the fifth chapter.

You are God’s kids, and he loves you, so try to be like God. He’s good all the time. ²Always love other people, just like Jesus Christ loves us. He loved us so much that he took our blame, and he died instead of us. ... Jesus did that because he loves us, because he loves you! So, you have to love other people too.

⁸...You came to our leader, Jesus, and now you are in the light. So, live like people that belong to the light. ⁹You know, if people have God’s light in them, they live in a way that is good, right, and true. ¹¹People that belong to the darkness do wrong things ... Those things are so bad that if we talk about them, we feel shame.

¹³But, whenever light shines on something, everyone can see it. ¹⁴The light shows us what something really is. ... ^{15b}So that we can live the right way and understand what is right and good.

So, don’t live like stupid people. ¹⁷Don’t be fools. ¹⁷Don’t go wild and do stupid things. Don’t do that. But instead, understand what God wants ... Keep on letting the Holy Spirit come into you and fill you up. ¹⁶Do good things every time you can, because lots of people do lots of bad things these days. ¹⁹Use God’s songs to talk to each other. You can sing hymns and songs that the Holy Spirit gives you. Sing and make music to God from inside yourselves. Sing together. Sing when you are alone. Sing and make music to God. ²⁰Remember our leader, Jesus Christ, and always thank God, our father, for everything.

—*Plain English Version*

L Word of God, word of life.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

ELW Hymn 883

**All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell; come ye before him and rejoice.**

Text: William Kethe (d. c. 1594) Public Domain

GOSPEL: from John 6:41-59

P The Gospel according to John, the sixth chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

The Jewish leaders heard Jesus say, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” And they got angry... ⁴⁴Jesus said to them, “God sent me here ... ⁴⁸Listen, I am telling you straight ... I am like bread that makes people live forever. ⁴⁹A long time ago, your grandfathers were in the desert, and they ate the bread called manna, that came down from heaven. That bread kept them alive for years, but in the end they all died, like everyone dies. ⁵⁰ But now ... I am the bread from heaven that gives life ... My body will be that special bread. I will give my body so that people can eat it and live forever.”

⁵²The Jewish leaders heard what he said, and they started to argue with each other about what Jesus meant. They said, “He reckons he will give people his body to eat. What does he mean? We can’t eat his body.”

⁵³Jesus talked to them in picture language. He said, “Listen, this message is true. I am the special man from heaven. You have to come to me and believe in me. It’s like I am special bread, and ... anyone that eats this bread will live with God for ever...”⁵⁶If anybody believes in me, they will join up with me, and I will join up with them. I will live in them, and we will stay joined together.

⁵⁸... I give life to people that believe in me.

⁵⁹Some of Jesus’s followers didn’t like what he said; a lot of them said, “This message is too hard. We can’t believe it.”

—*Plain English Version*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Bread of Live from Heaven*

Refrain: **Bread of life from heaven, your blood and body given,
we eat this bread and drink this cup until you come again.**

2 Seek not the food that will pass away; set your hearts on the food that endures.
Come, learn the true and the living way, that the fullness of life may be yours. *Refrain*

3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave himself for the life of the world.
Come to the one who is food for you, that your hunger and thirst be no more. *Refrain*

Text: Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

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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 "God, in your mercy," Please respond, "hear our prayer."

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

P 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. ▶

- 4 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: Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

ELW Hymn 464

- 1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us.
Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.**
- 2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Jesus, feed us.
Make us one, our hope restore; feed us with your love.**
- 3 Grant forgiveness in the feast Jesus, feed us
for the greatest and the least; feed us with your love.**

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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PASTORAL BLESSING

BENEDICTION

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

SENDING HYMN: My Life Flows On in Endless Song

ELW Hymn 763

- 1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth’s lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

*Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

- 2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? Refrain**

- 3 What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. Refrain**

- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? Refrain**

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

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DISMISSAL

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

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Sanctuary Altar Guild Flowers are given to glory of God by Joni Siepert