

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ September 5, 2021 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Sanctuary Choir (8:30), Sandra Bohlken (11:00), Karl Dietmeyer, Musician-Leaders

☐ = 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

- ☒ God WORKS in different ways, but it is the same God who does the WORK in all of us. —1 Corinthians 12:6 NLT
- ☑ **¹³God is WORKing in us, giving us the desire and the power to do what is pleasing in his sight.** —Philippians 2:13 NLV
- ☒ ¹⁰We are God's WORKmanship; he created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good WORKS he planned for us long ago. —Ephesians 2:10 NLV
- ☑ **May the kindness of the Lord our God be upon us and confirm for us the WORK of our hands!** —Psalm 90:17 NASB

GATHERING HYMN: O God, Our Creator, You Work Every Day

Tune: ST. DENIO

- 1 **O God, our creator, you work every day; A potter, you form us, your people, like clay.
A shepherd, you guide us and seek out the lost; A parent, you love us, not counting the cost.**
2. **Christ Jesus, how rough were your hard-working hands. You labored among us; our God understands!
Bless workers who struggle, their families to feed; Bless those who face hardship, oppression, or greed.**
4. **We're baptized! Your Spirit gives new work to do, That we, through our serving, may glorify you.
Each person's vocation, each calling, has worth As you send us out to bring Christ's love on earth.**

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, b. 1961. Text is from a volume which we own, so permission is granted to use the hymn.

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, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. ☑ **Amen.**

LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5, interlude, 1:26-31, and 2:1-3

—New Revised Standard Version

- ☒ Our Lesson is from Genesis, chapters one and two.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
... And there was evening and there was morning second, third, fourth, and fifth days ... and each day God saw everything that he had made and each day was good. ... ▶

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; ...²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, ...³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day GOD FINISHED HIS WORK that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his WORK that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his WORK that he had done in creation.

☒ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *To Be Your Presence*

ELW Hymn 546

**4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
To serve your people is our call and choice,
And in this mission we, the church, rejoice. Alleluia!**

Text: Delores Dufner, b. 1939

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GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-40 and John 13:15-17

—*Plain English Version*

☒ The Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter, and John, the thirteenth chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Jesus said, “I am God’s special man, and one day, I will come back from heaven...and at that time, I will be really great and powerful. I will be the biggest boss, and I will sit down on the big boss’s seat. All the people in the world, from every country, they will all come together in front of me. Good people will say, ‘Sir, when did we ever see you hungry, and give you food? Or thirsty, and give you water to drink? When did we ever see you as a stranger, and take you into our homes? When did we ever see you short of clothes, and give you some more clothes? When did we ever see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?’ I will say to them, ‘Listen. You did all these things to help...people who were not important people, but they were mine, so every time you helped them, you helped me at the same time.’”

[Remember...from John 13:15-17?]

Even though I am not your WORKER and you are not my boss, I washed your feet anyway. In the same way, you have to wash each other’s feet...it’s how you have to treat each other.

☒ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Son of God, Our Christ*

ELW Hymn 584; Alternate Tune: EVENTIDE

**1 The Son of God, our Christ, the Word, the Way,
Shared human life and toiled throughout the day;
From common folk he called the twelve to be co-workers in his sacred ministry.**

**3 Today, as then, Christ summons us to dare to follow boldly and his work to share.
To help and heal the sick, the blind, the lame, declaring to the world his holy name.**

**Just as our God created for us light, our work of healing brings the blind their sight.
As Christ still aids those who upon him call, we are his hands to bring his grace to all.**

Text: Edward M. Blumenfeld, b. 1927, altered.

Text © 1957, renewed 1985 The Hymn Society of America, adm. Hope Publishing Co.

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OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Sung by Sandra Bohlken at 11:00

☒ Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

☑ **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.
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."*

SOLO: *I Know I've Been Changed (11:00)*

Sandra Bohlken

OFFERING and COMMUNION HYMN: *Lord of All Hopefulness (11:00)*

ELW Hymn 765

1 **Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy;
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day. ▶**

- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953

Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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OFFERING and COMMUNION ANTHEM: *For the Least (8:30)*

*What can we offer to a God who lacks nothing? How are we to serve a God our eyes cannot see?
Jesus has given us an answer to ponder: "What you do unto others, you do unto me."*

*For the least of our brothers and the least of our sisters
have a place that is special in our Savior's heart.
As we welcome and greet them, as we clothe them and feed them,
we serve Jesus, who calls us now to listen and do our part.*

*Hear our vows and our pledges to serve those at the edges,
Those who suffer and cower in the dark of night.
May God give us the Spirit, may we all clearly hear it:
how our God is still calling us to listen and make things right.*

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

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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: *Take My Life, That I May Be Consecrated**ELW Hymn 583*

**Refrain: Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

- 1 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. Refrain**
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. Refrain**
- 4 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. Refrain**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adap.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955

English text is in Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

- ☞ God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but we cannot see the whole scope of God's WORK from beginning to end. —*Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLV*
Now may the God of peace ... equip us in every good thing to do His will, WORKing in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. —*Hebrews 13:20-21*
- ☞ **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

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*Altar Guild: Carol Talbott**Tech Teams: Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins, 8:30; Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn, 11:00*