

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia

Reformation Day ☩ October 31, 2021 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Sanctuary Choir, 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 on the altar rail; or at home prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate for 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 Fritz

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Built on a Rock*

ELW Hymn 652

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.**
- 3 Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.**
- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.
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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

- ☐ Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
☐ **Amen.**

LESSON: Romans 3:19-28

- ☐ Today's Lesson is from Paul's letter to the Roman Christians, the third chapter

We know that everything in the Law was written for those who are under its power. The Law says these things to stop anyone from making excuses and to let God show that the whole world is guilty.

²⁰God doesn't accept people simply because they obey the Law. No, indeed! All the Law does is to point out our sin.

²¹Now we see how God does make us acceptable to him. The Law and the Prophets tell how we become acceptable, and it isn't by obeying the Law of Moses. ²²God treats everyone alike. He accepts people only because they have faith in Jesus Christ. ▶

²³All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. ²⁴But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, he freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins. ²⁵⁻²⁶God sent Christ to be our sacrifice. Christ offered his life's blood, so that by faith in him we could come to God. And God did this to show that in the past he was right to be patient and forgive sinners. This also shows that God is right when he accepts people who have faith in Jesus.

²⁷What is left for us to brag about? Not a thing! Is it because we obeyed some law? No! It is because of faith. ²⁸We see that people are acceptable to God because they have faith, and not because they obey the Law. —*Good News Translation*

L Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage*

ELW Hymn 509

**God's word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last your church may hold it fast throughout all generations.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt. Public Domain

HOLY GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

HYMN OF THE DAY: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

ELW Hymn 504

**You may remain seated until Stanza 4. Please stand as you are able for "God's Word forever shall abide."*

Choir: The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

- 1 **All: A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.**
- 2 *Choir:* No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Jesus Christ, our Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.
- 3 *Choir:* Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.
This world's prince may rage; in fierce war engage!
He is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.
- 4 ***All: God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!**
Choir: The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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 are ended with these words, "Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers
 into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life." 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 worshipers 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."

SONG DURING COMMUNION: *That Priceless Grace**ELW Hymn 591*

- 1** That priceless grace, that priceless grace, that priceless grace, which gave me life:
Jesus' life is priceless grace. That priceless grace is life for me.
- 2** That priceless blood, that priceless blood, that priceless blood was shed for me:
Jesus' blood is priceless grace. That priceless grace is life for me.
- 4** That precious word, that precious word, that precious word, which brought me light:
Jesus' word is priceless grace. That priceless grace is life for me.

Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949 Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. Augsburg Fortress License #000345

PASTORAL BLESSING**BENEDICTION**

- P** People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *We All Are One in Mission**ELW Hymn 576*

- 1** We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.
- 2** We all are called for service, to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.
- 3** Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. The living word dwells in you.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Susie Lucsko, Amy Deull, and Peg Schaum

Tech Crew: Dakota Atkins, Davida Kilgore (8:30); Joni Siefert, Carol Jensen-Linton, Brad Milburn (11:00)

Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathie Manes in memory of John Manes.