

# Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

January 2, 2022 9:45 a.m.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor  
Luanne Harms, Interim Contemporary Worship Director

Dana Frick, Keyboard and Vocals

Tracee Daniel, Vocals

Kendra Campbell Milburn, Vocals

Moffett Morris, guest, Bass

**P**= Pastor **G** = All **L** = Leader

## PRELUDE

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the Holy Trinity,  
one God, who sends the word with angels,  
who is made flesh among  
all peoples, and who breathes peace on all  
the earth.

**G** Amen.

**P** In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry  
out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**G** **we confess our sin before you.**  
**We replace compassion with competition.**  
**We seek what is mighty while ignoring the**  
**meek. We are quick to anger but slow to**  
**forgive. We have not put on love in harmony**  
**with you. Wrap us in the grace of your**  
**powerful Word.**  
**Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all**  
**we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love**  
**born among us. Amen.**

**P** The true light, which enlightens everyone, has  
come into the world: God has come among us  
in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. ✠ In  
Christ your sins are forgiven and you are  
clothed in peace.

**G** Amen.

### Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

*Verse 1*

Light of the world, Treasure of heaven,  
Brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky,  
Joy of the father, reach through the darkness.  
Shine across the earth, Send the shadows to flight.

*Verse 2*

Light of the world from the beginning,  
The tragedies of time were no match for your love.  
From great heights of glory you saw my story.  
God, you entered in and became one of us.

*Chorus*

Sing hallelujah, Sing hallelujah.  
Sing hallelujah for the things he has done.  
Come and adore him, bow down before him.  
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world.

*Verse 3*

Light of the world, Crown in a manger,  
Born for the cross to suffer, to save.  
High king of heaven, Death is the poorer,  
We are the richer by the price that he paid.

*Chorus*

Sing hallelujah, Sing hallelujah.  
Sing hallelujah for the things he has done.  
Come and adore him, bow down before him.  
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world.  
You're the light of the world.

*Verse 4*

Light of the world soon will be coming.  
With fire in his eyes he will ransom his own.  
Through clouds he will lead us straight into glory,  
And there he shall reign forevermore, forevermore.

*Chorus*

Sing hallelujah, Sing hallelujah.  
Sing hallelujah for the things he has done.  
Come and adore him, bow down before him.  
Sing hallelujah to the light of the world,  
To the light of the world.

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### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** O God our redeemer, you created light that we  
might live, and you illumine our world with your  
beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all  
darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus  
Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## FIRST LESSON

📖 Ephesians 1:3-15 —*The Message*

📖 Today's Lesson is from Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians, the first chapter.

📖 <sup>3-6</sup>How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love.

🗨️ **Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.**

📖 <sup>7-10</sup>Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. Abundantly free!

🗨️ **He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.**

📖 <sup>11-12</sup>It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

🗨️ <sup>13-14</sup>**It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This down payment from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.**

📖 Word of God, word of life.

🗨️ **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

📖 The Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

🗨️ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

📖 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. **<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🗨️ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Fritz

## SONG OF THE DAY: Light of the World [Lauren Daigle]

### Verse 1

The world waits for a miracle,  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope.  
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.  
A child prays for peace on Earth,  
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt.  
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.  
And can you hear the angels singing:

### Chorus 1

Glory to the Light of the World.  
Glory, the Light of the World is here.

### Verse 2

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother.  
A baby's cry is the sound of love.  
Come down, come down, Emmanuel.  
Oh, He is the song for the suffering.  
He is Messiah, the Prince of Peace has come.  
He has come, Emmanuel

### Chorus 2

Glory to the Light of the World. [*Sing 4 times*]

### Bridge

For all who wait, for all who hunger,  
For all who've prayed, for all who wonder:  
Behold your King, Behold Messiah,  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

### Chorus 3

Glory to the light of the world. [*Sing 3 times.*]  
Behold your King, Behold Messiah.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

### Ending

The world waits for the miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope.  
Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel.

CCLI Song # 7023299

Lauren Daigle | Paul Duncan | Paul Mabury

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## OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

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 "Merciful God," please respond, "receive our prayer."

When the prayers conclude, please respond, "Amen."



## INVITATION TO OFFERING:

Link to give: <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- The Lord be with you.  **And also with you.**
- Lift up your hearts.  **We lift them to the Lord.**
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- 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; In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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

- 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

☞ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## SHARING COMMUNION

*As you see the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church by communing each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:*

“The body of Christ for you” and  
“The blood of Christ for you.”

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☞ We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

☞ The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

☞ Amen.

## SENDING SONG: We Are [Kari Jobe]

### Verse 1

Every secret, every shame, every fear, every pain  
Live inside the dark, but that's not who we are.  
We are children of the day.

### Pre-chorus

So wake up, sleeper, lift your head.  
We were meant for more than this.  
Fight the shadows, conquer death.  
Make the most of time we have left.

### Chorus

We are the light of the world. We are the city on the hill.  
We are the light of the world.  
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine. *[Repeat]*

### Interlude

Let the light shine, Let the light shine.

### Verse 2

We are called to spread the news,  
Tell the world the simple truth:  
Jesus came to save. There's freedom in his name,  
So let it all break through.

### Chorus

We are the light of the world. We are the city on the hill.  
We are the light of the world.  
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine. *[Repeat]*

### Bridge

We are the light, we are the light, we are the light,  
So let your light shine brighter.  
We are the light, we are the light, we are the light,  
Jesus, you are the light, you are the light,  
You are the light.  
We will lift you high and shine, shine, shine.

### Chorus

We are the light of the world. We are the city on the hill.  
We are the light of the world.  
We gotta, we gotta, we gotta let the light shine. *[Repeat]*

### Ending

Let the light shine, let the light shine,  
Let the light shine, let the light shine.

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Chuck Butler | Ed Cash | Hillary McBride | James Tealy  
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## DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.  
☞ Thanks be to God.