Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia March 27, 2022 9:45 a.m. Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor Luanne Harms, Contemporary Worship Coordinator Dana Frick, Assistant Coordinator; Keyboard and Vocals Kendra Campbell Milburn, Vocals Brad Milburn, Vocals Moffett Morris, Bass James McDaniel, Drums Mark Cutler, Guitar and Vocals James Callison, Guitar and Vocals P = Pastor G = All □ = Leader

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

- Blessed In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.
- **G** Amen. Silence is kept for reflection.
- P Holy One,
- we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

- P Beloved, return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. [Joel 2:13] In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.
- G Amen.

## **OPENING SONG: House of the Lord**

### Verse 1

We worship the God who was, We worship the God who is, We worship the God who evermore will be. He opened the prison doors. He parted the raging sea. My God, He holds the victory, yeah.

### Chorus 1

There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house of the Lord today, And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise. There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God is surely in this place, And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

## Interlude

Oh oh oh, We shout out Your praise.

### Verse 2

We sing to the God who heals. We sing to the God who saves. We sing to the God who always makes a way. 'Cause He hung up on that cross, Then He rose up from that grave. My God's still rolling stones away.

## Chorus 1

There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house of the Lord today, And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise. There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God is surely in this place, And we won't be quiet. We shout out Your praise.

## Bridge (Sing twice.)

We were the beggars, Now we're royalty. We were the prisoners, Now we're running free. We are forgiven, accepted, Redeemed by His grace. Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

### Interlude

There is joy in this house, oh yeah. There is joy, there is joy, And we won't be quiet. We're gonna shout out Your praise.

### Chorus 2 (Sing twice.)

There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house of the Lord today. We're gonna shout out Your praise. There is joy, There is joy surely in this place. We won't be quiet. We shout Your praise.

### Ending

We shout out Your praise. There is joy in this house. There is joy in this house today. We shout out Your praise. We shout out Your praise.

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

## P Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

# LESSONS: Ephesians 4:11-13; James 1:1-4

- L Today's Lessons are from Paul's letter to the Ephesian Christians and from the Epistle of James.
- L The gifts the Spirit gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
- <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
- ☑ [From] James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.
- <sup>2</sup>My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,
- <sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance;
- Ge and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.
- L Word of God, Word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

# GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

<sup>33</sup>Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

# P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

# SERMON

Pastor Fritz

SONG OF THE DAY: No Longer Slaves

## Verse 1

You unravel me with a melody. You surround me with a song. Of deliverance from my enemies Till all my fears are gone.

## Chorus

I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God. I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God.

## Verse 2

From my mother's womb You have chosen me. Love has called my name. I've been born again into a family. Your blood flows through my veins.

# Chorus (Sing twice.)

I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God. I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God.

# Verse 3

I am surrounded by the arms the Father. I am surrounded by songs of deliverance. We've been liberated from our bondage. We're the sons and the daughters. Let us sing our freedom. Woah. (Repeat ad lib.)

# Bridge (Sing twice.)

You split the sea so I could walk right through it. My fears were drowned in perfect love. You rescued me so I could stand and sing. I am a child of God.

(I am a child of God.) (Repeat this line ad lib.)

# Chorus

I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God. I'm no longer a slave to fear. I am a child of God.

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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

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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 worshipers commune, please join them by communing at home, saying to 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

- Blessed Jesus,
- in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
  Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

- You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, fatherly and motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always.
- C Amen.

### SENDING SONG: I WILL FOLLOW

### Intro

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow.

### Verse 1

All Your ways are good. All Your ways are sure. I will trust in You alone. Higher than my sight, High above my life, I will trust in You alone.

### Chorus

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve. If this life I lose I will follow You. Yeah, I will follow You, yeah.

### Verse 2

Light into the world, Light into my life, I will live for You alone. You're the One I seek, Knowing I will find All I need in You alone, In You alone.



# Chorus

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve. If this life I lose I will follow You. Yeah, I will follow You, yeah.

## Bridge

In You there's life everlasting. In You there's freedom for my soul. In You there's joy, unending joy, And I will follow.

## Chorus (Sing twice.)

Where You go I'll go. Where You stay I'll stay. When You move I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love I'll love. How You serve I'll serve. If this life I lose I will follow You. Yeah, I will follow You, yeah.

## Ending

Yeah, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

C Thanks be to God.