

Beatles Li⁺urgy

Texts by Fritz Wiese



August 14, 2022 9:45 A.M.

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

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The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ August 14, 2021 ☩ 9:45 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Second Sunday Musicians, Barbara Anderson, Leader

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red hymnal)

PRELUDE

*Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction: you may receive a wafer and dip it in the chalice with wine or white grape juice. Or you may pick up a prefilled communion "kit" on the altar rail as you approach the altar. Please tell an usher if you need a communion kit brought to you where you sit. At home you may 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

☩ **GATHERING SONG:** *Good Morning, Lord*

Tune: Eight Days a Week

**Hey, dear Lord, good morning. It's good to be with you.
We're here to sing your praises, give thanks for what you do.
In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, the Three in One.**

**Bless our time together, send your Spirit near
Help us with our questions, our wrestlings and our fears.
Creating Father, redeeming Son,
guiding Spirit, Almighty One.**

Blessed be your name, forever. Open now our hearts, that you may touch and lead our lives.

**Oh, we love you, Jesus, that's why we're in this place:
to grow within your presence, until it's face to face.**

**In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, the Three in One,
the Three in One, the Three in One.**

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

☩ **CONFESSIONAL LITANY**

Tune: Help

☐ Help! ☑ We need somebody.

☐ Help! ☑ Not just anybody

☐ Help! ☑ You know we need you, Lord. Help!

☐ When we were younger, so much younger than today, (either in age or maturity or both,) We never thought we needed anybody's help.
We neglected or even turned a cold shoulder, O Lord, upon your promises and plans for us.

☑ **We're not trying to beat ourselves up, Lord, and we know that's not your desire.
But we realize—actually we're only able to admit this to a limited extent—
That we're plagued by a force some call "sin."
We find ourselves acting in ways of which we're ashamed.
In some cases we're so insensitive we don't even realize it.
And we know if we say otherwise, we're kidding ourselves.**

☐ Help! ☑ **Renew us, Lord.**

☐ Help! ☑ **We need our lives restored.**

☐ Help! ☑ **We sing with one accord. Help!** ▶

- P You want help? Here's some great news! God so loved the world that God gave the very best, His only Son, Jesus, who not only lived among us to help show us the way, but died on the cross for us and for our salvation (or "back-stage pass" to God's kingdom, party, and banquet).
- C **Yes, through Jesus comes true help. Through his cross and resurrection, our sins are forgiven and the slate is wiped clean. We are made new creations, holy people, stewards of God's mysteries, freed to love and live with new futures. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory!**

↑ **KYRIE SONG:** *Shower Your Grace*

Tune: You've Got to Hide Your Love Away

- 1 **Here we stand with hearts in hand, beseeching you in prayer:
Those lonely and meek, for troubled who seek, Father, show them care.**
- 2 **For peace in our time, meaning and rhyme in our daily lives,
That kindness be shown in our homes by children, husbands, and wives.**

Refrain: Lord, shower your grace upon our way. Lord, we need your strength to live today.

- 3 **From hostilities that we may be freed, let healing start to stir.
Melt cold hearts, provide fresh starts, that Good News will be heard.**
- 4 **Those lost in a maze, for those who give praise, may mercy be their gift.
That justice may reign, transforming the pain; our hearts to you we lift. *Refrain***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ **GREETING**

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C **And also with you.**

↑ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

LESSON: 1 Samuel 2:12, 18-20; Judges 2:6-9

—*The Message*

- L The first reading this morning is from the letter to the Hebrew Christians, the eleventh chapter.

Eli's own sons were nothing but trouble. They didn't know God and could not have cared less about the customs of priests among the people. . . . ¹⁸⁻²⁰In the midst of all this, Samuel, a boy dressed in a priestly linen tunic, served God. Additionally, every year his mother would make him a little robe cut to his size and bring it to him when she and her husband came for the annual sacrifice.

- ^{2:6-9}After Joshua had dismissed them, the People of Israel went off to claim their allotted territories and take possession of the (promised) land. The people worshiped God throughout the lifetime of Joshua and the time of the leaders who survived him, leaders who had been in on all of God's great work that he had done for Israel. Then Joshua son of Nun, the servant of God, died. He was 110 years old . . .
- ¹⁰Eventually that entire generation died and was buried. Then another generation grew up that didn't know anything of God or the work he had done for Israel. ¹¹⁻¹⁵The People of Israel did evil in God's sight: they served Baal-gods; they deserted God, the God of their parents who had led them out of Egypt; they took up with other gods, gods of the peoples around them. They actually worshiped them! And oh, how they angered God as they worshiped god Baal and goddess Astarte!

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **GOSPEL SONG:** *Words of Life*

Tune: Ob-la-di, Ob-la-da

- 1 **Jesus was with his disciples when they asked, “Lord, where shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.”
For happiness and joy these words we need to know.**

*Chorus: Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia! Blessed are those who hear God’s Word. Repeat
Final time: If you want true life, then act upon God’s Word.*

- 2 **When it seems you have all the answers, or when you feel you haven’t got a clue,
turn to what will prove a steady dancer.
The Bible shows God’s love and grace always come through. *Chorus***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967 Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ **GOSPEL: Matthew 21:28-32**

—*The Message*

📖 Listen for the Word of God from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 21.

🗣️ **Glory to you, O God.**

[Jesus said:] “Tell me what you think of this story: A man had two sons. He went up to the first and said, ‘Son, go out for the day and work in the vineyard.’²⁹“The son answered, ‘I don’t want to.’ Later on he thought better of it and went.³⁰“The father gave the same command to the second son. He answered, ‘Sure, glad to.’ But he never went.³¹⁻³²“Which of the two sons did what the father asked?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said, “Yes, and I tell you that crooks and whores are going to precede you into God’s kingdom. John came to you showing you the right road. You turned up your noses at him, but the crooks and whores believed him. Even when you saw their changed lives, you didn’t care enough to change and believe him.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🗣️ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Walking in God’s Love*

Tune: Can’t Buy Me Love

1. **Some folks trust in riches, fame, or fancy cars.
Others let society determine who they are.
But I have heard one better answer that gives more joy by far.
Walking in God’s love, Jesus died for me.
Walking in God’s love, in baptism I’m free!**
2. **The Lord has blessed me richly with my family and my friends.
He walks beside me daily and when the story ends.
So when it comes to living boldly, just one thing depends:
Walking in God’s love, they call it justified,
Walking in God’s love, it gives me hope and pride.**
3. **Lord, your word is golden. It gives my heart delight.
Your grace supports my mission, gives meaning to my plight.
Now grant me strength to follow Jesus; how pleasing in your sight!
Walking in God’s love, love . . .
Walking in God’s love.**

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967 Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ **OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

📖 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 PEOPLE

*When the petition concludes "Merciful God," please respond, "receive our prayer."
The prayers are ended with these words, "Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.
Please respond, "Amen."*

OFFERING

*Link to give: <https://coslutheran.org/give/>
We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail.
Thank you.*



OFFERING SONG: *All My Living*

- 1 **How can I measure the bounteous treasure, the gifts God's entrusted to me,
To use and enjoy, but to also employ that God's will around me is done?
All my living, let it be for you. That's why I'm giving these gifts now to you.**
- 2 **For the stars, woods, and streams, possibilities and dreams, I thank you for my daily bread.
Now through all of my friendships and words that come from my lips,
I'll act so that others are fed.
All my living, let it be for you. That's why I'm giving these gifts now to you.
These gifts now to you, these gifts now to you.**

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967 Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>☐ The Lord be with you.</p> <p>☐ Lift up your hearts.</p> <p>☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.</p> <p>☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places 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.</p> | <p>☑ And also with you.</p> <p>☑ We lift them to the Lord.</p> <p>☑ It is right to give our thanks and praise.</p> |
|--|---|

↑ JESUS' COMMAND AND PROMISES

- ☐ 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 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

Please approach the altar, coming down the center aisle.

You will be offered a wafer, and you may dip it into the chalice containing wine or white grape juice.

Or, you may choose a prepackaged kit.

At home, serve yourself, saying to each other/yourself these ancient words of promise:

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

COMMUNION SONG: *Remember Me*

Tune: Let It Be

- On the night our Savior was betrayed, he took bread and then he prayed.
“This is now my body, take and eat.”
After supper he took the cup, giving thanks he held up,
“This wine is now my blood, take and drink.”**

Chorus: “Remember me,” Jesus said, “in the wine, through the bread.
This meal of love I give you. Remember me.”

- This meal is our new covenant, Christ’s summary of what he meant.
United in his body, you and me.
Black or white, young or old, if your heart is open or still cold,
forgiveness now is given, for you and me. *Chorus***
- So as we celebrate Christ’s meal we proclaim the cross that heals.
Our sins upon his shoulders at Calvary.
For the bonds of death God devastates, Christ’s resurrection liberates.
To the banquet now he calls us, you and me. *Chorus***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967 Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

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

SENDING HYMN: *Go Now in Peace*

Tune: Yellow Submarine

**Now go in peace into the world. Share with others what we’ve heard:
that Jesus died, but now he lives. Life in his kingdom to you he gives. *Chorus***

Chorus: **Go now in peace to serve the Lord as friends wherever your road bends, until the story ends.**

**Thank you Lord for this time. Your light of grace we’ll try to shine;
give away as we’ve received, serving others in their need. *Chorus***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

DISMISSAL

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

Tech Team: Greyson Harris, Joni Siepert, Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn

Background on the “God Loves You--Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!” Liturgy

Why have a liturgy or worship format set to all “‘sixties” music? Why not?

In recent years, Christians have been exploring how the Church best reaches our changing world
with the fantastic news of God’s radical love for us through Jesus.

In the process, we try to discern between style and substance.

What is the basic, never-changing substance of the gospel that needs to shine in worship?

God’s Word & Meal. These elements focus the faith in worship.

Specifically, this author would suggest the forms of a specifically Christian gathering
(what we’re doing in worship is distinctive from work, potlucks, euchre, or studying);

God’s Word through lessons and exposition of some sort; offering ourselves through praise, prayers, possessions, and presence;

and celebrating the Eucharist (proclaiming the death and resurrection of Jesus
through his meal not only is a tremendous faith activity, but the primary way
early Christians distinguished themselves from their Jewish brothers and sisters).

Therefore, grounded in substance, we enjoy freedom in worship style.

Music and language, it makes sense, should be indigenous to the gathered people,
so the gospel can be heard clearly. English or French, Bach or Beatles.

We need it all to celebrate and proclaim our God’s mighty deeds.

After all, Martin Luther himself paved the way for this kind of thinking when he translated
the Bible into German and put Christian lyrics to tavern drinking songs.

Hopefully, the type of music used in this liturgy spans the interests of several generations of Christians.

Plus it’s fun music that’s fairly easy to remember or learn.

Will this liturgy-experiment be helpful to all Christians? By no means.

But I’m glad if you are somebody who felt it helped you participate in that great old story
in a fresh yet authentically Christian way.

In Christ’s Peace,

Pastor Fritz Wiese

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran, Peachtree City, Georgia