

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
*Will Not God Grant Justice?*



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia  
October 16, 2022  
8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

# Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ October 16, 2022 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.  
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister in Music  
Pastor Katherine Pasch, Guest Preacher

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red hymnal)  
⤴ Please stand as you are able.

## PRELUDES:

*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 HYMN:** *If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

*ELW Hymn 769*

- 1 **If you but trust in God to guide you with gentle hand through all your ways,  
You'll find that God is there beside you when crosses come, in trying days.  
Trust then in God's unchanging love; build on the rock that will not move.**
- 2 **What gain is there in anxious weeping, in helpless anger and distress?  
If you are in your Savior's keeping, in sorrow will he love you less?  
For Christ who took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.**
- 3 **The Lord our restless hearts is holding, in peace and quietness content.  
We rest in God's good will unfolding, what wisdom from on high has sent.  
God, who has chosen us by grace, knows very well the fears we face.**
- 4 **Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving, offer your service faithfully.  
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving, you'll find this promise true to be.  
This is our confidence indeed: God never fails in time of need.**

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; translation composite

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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

- ☐ O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
☑ **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 32:22-31

- ☒ Our First Lesson is from Genesis, the thirty-second chapter.

**T**he same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." ►

But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.”<sup>27</sup> So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.”<sup>28</sup> Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.”<sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him.<sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.”

<sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

℣ Word of God, word of life.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 121

℣ Please join me in reading Psalm 121 responsively.

℣ <sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

☩ <sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

℣ <sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

☩ <sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

℣ <sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

☩ <sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

℣ <sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

☩ <sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

*ELW Hymn 864 (Stanza 2)*

**2 God be praised for grace and favor to our forebears in distress.  
God be praised, the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious is God's faithfulness!**

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847; altered by Walter R. Bouman, 1927-2005 The text is in Public Domain.

↑ **GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8**

ℙ The Gospel according to Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

☩ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**T**hen Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

ℙ The Gospel of the Lord.

☩ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Pasch

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Christ, Be with Us*

*Tune: CONVERSE*

**1 Christ be with us, Christ behind us, Christ before us—all around!  
Christ in busy, noisy cities, Christ where hardly rings a sound.  
Jesus, you're our Lord and Savior; on your love we can depend.  
Help us see your presence clearly in each stranger and each friend. ▶**

- 4  
2 **Christ in lines of people fleeing, praying that a war will cease;  
Christ in battered women’s shelters, looking for a place of peace.  
Christ with people sick or dying, loved ones trying hard to cope—  
In this world of so much suffering, Christ, you give your people hope.**
- 3 **Christ with children who must struggle, working hard for daily food;  
Christ in classrooms, learning, growing, asking questions, seeking good;  
Christ in diners, waiting tables; Christ in homes where children play—  
In this world of people working, Christ, you work through us today.**
- 4 **Christ with all who keep on struggling, helping others to be free;  
Christ with churches working, searching for a greater unity;  
Christ, in bread and wine, be with us, giving strength for each new day—  
In this world of daily crosses, be our joyful, living way.**

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, b. 1961 © 2000 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette  
We purchased her book, *Gifts of Love* (Geneva Press), where this hymn appears, and so have permission to reprint this hymn.

### ⬆ **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 CHURCH**

*When the petition concludes “God of grace,” please respond, “hear our prayer.”  
The prayers are ended with these words, “Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit,  
gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.”  
Please respond, “Amen.”*

### **OFFERING**

*We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail. Thank you.*

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



**OFFERING HYMN (8:30):** *There Is a Longing in Our Hearts* [All Creation Sings Hymn 1078]

*Refrain:* **There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.**

- 1 **For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.  
In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. Refrain**
- 2 **For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.  
In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. Refrain**
- 3 **For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.  
In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. Refrain**
- 4 **Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.  
We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. Refrain**

**OFFERING ANTHEM (11:00):** *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*

Come, O thou traveler unknown, who still I hold but cannot see;  
My company before is gone, and I am left alone with thee:  
With thee all night I mean to stay and wrestle till the break of day.

My strength is gone, my nature dies, I sink beneath thy weighty hand,  
Faint to revive, and fall to rise, I fall, and yet by faith I stand.  
I stand and will not let thee go till I thy name, thy nature know.

I know thee, Savior, who thou art, Jesus, the feeble sinner's friend,  
No wilt thou with the night depart, but stay and love me to the end.  
Thy mercies never shall remove, thy nature and thy name if Love!

'Tis Love, 'tis Love; thou diedst for me! I hear thy whisper in my heart;  
The morning breaks, the shadows flee; pure universal love thou art.  
To me, to all, thy mercies move; thy nature and thy name is Love.

Text: from "Wrestling Jacob" by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Text is in Public Domain.

**↑ 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, and join their unending hymn:  
**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

—ELW page 144

**↑ 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 AT CHURCH or at home with your household**

*As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church. Please approach the altar using the diagonal aisles and return by the side or middle aisles. You will be offered a wafer, which you may dip in the chalice of wine or white grape juice. ►*

*You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine (as we have been using throughout the pandemic).*

*At home commune each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:*

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

**COMMUNION HYMN: *When Our Song Says Peace***

*ELW Hymn 709*

- 1 When our song says peace and the world says war, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God, who breaks the spear and sword  
and stills the storm of war.**
- 2 When our song says free and the world says bound, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God, who opens prison doors and sets the captives free.**
- 3 When our song says home and the world says lost, we will sing despite the world.  
We will trust the song, for we sing of God, who brings us home at last, and gives a song to all.**

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953

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† **PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION**

- ☞ May The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life this day and always. ☞ **Amen.**

† **SENDING HYMN: *O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate***

*ELW Hymn 722*

- 1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate, bore ev’ry human pain.  
Its beating was the pulse of God; its breadth, God’s vast domain.  
The heart of God, the heart of Christ combined in perfect rhyme  
to write God’s love in human deeds, eternity in time.**
- 2 As once you welcomed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,  
so may all bruised and broken lives through us your help still find.  
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep alone,  
and help us bear another’s pain as though it were our own.**
- 3 O Christ, create new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,  
that, joined by faith with your great heart, become love’s open doors.  
We are your body, risen Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield  
that through our life and ministry your love may be revealed.**
- 4 O Love that made the distant stars, yet marks the sparrow’s fall,  
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross embrace and bear us all:  
come, make your church a servant church that walks your servant ways,  
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sacrifice of praise!**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

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† **DISMISSAL**

- ☞ Go in peace, with God beside you. Invite everyone to Jesus’ pathway of joy and life!  
☞ **Thanks be to God.**

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*Altar Guild: Susie Lucsko, Peg and Don Schaum*

*Ushers: John Musil and Buddy Troy (8:30); Kathie Manes and Paul Talbott (11:00)*

*Tech Team: Davida Kilgore and Dakota Atkins (8:30); Joni Siepert, Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn (11:00)*

*Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by Kim and Jim Mashburn,*

*in memory of Walter and Lee Mashburn, Jim’s parents, and J.R. and Mildred Wren, Kim’s parents.*